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Wyoming State Bar

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR

September 8, 1962

The regular annual meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Wyoming State Bar was held in the Conference Room of the Washakie Hotel on September 8, 1962, and called to order by President George J. Millett at 4:35 P.M. Those in attendance were:

George J. Millett - President
George P. Sawyer - Past President
Jerry W. Housel - President-Elect
R. R. Bostwick - Vice President
John T. Dixon - Secretary-Treasurer
Fred E. Wheeler - Commissioner of First Judicial District
Lee S. Nebeker - Commissioner of Second Judicial District
Robert B. Bowman - Commissioner of Fifth Judicial District
Thomas L. Whitley - Commissioner of Sixth Judicial District
Robert A. Burgess - Commissioner of Seventh Judicial District.

Frederick E. Burdett, Commissioner of the Third Judicial District, and Robert A. Hill, Commissioner of the Fourth Judicial District, were absent.

President Millett introduced Mr. D. G. St. Clair of the St. Clair Insurance Agency, Continental Casualty Company. Mr. St. Clair further enlarged upon and explained the remarks of R. Brian Jarman given to the membership as a whole on Thursday afternoon, asking that he be allowed to contact the members of the Wyoming State Bar for the purpose of presenting his program of professional liability insurance. The commissioners and officers, after President Millett had thanked Mr. St. Clair for his remarks, discussed the matter at great length and it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that further investigation be instituted and reports and recommendations be given to the commissioners at the midwinter legislative meeting to be held in Cheyenne. President Millett thereupon appointed Robert A. Burgess, Jerry W. Housel, and R. B. Bowman as the committee to investigate and report to Cheyenne with Mr. Burgess acting as chairman.

President Millett then introduced Mr. Ted Eberly of the Bell Eberly Insurance Agency in Cheyenne who discussed accident insurance with the group, asking that the Bar Association endorse the program and give Bell Eberly Insurance Agency authority to contact the members of the Wyoming State Bar.
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State Bar to discuss accident insurance with the individual members). At the conclusion of Mr. Eberly's remarks, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the matter be investigated further and recommendations given to the Commissioners at the mid-winter legislative meeting to be held in Cheyenne. President Millett then appointed Fred Wheeler to investigate and report at Cheyenne.

President Millett then announced that the 1963 annual meeting of the Wyoming State Bar would be held at Laramie and asked the Commissioners consent to defer selection of the dates of said meeting until the January mid-winter meeting at Cheyenne, explaining that if at all possible, he would like to hold the 48th annual meeting in conjunction with a home date on the University of Wyoming Cowboy's football schedule so the members would have the added attraction of a football game to attend.

The matter of committee appointment for the 1962-63 year was then discussed by the Board of Commissioners, and President Millett announced he had taken the liberty of appointing the committees prior to the annual meeting in order that all committee members could be notified of their appointment in time to hold committee meetings during the annual meeting. It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the appointments as made by President Millett be approved.

President Millett also informed the Commissioners that there would be a Commissioner's meeting held in conjunction with the bi-annual legislative meeting in Cheyenne after the first of the year, and that he would announce the dates, times and places later on. The matter of holding a dinner in honor of Chief Justice Fred H. Blume who was retiring at the end of this year from the Wyoming Supreme Court was discussed, and it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the matter be referred to the Laramie County Bar Association with the suggestion and recommendation that their bi-annual legislative dinner be held in honor of Chief Justice Blume.

President Millett then brought up the matter of public relations, explaining to the meeting that he felt the Wyoming State Bar needed to do far more along the line of public relations than had been done in the past, and suggested that the State Bar look into the program carried out by the State Bar of Texas. After a full discussion concerning the matter of public relations, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that each District Commissioner discuss the matter in his respective district to determine to what extent the districts would participate in a public relations program as carried on by the State Bar of Texas.

At this point, Seventh Judicial District Commissioner, Robert A. Burgess, asked for an allocation of $250.00 to perpetuate and carry on the public relations T.V. series as recommended by the entire membership during the 47th annual meeting. Commissioner Burgess explained that the Natrona County Bar had underwritten the cost of the previous T.V.
series carried on in Casper, but that he doubted that the Natrona County Bar would be financially able to do so again this year. At the conclusion of Mr. Burgess' remarks, it was duly moved, seconded and carried that the sum of $250.00 be appropriated to the Public Relations Committee for the continuance of the T.V. series as directed by the 47th annual meeting.

President Millett next informed the members that the Mental Health Association of Wyoming had requested that the Wyoming State Bar jointly sponsor its program for the ensuing year, explaining that the sponsorship was in name only with the Wyoming State Bar having no control over the program to be carried out by the Mental Health Association. It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the Wyoming State Bar deny the request of the Mental Health Association due to lack of control on the State Bar’s part.

The next item of business to come before the meeting was the joint sponsorship by the Wyoming State Bar of the Medical-Legal Seminar on Juveniles, and after full discussion, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that further joint sponsorship on the part of the Wyoming State Bar be discontinued because of lack of control of the program to be presented.

President Millett then reminded the commissioners and officers that Paul Schuster, District Director of Internal Revenue Service, had requested during his talk on Thursday afternoon that the Wyoming State Bar appoint a committee to meet with the Internal Revenue Service to discuss problems that mutually affected both organizations. It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that President Millett appoint a committee as requested by Mr. Schuster, and that the committee appointed by President Millett be approved without further action on the part of the officers and commissioners.

The next item of business to come before the meeting was discussion of modification of Canon 35 pertaining to the use of television and news-reel cameras in the Court Room. After full and complete discussion of the request for approval of modification of Canon 35 by the news agencies, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that Wyoming State Bar go on record as approving Canon 35 as written without further modification.

The request of the Administrative Law Committee for an allocation of funds for the purpose of publication of the administrative law code for distribution to the Wyoming State Bar membership was discussed and it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the sum of $300.00 be allocated for the Administrative Law Committee’s expenses.

Past President Sawyer discussed the advisability of sending the Secretary-Treasurer to the mid-winter meeting of the American Bar Association
on the same basis as the President and President-Elect, informing the group that all other Bar Associations in the United States send their Secretaries to the meeting and expressing the opinion that the office of Secretary-Treasurer was the only one within the Wyoming State Bar which had any continuity and that, therefore, it would be wise to give serious consideration to the merits of sending the Secretary-Treasurer to the mid-winter meeting. On request of the members present, the Treasurer’s report was examined to determine the approximate additional cost involved and it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to attend the mid-winter meeting of the American Bar Association, receiving mileage, air or train fare, and per diem not to exceed $25.00 per day.

Past President Sawyer also stated that he felt the Wyoming State Bar should give serious consideration to the allocation of mileage to the State Bar President for attendance at other State Bar meetings. President Sawyer informed the group that he had attended several State Bar meetings during the past year, and that once he arrived at the site of the meeting, his expenses had been paid for the hosting State Bar. At the conclusion of Mr. Sawyer’s remarks, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the State Bar President of the Wyoming State Bar be given mileage, plane or train fare, for attendance at State Bar meetings of his choice. After a full and complete discussion on both of these matters, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that President George J. Millett appoint a committee for the purpose of studying Bar Economics and also a committee to study Lawyer’s Title Insurance, and that the appointments of President Millett be approved without any further action on the part of the officers and commissioners.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Dixon
Secretary-Treasurer