

MINUTES

Commission on Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (COCOLJ)

Helena, MT

February 21, 2025

Members Participating: Hon. Kelly Mantooth, Hon. Kerry Burman, Hon. Jessie Connolly, Hon. David Grubich, Brian Smith, Greg Sullivan, Hon. Maureen O'Connor, Hon. Justice Rice, Nicole Siefert, Jeanne Torske, and Hon. Steve Bolstad.

Members Absent: Hon. Steve Fagenstrom and Melissa Rosaaen.

Staff Present: Shauna Ryan

Guests: None

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

Public Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on January 17, 2025, were reviewed. Judge Connolly moved to approve the minutes. Judge O'Connor seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Judge Deskbook - Update

Judge Mantooth reported that he really had no update. Judge Sullivan was supposed to hand off his section to Judge Herrington. He has not been in touch with Judge Herrington or Judge He Does It. He agreed to follow up with them and report back at the next meeting.

Spring Conference Agenda

Shauna Ryan reported that a couple of individuals with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) would be providing the training on motivational interviewing. The rest of the conference agenda has been confirmed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers

Judge Connolly moved that the current slate of officers remain the same. Judge Grubich seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Judge Mantooth will continue to serve as chairman, and Judge Bolstad will serve as vice-chairman.

Waiver Committee

Judge Connolly moved that the current slate of officers remain the same. The Commission concurred. The waiver committee consists of Judge Grubich, Nicole Siefert and Melissa Rosaaen. Judge Grubich will remain as chair of the committee.

Request for Waiver of Training for Spring 2025 Conference

Hon. Allison Howard – On behalf of the waiver committee Judge Grubich recommended the waiver be approved. The Commission concurred.

Update to Uniform District Court Rules and Changes to Corresponding Statute Re: Montana Uniform Municipal Court Rules of Appeal to District Court

The Commission discussed the proposed changes to the UDCR and agreed they should be updated to coincide with the language in the Montana Uniform Municipal Court Rules of Appeal to District Court. The Commission unanimously agreed that the changes should be made. Judge Mantooth will follow up with Judge Eddy who chairs the UDCR.

Question from Judge Rosencranz re: CDL's and Masking

Judge Rosencranz had some questions and needed clarification on CDL's and potential masking. Several commission members followed up in response to her concerns. Judge Rosencranz thanked the Commission for their responses and felt she had a better understanding of the judge's role in these cases.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be Friday, March 21, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in Helena.