

December 2019

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar

Robert B. Laughlin

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.law.uwyo.edu/wlj>

Recommended Citation

Robert B. Laughlin, *Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar*, 2 Wyo. L.J. 30 (1947)
Available at: <https://scholarship.law.uwyo.edu/wlj/vol2/iss1/5>

This Special Section is brought to you for free and open access by Law Archive of Wyoming Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Wyoming Law Journal by an authorized editor of Law Archive of Wyoming Scholarship.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WYOMING
STATE BARSheridan, Wyoming
August 15 and 16, 1947

Pursuant to Rule 10, the Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar was held in the United States District Court Room at Sheridan, Wyoming on the 15th and 16th of August, 1947, due notice of such meeting having been sent to all members. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a. m., August 15, 1947, by President L. C. Sampson.

Mr. D. P. B. Marshall, President of the Sheridan County Bar Association, welcomed the members to Sheridan and outlined the program arranged for the members and their ladies.

Vice-President W. J. Wehrli was called to the chair to preside, whereupon President Sampson delivered his address entitled: "Report of the President."¹

Following the President's address, Vice-President Wehrli thanked Mr. Sampson who then resumed the chair.

The Secretary-Treasurer read the financial report covering the period from the last annual meeting.²

Mr. R. G. Diefenderfer discussed the proposition of staggering the terms of the members of the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar so that there would be continuity on the Board, and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Wyoming State Bar does hereby recommend to the Supreme Court of Wyoming that Rules 8 and 9, relating to this organization, now Sections 2-409 and 2-410, Wyoming Compiled Statutes, 1945, be amended to read as follows:

"Rule 8 (Section 2-409). The President shall not be eligible for re-election. No commissioner may serve as such for more than one term consecutively."

"Rule 9 (Section 2-410). Each Judicial District of the State, as now or hereafter constituted, shall be entitled to one Commissioner on the Board, who shall be elected by the qualified members of the State Bar residing in that District as follows:

In each District bearing an odd number, the election shall be in the year 1948 for a one year term and in 1949 and each odd numbered year thereafter the election shall be for a two year term; in each District bearing an even number, the election shall be in each even numbered year hereafter for a two year term. Such election shall always be held within thirty days preceding the annual meeting of the State Bar, at such time and place as may be designated by the Commissioner from that District, provided, that an annual meeting of the District Bar shall be held each year within said thirty day period, as called by the Commissioner, for the transaction of business of interest to the District Bar. Each Commissioner shall take office at the close of the annual meeting of the State Bar next following his election and shall hold office until his successor is elected and takes office."

1. p. 3.

2. p. 34.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Burt Griggs and after a general discussion, upon being put to a vote, was carried.

Mr. Oliver W. Steadman suggested that the State Bar consider, during the coming year, the advisability of recommending that the Rules be amended to provide for two Commissioners for each Judicial District, each to hold office for two years with one being elected in each District each year.

The President called upon Mr. R. G. Diefenderfer to report on behalf of the Legislative Committee. Mr. Diefenderfer outlined the work of the Committee during the past year, discussing the method by which it handled proposed legislation and the success attained by the State Bar in securing the passage by the 1947 Session of the Wyoming Legislature of most of the legislation recommended for passage.

The President called on Dean R. R. Hamilton of the Wyoming Law School who commented on the operations of the School, the veteran problem, present overcrowded conditions and plans for the future.

Mr. Frank J. Trelease, Jr., Faculty Advisor of the Wyoming Law Journal, read a "Report On The Wyoming Law Journal."³

Following announcements concerning the program for the day, the meeting was recessed until 2:00 p. m.

The meeting was reconvened at 2:00 p. m. The President suggested that many members were not acquainted with other members, and at his request each member arose in turn, introduced himself and named the community in which he practiced.

President Sampson then called upon Mr. John U. Loomis who introduced Honorable T. F. Hamer, of Omaha, Nebraska, General Solicitor of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. Mr. Hamer addressed the meeting extemporaneously on some of the interesting cases that he had tried.⁴

The President introduced Honorable T. Blake Kennedy, United States District Judge, who read a paper on the subject: "The Wyoming Practice and Procedure Act."⁵

Following Judge Kennedy's paper, the President asked for a general discussion of the recent legislation authorizing the Supreme Court to adopt rules of practice and procedure (Chapter 53, Session Laws of Wyoming, 1947). After such discussion, Mr. A. G. McClintock moved that the Wyoming State Bar, in annual meeting duly assembled, recommends to the Supreme Court and the Advisory Committee provided for in Chapter 53, Session Laws of Wyoming, 1947, that they proceed as rapidly as possible to effectuate the powers under such Act. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard S. Strahan and after further discussion was carried.

The meeting was recessed until 10:00 a. m. Saturday, August 16, 1947.

The members and their ladies were entertained from 5:00 p. m. until 7:00 p. m., August 15, 1947, by Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Harrison at their

3. p. 35.

4. p. 19.

5. p. 11.

ranch south of Sheridan. The members and their ladies attended a banquet and dance at Lodore Pavilion, Story, Wyoming commencing at 7:30 p. m.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:00 a. m. on August 16, 1947. The President introduced Doctor A. G. Crane, Secretary of State of the State of Wyoming, who addressed the meeting on the subject: "Hopeful Facts About Wyoming."⁶

The Necrology Committee reported that the following members had passed away since the last annual meeting:

A. L. Taliaferro, Rock Springs.

Will A. Tikkanen, Saratoga.

Ralph E. Meyers, Buffalo.

Samuel S. C. Chilcote, Basin.

John B. Barnes, Jr., Lusk.

A. C. Allen, Riverton.

The names of the new Commissioners were announced by the Secretary-Treasurer as follows:

First Judicial District, John S. Miller, Cheyenne.

Second Judicial District, Alfred M. Pence, Laramie.

Third Judicial District, R. Dwight Wallace, Evanston.

Fourth Judicial District, Earl Dunlap, Gillette.

Fifth Judicial District, Gerald A. Stack, Thermopolis.

Sixth Judicial District, Thomas O. Miller, Lusk.

Seventh Judicial District, C. O. Brown, Douglas.

The President then announced that the next order of business would be the election of officers and reviewed the method by which the election would be conducted, to-wit: that nominations would be by secret written ballot with the two receiving the highest number of votes being nominated; that a second secret written ballot would be had to determine the election between the nominees.

Upon secret written ballots so had, the following officers were elected:

President: W. J. Wehrli.

Vice-President: R. G. Diefenderfer.

It was moved by Mr. Ewing T. Kerr and seconded by Mr. R. G. Diefenderfer that Robert B. Laughlin be nominated for the office of Secretary-Treasurer, that nominations be closed, and that the President cast the unanimous ballot of the meeting for the nominee. The motion was carried and the President declared Robert B. Laughlin elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Mrs. Sarah D. Steadman, on behalf of the members from Park County, invited the State Bar to hold its 1948 Annual Meeting at Cody.

President Sampson appointed Mrs. R. E. McNally and Mr. H. B. Durham to escort President-elect Wehrli to the chair. Mr. Wehrli thanked the meeting for his election and commented briefly on his plans for the coming year.

Mr. G. R. McConnell suggested that the members consider, during the coming year, the advisability of recommending to the Supreme Court that the

Rules be amended to provide that the officers shall take office on January 1st following their election, rather than immediately upon their election as is now provided.

It was moved by Mr. R. G. Diefenderfer that the State Bar extend to Mr. L. C. Sampson its deep appreciation for the time and effort he has expended in behalf of the State Bar for many years. The motion was seconded and adopted by acclamation.

It was moved, seconded and adopted by acclamation that the State Bar extend its thanks and appreciation to the following for their courtesies and efforts in making the meeting a success:

Sheridan County Bar Association.

Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Harrison.

Sheridan Chamber of Commerce.

Sheridan Brewing Company.

Mr. H. B. Durham requested that the members write to Senator E. V. Robertson relative to the legislation in Congress which would permit certified public accountants to practice in tax cases.

The meeting was recessed until 4:45 p. m. The members and their ladies were entertained at luncheon by the Sheridan Brewing Company.

At 4:45 p. m. the meeting was reconvened. President Sampson called upon Mr. Carl L. Sackett who introduced Honorable Tom Clark, Attorney General of The United States. Mr. Clark addressed the meeting on the subject: "Law and National Progress."

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Robert B. Laughlin,
Secretary-Treasurer.

THE SUPREME COURT OF WYOMING

Cheyenne

WILLIAM A. RINER, *Chief Justice*

RALPH KIMBALL, FRED H. BLUME, *Justices*

September 16, 1947

Hon. Robert B. Laughlin
Secretary, Wyoming State Bar
Cheyenne, Wyoming
Dear Mr. Laughlin:

Replying to your letter of the 15th instant, you are advised that the Supreme Court has made an order approving the proposed amended Rules 8 and 9 as suggested by the State Bar at its meeting held in Sheridan on August 15 and 16, 1947.

Yours very truly,
William A. Riner,
Post Office Box 697,
Cheyenne, Wyoming.