
JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 5, 2015
Justice Center
Kalispell, Montana

The Commission convened on Monday, October 5, 2015, at 8:35 a.m. at the Justice Center, 920 South Main Street, in Courtroom 3 in Kalispell. Commission members participating in the interviews were Judge Richard Simonton (Chairman), Mona Charles, Elizabeth Halverson, Hal Harper, Lane Larson, Ryan Rusche, and Nancy Zadick. Lois Menzies, Office of Court Administrator, served as staff to the Commission.

The interview schedule was as follows:

8:30 a.m.	Rich DeJana
9:05 a.m.	Amy Eddy
9:40 a.m.	Kay Lynn Lee (via videoconferencing)
10:15 a.m.	Dan Wilson
10:45 a.m.	Deliberations

Each applicant made an opening statement, and questions from the Commission followed. Members questioned applicants in several areas including anticipated allocation of time on the bench; readiness to run for election if appointed; approach for coming up to speed in areas of the law in which experience is lacking; challenges facing judges in the 11th Judicial District; handling the growing number of cases involving self-represented litigants; addressing challenges facing Native Americans in the justice system; range and depth of legal experience (e.g., complex civil litigation, Indian law); and any weaknesses that they believe they may have. Some applicants were asked to clarify or elaborate upon information in their applications or public comment received. Following questions from the Commission, applicants were given an opportunity to provide closing remarks.

The Commission began deliberations following the last interview. The results of the members' votes and reasons for nominating each applicant are contained in the certificate and report submitted to the Governor, which are incorporated into these minutes and attached to them.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

CERTIFICATE

The Judicial Nomination Commission of the State of Montana hereby certifies to the Honorable Steve Bullock, Governor of the State of Montana that it has agreed and approved the qualifications of the following lawyers for appointment as District Court Judge for the Eleventh Judicial District.

All of these we now certify are qualified for appointment under the laws of the State of Montana. We hereby certify the same to you, as required by law, and list them in alphabetical order:

Richard Patrick DeJana

Amy Poehling Eddy

Daniel Richard Wilson

REPORT

Pursuant to Section 3-1-1010, MCA, the Judicial Nomination Commission provides the following report:

Seven members of the Judicial Nomination Commission were present and participated in the applicant interviews and deliberations. The applications of and public comments regarding the above-listed nominees are attached to this certificate and also may be reviewed at: <http://www.courts.mt.gov>.

Richard Patrick DeJana received seven affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. DeJana:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

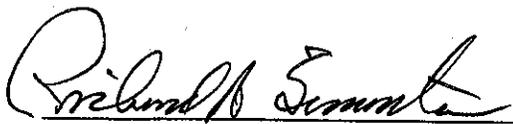
Amy Poehling Eddy received seven affirmative votes to recommend her appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Ms. Eddy:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

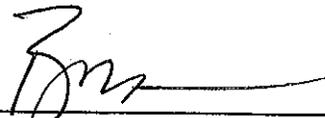
Daniel Richard Wilson received seven affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Wilson:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

Done at Kalispell, Montana on the 5th day of October, 2015.



Hon. Richard Simonton, Chairman



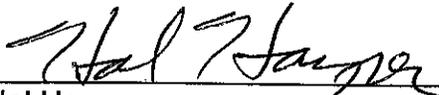
Ryan Rusche, Secretary



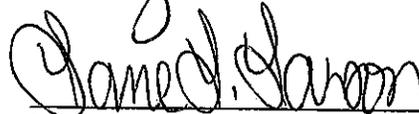
Mona Charles



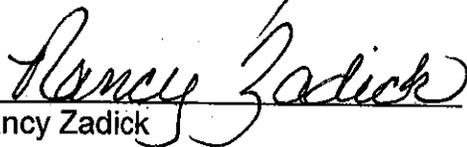
Elizabeth Halverson



Hal Harper



Lane Larson



Nancy Zadick