

SBAND Board of Governors

Telephone Conference Call

August 24, 2016

Minutes



State Bar Association
of North Dakota

Members Present: Charles DeMakis, President; Darcie Einarson; Dean Kathryn Rand; Aubrey Fiebelkorn-Zuger; Zach Pelham; Kimberly Radermacher; Peter Welte; Carrie Francis; Meg Morley; Mike Hurly

Members Absent: Joe Wetch; Dan Traynor; Connie Cleveland; Christina Wenko; Jeff Nehring

Staff Members Present: Tony J. Weiler; Jeanne Schlittenhard

President DeMakis called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

Notice of Comment: Proposed Amendments to North Dakota Rules for Lawyer Discipline

Executive Director Weiler explained that while the Court accepted almost all the recommendations suggested by the Joint Committee on Attorney Standards (JCAS), it went with the ABA taskforce recommendation that there be one statewide Inquiry Committee panel, and that the members be appointed by the Court, and not SBAND. Weiler also reminded the Board that the JCAS, along with additional temporary members who were added solely for disciplinary system review purposes, thoroughly examined the ABA's recommended changes at numerous meetings over a one year plus period, and rejected those specific recommendations. The Board supported the changes as proposed by JCAS, with the exception of Rule 6.3, which the Court modified in accordance with the Board's concerns.

Recommendation / Conclusion: After discussion, the Board of Governors opposes the elimination of the three regional Inquiry Committees, and the appointment of members by the Court.

Action: It was duly moved and seconded that SBAND send a letter to the Court opposing the proposed move to one statewide Inquiry Committee, and the appointment of members of the Inquiry Committee by the Court. Further, the letter will reiterate SBAND's support of the proposed changes as suggested by the JCAS. [Z. Pelham / M. Morley] Motion carried unanimously.

Louisiana Disaster Relief

Recommendation / Conclusion: After discussion, the Board of Governors decided to post on the SBAND website the opportunity for SBAND members to donate to the Louisiana Bar Association's SOLACE Program.

Action: No action taken.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Schlittenhard
Associate Director

Tony J. Weiler
Executive Director