

Judicial Section Board Meeting  
Monday, September 8, 2014  
Minutes

**Meeting called to order by Judge David Evans:**

**In attendance:** Judge David Evans, Justice Pat Pirtle, Judge Penny Roberts, Justice Gina Benavides, Judge Kerry Russell, Judge Jose Lopez, Judge Margaret Barnes, Judge Chris Oldner, Judge Maria Salas-Mendoza, Judge Brad Cates, Judge Amanda Matzke, Retired Chief Justice Linda Thomas, Justice Paul Green, Judge Mike Keasler, and Judge David Garcia

Also present: Judge Jean Spradling Hughes, Judge Randy Clapp, Judge Alfonso Charles, and Tracy Nuckols,

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the June 26, 2014 board meeting were approved.

**Financial Report:** The Treasurer presented the financial report and the financials were approved.

**Membership Report-Tracy Nuckols**

September 5, 2014

Roster 1018  
Renewals: 888  
Non-renewals: 120  
New Members: 151

2013-2014 Roster 958

2012-2013 Roster 946

2011-2012 Roster 917

**Chair's Report: Judge Evans**

1. By laws will be on consent agenda at the State Bar board of directors meeting in Galveston
2. Committee Assignments
  - a. Continue the previous appointments from Judge Roberts year for Legislative sub-committees
  - b. Judge Boyd is retiring so Judge Parker from San Antonio has been approached about filing the positionJustice Pirtle has been appointed to Chair the Membership committee
3. Will be requesting input from current board members as to their preference on committee assignments before he sends to the rest of the judiciary
4. Recommended appointment of an Associate Judge to the board of directors based on the by-law amendment passed at the annual meeting earlier.

**Motion**-made and seconded to allow Judge Evans to make the initial appointment of an Associate Judge to the board of directors. Motion passed unanimously

Discussion regarding how we can identify all the associate judges for inclusion as members.

## **Future Meetings:**

January 23, 2015 approx. 12:00 p.m. by telephone

March 2-3, 2015 overnight in Austin, Texas

Board meeting to start about 2:00 p.m.

Legislative Committee and Sub-committee chairs to be invited to attend

June 18 or 19, 2015 in San Antonio

### **4. Legislative Committee update-Judge Alfonso Charles**

- a. Judicial Compensation- discussed possible 5% raise with the understanding that the goal is to put in the statute that the judges get 3% Biennial raises.
- b. Retired and Associate Judges did not get a raise so it will be a priority to bring them up this session.

Judge Jean Hughes: Chair of Criminal Justice Committee.

1. DWI surcharge is being discussed in the Homeland Security Committee – Pickett from El Paso is chair of the committee
2. Possibly looking a bill to repeal the surcharge
3. Michael Morton Act will be re-visited and possibly modified also looking at costs associated with it

**Texas Center for the Judiciary Report**-Judge Randy Clapp said the success of the Texas Center was directly due to the hiring of a former Judge.

**State Bar Report:** Justice Evelyn Keyes and Judge Paul Davis will be involved in helping produce a resource on campaign and finance law.

**Other Business: None**

**Adjourn.** The next meeting will be on January 23, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.