

## MINUTES

Eighth Circuit Bar Association

Meeting of Officers and Directors

February 16, 2005

(by conference call)

**Present:** Krista Kester (president); Craig Eichstadt (president-elect); Margaret Callahan (secretary); Barry Pickens (treasurer); Tom Boyd (at-large); Tom Weaver (at-large); Tom Kieklak (W.D. Ark.); Diane Kutzko (N.D. Iowa); Angela Campbell (S.D. Iowa); David Herr (D. Minn.); Bob Rossiter (D. Neb.); Doug Bahr (D. N.Dak.); Mark Marshall (D. S.Dak.); Jim Layton (past president).

**Absent:** Lajuana Counts (at-large); Tom Sullivan (E.D. Ark.); Bob Herman (E.D. Mo.).

The meeting was convened by Association President Krista Kester shortly after 2 p.m.

The board unanimously approved the minutes of the January meeting, as previously circulated.

Treasurer Barry Pickens reported that his current priority is preparation of a retrospective budget, for the past year, to be submitted with the Association's tax-exempt return. He then will work with ad hoc budget committee members to develop a budget proposal for the Association for the present year.

Krista raised the issue of changing the Association bank accounts to give Barry, as the new treasurer, authority to sign checks. She also raised the issue of modifying the "two signature" requirement so that smaller checks could be issued by a single signatory. This issue

was tabled for inquiry as to the existence of a “standard” as to the threshold amount for requiring two signatures on Association checks. Both changes then will be made at the same time.

Jim Layton, on behalf of the nominating committee, put forth the name of Angela Campbell to fill the vacant director’s position for the Southern District of Iowa. Angela is with the Federal Public Defender’s Office in Des Moines. Angela was present and, upon the unanimous approval of her nomination, immediately assumed office.

Krista asked for corrections and confirmations on committee membership, so she could update the web site. Angela will take under advisement the issue of which committee she would like to join.

David Herr, chair of the programs committee, stated that the Association-sponsored event in connection with the temporary closing of the St. Paul Courthouse will be held in May, during court week, but that the Court has not yet decided whether it will sit the week of May 9 or the week of May 16. The full Court will be in St. Paul that month. The Association will be working with Minnesota CLE, which will do most of the planning for a continuing legal education program. The Association will be hosting a reception or similar function.

Krista noted the need for more discussion on the future course of the Association. Immediate discussion focused on membership and ideas for identifying prospective new members. It was noted that it might be possible to use the Circuit web site to identify attorneys who appear regularly before the Court. Other possibilities would include trying to identify attorneys newly admitted to practice before the Eighth Circuit and getting the Association’s name before law school graduates newly admitted to practice. The Association could develop literature listing past activities as a tool for membership recruitment. The membership committee will come up with a proposal before the next meeting of the officers and directors.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 8, at 2 p.m., by conference call.

The meeting adjourned about 2:50 p.m.