

MINUTES

Commission on Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (COCOLJ)

Helena, MT

August 18, 2023

Members Participating: Hon. Kelly Mantooth, Hon. Steve Fagenstrom, Hon. Steve Bolstad, Hon. David Grubich, Peggy Tonon, Melissa Rosaaen, Hon. Kerry Burman, Brian Smith, Hon. Jessie Connolly, and Jeanne Torske.

Members Absent: Hon. Jim Rice, Hon. Perry Miller, and Greg Sullivan

Staff Present: Shauna Ryan

Guests: None

Judge Mantooth called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on June 16, 2023, were reviewed. Judge Fagenstrom moved that the minutes be approved. Peggy Tonon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Deskbook Update

Judge Mantooth reported that he contacted Judge Sullivan, Judge Herrington and Judge He Does It and all three judges agreed to update the judges Deskbook. It will be a fall/winter project and the group hopes to have it done prior to the Spring 2024 Conference.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Judge Training – Update

Judge Mantooth spoke to Judge West, the chair of the MMA training committee. Judge West reported that all of the new judges had been trained except for the judge in Three Forks – Judge Mohler; and the newly appointed judge in Hardin – Judge Snively. Judge Landa agreed to train Judge Snively. Apparently, it's been challenging finding time to meet with the Three Forks judge as he only works two hours per week – on Fridays – when needed. For the most part, the new judges are doing well.

Request for Temporary Certificate and Waiver of Training for New Judge

Hon. Robert Snively (Hardin City) – On behalf of the waiver committee, Peggy Tonon recommended the temporary waiver be approved. The Commission concurred.

Request for Waiver of Training for Fall 2023 Conference

Hon. Audrey Barger, Hon. Kelly Mantooth, and Hon. Steve Bolstad – On behalf of the waiver committee, Peggy Tonon recommended that the waivers be approved. The Commission concurred with the recommendation.

Fall Conference Agenda – Update

Shauna Ryan reported the only change in the agenda is during the Tribal Law presentation Dennis Bear Don't Walk (rather than Eldena Bear Don't Walk) will be co-presenting with Judge Ernie Bear Don't Walk.

For the Mock Suppression Hearing, Jeanne Torske agreed to send the set of facts to me to pass along to Prof. Wandler by September 11th. Prof. Wandler will be teaching the Judicial Writing session immediately following the hearing and will tailor her FOF/COL based on the facts of that suppression hearing.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be Monday, September 25, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center.

February 7, 2024