

Judicial Section Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 9, 2014  
Minutes

**Meeting called to order by Judge Penny Roberts:**

**In attendance:** Judge Penny Roberts, Judge David Evans Judge Alfonso Charles, Justice Pat Pirtle, Judge Kelly Moore, Justice Paul Green, Judge Mike Keasler, Judge David D. Garcia

Also present: Tracy Nuckols,

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the September 4, 2013, were approved.

**Financial Report:** The Treasurer presented the financial report of the Judicial Section. The Board approved the financials as presented.

**Chair's Report:** NONE

**Committee Chair/Reports:**

**1. ByLaws-**Tracy Nuckols for Justice Keyes: the following were changes/modifications to the committees recommendations:

**Mission Statement**

The judicial section of the State Bar of Texas advances the interests of the judiciary, ~~before the Texas Legislature, funds legislative initiatives affecting the judiciary,~~ works to improve the quality of justice in Texas, examines issues affecting the Judicial system, fosters public education about the Judicial system and matters of concern to the Judiciary, promotes dialogue and collaboration among Judges, and provides a forum to discuss matters of concern to Judges.

**ARTICLE III  
Officers and Board of Directors**

Section 1. The officers of this Section shall be Chair, Chair-Elect, ~~immediate past chair~~ and Secretary-Treasurer. The officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. There shall be a Board of Directors charged with managing the affairs of the Section. The Board of Directors shall consist of the following officers: The Chair, the Chair-Elect, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Immediate Past Chair and twelve other members, each of whom shall be elected as provided in Article V for a term of three years. The ~~thirteen~~ ~~twelve~~ regular members shall be elected according to the following places:

Places 1 and 2 - Intermediate appellate court justices,

Places 3 through 7 - District judges,

Places 8 and 9 - Judges of a statutory county court,

Place 10 - Retired judge or justice,

Place 11 – A justice of the Texas Supreme Court,

Place 12 – A judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Place 13 – An associate judge appointed beginning their term in 2015 for a three year term and thereafter as provided in Art. V of the by-laws

Section 5. The Chair of this Section ~~shall appoint [a member of the Board of Directors, the Chair Elect, ???] to serve as~~ is the liaison to the Texas Center for the Judiciary Board of Directors ~~or in the alternative the Chair in their discretion my appoint a member of the Judicial Section Board of Directors as the liaison to the Texas Center for the Judiciary Board of Directors.~~ The liaison shall [attend all Board of Directors meetings of the Texas Center for the Judiciary(?) and shall report to the Board on all matters of interest to the section, including matters requiring cooperation between this Section and the Texas Center of the Judiciary???].

Section 6. There shall be no overlapping membership between the Judicial Section Board of Directors and the Board of Directors of the Texas Center for the Judiciary. ~~No candidate for the Judicial Section Board may serve on the Board of Directors of the Texas Center for the Judiciary in the same year.~~

Section 7. A candidate for Chair of the Section must be ~~an active sitting judge.~~ A current judicial office holder No one may serve as Chair of this Section and Chair of the Texas Center for the Judiciary in the same year.

Tracy Nuckols to send marked up by-laws revisions to those board members not on the phone conference. Possible vote on by-laws clean up and changes at the April board meeting.

Kelly Moore and Penny Roberts to write a letter to the associate judges inviting them to join and advising them that OCA will pay for their dues. Tracy is to talk to Texas Center for names of Associate judges and to contact and talk to OCA to obtain a comprehensive list of all Associate Judges.

**2. Judicial Ethics-** Paul Davis-No report

**3. Judicial Lifetime Achievement-**Kelly Moore-No report

**4. Resolutions-** None

**5. Website-**Brad Cates-No report

**6. Membership-** Liz Lang-Miers

**Judicial Section membership**

May 2011	1009
May 2012	1001
May 2013	950

2013-2014 (As of January 2014)

Current Memberships	989
New Members	97
Non-renewals	139
Renewals	917

**New Business:** alcohol policy will not be written but will be consistent with policy of the State Bar of Texas. Alcohol at dinner to be paid out of Section funds and future events on a case-by case basis by consensus.

**Past Chair dinner at the Annual conference-**Kelly Moore will talk to Mark Atkinson regarding other ways to pay for the alcohol. David Evans abstained from the discussion and asked that future discussion to initiate any changes should be after his “year” i.e. 2015

**Legislative Update-**Alfonso Charles-no report but the legislative committee will be meeting and a complete report will be forthcoming at the April meeting.

**Board Retreat update-**Paul Davis and Seana Willing recommended as possible speakers/guest for Friday morning of the retreat.

Schedule:	Thursday:	1:30 p.m. Board meeting
		7:00 p.m. Fleming's
	Friday:	8:00 a.m. Breakfast
		9:00 a.m. Speakers

**Texas Center for the Judiciary Report-**Gina Benavides

**State Bar Report:** Discussion regarding “mid-size section representative” on the State Bar Board of Directors. It was determined that we cannot serve on the State Bar Board in that capacity.

**Future Meetings:**

April 3-4 Board retreat at Westin at Domain, Austin, Texas

June 26, 2014 State Bar Conference, Austin, Texas

September , 2014 Annual Conference, Fort Worth, Texas

**Adjourn.** The next meeting will be on April 3, 2014 in Austin. A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting.