

MINUTES

FILED

**Montana Supreme Court Public Meeting
Justice Building, 4th Floor, Attorney's Lounge
Helena, Montana
December 2, 2014**

DEC 16 2014

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Chief Justice McGrath called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. Justices Rice, Wheat, Cotter, Baker, McKinnon, and Shea were in attendance.

Also in attendance was Chris Manos, Executive Director of the State Bar of Montana.

ITEM 1. Minutes

The minutes of the September 16, 2014 Public Meeting were approved unanimously and without changes.

ITEM 2. Appointment to the Access to Justice Commission

The Access to Justice Commission's seat for a member of the Montana Senate has been vacant since the resignation of Senator Rick Ripley, whose term expired September 30, 2014. Justice Baker circulated an Order appointing Senator-elect Nels Swandal, with his consent, to fill the vacant Senate seat on the Commission for a three-year term ending September 30, 2017. The appointment is effective immediately. All Justices present signed the Order.

ITEM 3. Appointment to the Sentence Review Division

The term of the Honorable Bradley G. Newman as a member of the Sentence Review Division of the Montana Supreme Court expires December 31, 2014. Pursuant to § 46-18-901, MCA, and with the consent of Judge Newman, Chief Justice McGrath signed an order reappointing Judge Newman as a member to the Sentence Review Division, effective January 1, 2015, for a term of three years, expiring December 31, 2018.

ITEM 4. Appointment to the Uniform District Court Rules Commission

The terms of Elizabeth Halverson and Gregory Munro as members of the Uniform District Court Rules Commission expired October 1, 2014. With the appointees' consent, Chief Justice McGrath circulated an Order reappointing Elizabeth Halverson, as a civil trial attorney representing plaintiffs, and Gregory Munro, as a law school member

representing the University of Montana School of Law, to the Commission. Both terms end December 2, 2018. All Justices present signed the Order.

ITEM 5. Public Comments

There is a meeting of the State Bar of Montana Board of Trustees this week. Chris Manos invited members of the Court to a reception being held Thursday evening, December 4 at the Lewis and Clark County Historical Society in the Power Block Building, and to a luncheon on Friday, December 5 at the Montana Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

A date for the next Montana Supreme Court Public Meeting has not yet been set.

Duly Submitted,
Brent Larson
Law Clerk