

# MINUTES

## **Commission on Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (COCOLJ) Helena, MT September 23, 2024**

**Members Participating:** Hon. Kelly Mantooth, Hon. Steve Fagenstrom, Hon. Steve Bolstad, Hon. David Grubich, Nicole Siefert, Brian Smith, Greg Sullivan, Hon. Maureen O'Connor, Jeanne Torske, Hon. Kerry Burman and Melissa Rosaaen.

**Members Absent:** Hon. Jessie Connolly and Hon. Jim Rice

**Staff Present:** Shauna Ryan

**Guests:** None

Judge Mantooth called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Public Comment:** None

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting on August 16, 2024, were reviewed. Judge Fagenstrom moved that an amendment be made to some wording in the discussion on the "Landlord Tenant Form – Filing a Complaint". Judge Bolstad seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Judge Fagenstrom moved to approve the minutes as amended. Judge O'Connor seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

#### **Fall Conference Agenda - Updates**

Shauna Ryan reported one change to the agenda since the last meeting. Judge Swingley was going to give a presentation on Traffic Violations and the Effect on Montana. However, he is dealing with some current health issues and has a medical appointment out of town on Thursday afternoon – the same time as the presentation. I contacted Chris Williams with Motor Carrier Services, and he is willing to provide some training on MCS and the courts. Apparently, he presented to the judges in District 2 and was very well received. The judges there indicated they thought it would be beneficial information for everyone. Mr. Williams will present on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. The rest of the agenda is set and remains the same.

#### **Montana Justice Institute – UM Law School**

Shauna Ryan reported that Peggy Tonon is still working with the Law School on the MOU and contract for lodging. At the last Commission meeting we discussed having a couple of judges who attended in the past give a brief overview of MJI at the beginning of the COLJ conference to begin soliciting interest. Judge Burman agreed to give an overview. The dates are June 9-20, 2025.

**Landlord Tenant Form**

Judge Fagenstrom reported that upon further investigation he learned the form in question came from the Commission on Self-Represented Litigants through Montana Legal Services and is not affiliated with the forms that came out of this Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Request for Waiver of Training for Fall 2024 Conference**

Hon. Kelly Mantooh, Hon. Steve Bolstad, Hon. Ronald Traenkner, Hon. Mike Swingley, and Hon. Carolyn Berkram – On behalf of the waiver committee, Judge Grubich recommended that the waivers be approved, except one from Judge Mantooh to attend a zoom meeting for the State Bar Task Force which was denied. The Commission concurred with the waiver committee's recommendations.

**Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be Friday, November 15, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in Helena.

DRAFT