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## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar

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## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR

*September 8, 9, & 10, 1971*

*Cody, Wyoming*

The 30th Annual meeting of the Integrated Bar and the 56th Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar was called to order by the President, Ross D. Copenhagen, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. at the Cody Club Room of the Cody Auditorium, Cody, Wyoming.

After opening remarks, President Copenhagen thereupon called upon Joseph E. Darrah, Secretary-Treasurer for the reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting. Upon motion made by Ernest Goppert, Jr., duly seconded, and unanimously carried, the reading of the minutes of the Bar Association was dispensed with on the meeting calendar. The Secretary-Treasurer was then called upon for a Treasurer's report. Following the Treasurer's report, Mr. Ernest Goppert, Jr., Chairman of the Auditing Committee, was called upon. Chairman Goppert's report was concluded by recommending that the Treasurer's report for the period ending July 31, 1971, be approved and confirmed. Thereupon, upon motion duly moved, seconded, and carried, the report of the Treasurer and the Auditing Committee were accepted, approved as read, and ordered attached to the minutes of this meeting.

President Copenhagen then appointed Michael McCarty, Chester Jones, and Michael Sullivan to serve on the Resolutions Committee for the Annual Meeting.

President Copenhagen then relinquished the floor to President-Elect Sullivan who thereupon reintroduced President Copenhagen for the purpose of obtaining the President's report.

Following the President's report and a short intermission, President Copenhagen again took the floor and introduced Mr. R. R. Bostwick, Chairman of the Committee on the Code of Professional Responsibility. Mr. Bostwick introduced the members of his committee as being Leonard Lang, William T. Schwartz, Max Osborn, George

Sawyer, and Don Sherard. Mr. Bostwick then introduced to those assembled a written report of the recommendations of the Committee, and, after amendment to the recommendations of the Committee, duly and regularly made, the report of the Committee on the Code of Professional Responsibility as adopted by the House of Delegates to the American Bar Association, subject only to the changes approved by the Wyoming Bar in the report of the Committee on the Code of Professional Responsibility, was adopted with the suggestions and report of the Committee.

Following Mr. Bostwick's presentation, President Copenhaver introduced Mr. Howell C. McDaniel, Jr. of Casper, Wyoming, Chairman of the Committee for the Client Security Fund and asked for a report from the Committee. Upon completion of the report it was duly moved, seconded, and unanimously carried that the report of the Client Security Fund Committee and the Proposed Rules of Procedure for the Client Security Fund be referred to the Board of Bar Commissioners for official sanction. President Copenhaver then thanked the committee for its efforts and the committee was discharged.

President Copenhaver stated that the next item of business would be a report of the Committee on the Judiciary and Minor Courts. Donald E. Chapin, Chairman and long time member of the Committee, made a detailed report concerning the work of the Committee during the past year and encouraging each member of the Bar to actively support the legislation for judicial reform in minor courts now pending. The report of the Committee was then duly approved, and it was resolved by the Bar Members assembled that the work of the committee proceed with all things necessary and proper, including financial support, if necessary, to secure the constitutional amendments involved.

Wade Brorby, Gillette, Wyoming, Chairman of the Committee on Disciplinary Rules, was then called upon by President Copenhaver for a report of their activities. Upon completion of the report, it was duly moved, seconded, and unanimously carried that the report of the Committee be approved and adopted.

Thereupon the Honorable Leonard McEwan, Justice of the Supreme Court, requested the floor and reported that the new Volume 2A of the Wyoming Statutes was published and available, and specifically requested that members of the Bar make available to the Judiciary any questions or comments they might have with regard to the same.

President Copenhaver then called upon Allan K. Simpson, Cody, Wyoming, Chairman of the Legislative and Law Reform Committee, to make a report. Chairman Simpson gave a brief report on the Legislative meeting being held in Cheyenne in January and suggested that

the Bar consider members other than Legislators and that the meeting be held sometime before the Legislative meeting in order that more attention and significance could be given to the legislative requirements of the Wyoming State Bar.

After thanking Chairman Simpson for the Committee's efforts on behalf of the Bar, President Copenhaver adjourned the meeting to a joint luncheon with the ladies held at the Cody Auditorium, where William B. Spann, Jr. of Atlanta, Georgia, Chairman of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association, addressed the members.

The business session reconvened at 2:00 P.M. at the Cody Club Room at which time President Copenhaver introduced Mr. Carroll R. Heft of Racine, Wisconsin, a member of the Wisconsin Bar, for a presentation concerning the concepts of comparative negligence. Mr. Heft's presentation, while entertaining, was most informative and turned out to be a highlight of the entire convention.

Following a discussion period with Mr. Heft, President Copenhaver called upon the Dean of the Law School, E. George Rudolph, for the Report of the Law School.

Following the report from the Law School, President-Elect Sullivan, responding on behalf of Chairman William E. Barton of Casper, reported on the Committee on the Uniform Probate Code.

Thereupon, Walter Urbigit of Cheyenne, Wyoming reported that the Committee on Professional Corporations was pleased that the Wyoming Supreme Court had adopted Rule No. 21, making unnecessary further report of the Committee. The business session then concluded, whereupon the members of the Bar together with their wives retired to the Elks Club in Cody for a cocktail hour hosted by the Title Guarantee Company of Wyoming and the Shoshone Title Insurance and Abstract Company, followed by a dinner at the Cody Auditorium, which was highlighted by the Cody Rotary Minstrel Show entertaining the members with a presentation entitled, "A Laugh and the Law."

The Friday business session was convened at 9:00 o'clock A.M. in the Cody Club Room. President Copenhaver introduced W. A. DeBuse, President American Legal Aid Incorporated, for a presentation and discussion concerning prepaid legal insurance. Mr. DeBuse laid emphasis upon the need of the average person to obtain adequate legal services, explaining the availability already to the indigent and the high income classes. Following considerable discussion and questioning of Mr. DeBuse, President Copenhaver then gave a brief resume of the history of the movement for prepaid legal services and its impact upon the law.

After a short intermission, President Copenhaver then introduced Mr. Gordon Englert, group representative, Equitable Life Insurance Society of Denver, Colorado, who presented a program with regard to the American Bar Association retirement plan with emphasis upon the "qualified bar" approach to the program and its availability to Wyoming attorneys under such program.

After thanking Mr. Englert for his presentation, Mr. Pat Hand of Douglas, Wyoming was recognized by President Copenhaver from the floor, and with regard to the subject of prepaid legal insurance, Mr. Hand proposed the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming State Bar Association be and it does hereby go on record as positively stating that it has not endorsed any prepaid legal aid program or insurance presently in existence in the State of Wyoming.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried the resolution was unanimously passed.

President Copenhaver then called upon Mr. Richard W. Day, of Cody, Wyoming for a report on Necrology. Mr. Day asked for any amendments or additions, and there being none upon the motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried the Necrology Report was accepted and approved by the Wyoming State Bar.

Mr. Michael McCarty of Casper, Wyoming then presented the report of the Resolutions Committee. After full presentation, upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the members of the Bar.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 1

WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary and Minor Courts of the Wyoming Bar Association has served for many years in endeavoring to secure judicial reform in the State of Wyoming, and has by the passage of legislation in the 41st Legislature of the State of Wyoming achieved a significant milestone in its work on behalf of the Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Wyoming State Bar are desirous of expressing their appreciation, thanks, and gratitude to all of the members of the Committee, and to Donald E. Chapin, its Chairman,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming State Bar, in session duly assembled on the 10th day of September, 1971, does hereby extend and express the sincere appreciation, thanks, and gratitude of all of its members for the work and accomplishments of the Committee on Judiciary and Minor Courts, and the Secretary is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Committee in care of its Chairman, Donald E. Chapin.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

WHEREAS, Ross D. Copenhaver has ably served the Bar of the State of Wyoming, as its President, for this year; and

WHEREAS, this distinguished gentleman is retiring as President of the Wyoming State Bar, and the Bar regards it fitting and proper to recognize and commend him for his service and dedication to the causes of the Bar,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming State Bar acknowledge with gratitude the service rendered by Ross D. Copenhaver, and the Secretary of the Wyoming State Bar shall send a copy of this resolution to Ross D. Copenhaver.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

WHEREAS, Frank J. Trelease, Jr. has served the past 11 years as Dean of the University of Wyoming College of Law; and

WHEREAS, Frank J. Trelease, Jr., as Dean of the University of Wyoming College of Law and as a member of the Wyoming State Bar, has distinguished himself in his service to the University of Wyoming College of Law, the Wyoming State Bar, and to the legal profession; and

WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming College of Law has undergone many important changes and improvements under the guidance and leadership of Dean Trelease; and

WHEREAS, he has now retired as Dean of the University of Wyoming College of Law, and the Wyoming State Bar regards it fitting and proper to recognize and commend him for his many years of service and dedication,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming State Bar acknowledge with gratitude the outstanding services rendered by Frank J. Trelease, Jr., and that a copy of this resolution be sent to him by the Secretary of the Wyoming State Bar.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

WHEREAS, the members of the Wyoming State Bar were privileged to have enjoyed the hospitality and generosity of the Park County Bar Association, the wives and members thereof, the City of Cody, Leo Kenney, Al and Ann Simpson, The Title Guaranty Company of Wyoming, Shoshone Title Insurance Company, Cody Rotary Club, Husky Oil Company, American National Bank, Powell, First National Bank, Powell, First State Bank, Cody, Shoshone-First National Bank, Cody, West Publishing Company, Michie Company, Shepard's Citations and Bancroft Whitney Company during the 56th Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar at Cody, Wyoming, held on September 8, 9 and 10, 1971; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Wyoming State Bar are desirous of expressing their appreciation, thanks, and gratitude to all who have made the meeting so successful and memorable,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming State Bar in session duly assembled on the 10th day of September, 1971, does hereby extend and express the appreciation, thanks, and gratitude of all its members and the wives who have attended the said Annual Meeting to the above named parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary-Treasurer of the Wyoming State Bar send copies of this resolution to the parties named herein.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 5

WHEREAS, the Wyoming State Bar has been fortunate in having the following men participate and contribute to the various proceedings and meetings, to-wit: William B. Spann, Jr., Chairman, House of Delegates, American Bar Association, Carroll R. Heft, Esq., and Gordon W. Englert, Group Representative, ABA Retirement Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Wyoming State Bar is greatly appreciative of the fine work of these gentlemen which has contributed much to the success of this 56th Annual Meeting,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming State Bar extend its thanks and appreciation to the distinguished gentlemen above-named for their contribution to and participation in this meeting, and that the Secretary-Treasurer of the Wyoming State Bar send copies of this resolution to the parties named.

The next item of business to come before the meeting, and the last, was the annual election of officers. President Copenhaver first called for nominations for Vice-President. Mr. Thomas Morgan of Gillette, Wyoming was nominated. Thereupon motion regularly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the rules of the Wyoming State Bar pertaining to the election of officers were suspended, and the Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Morgan.

Thereupon, the President asked for nominations for President-Elect of the Wyoming State Bar. Houston G. Williams was then nominated, and upon motion regularly made, seconded, and unanimously carried the rules of the Wyoming State Bar pertaining to the election of officers were suspended, and the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Houston G. Williams as President-Elect.

The President then called for nominations for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. The names of Joseph E. Darrah and John Gage,

Jr. were then made, and, upon ballots being cast, Joseph E. Darrah was declared elected as Secretary-Treasurer of the Wyoming State Bar for the 1971-72 year.

By virtue of the rules governing conduct of the Wyoming State Bar, Joseph B. Sullivan, Douglas, Wyoming, the 1970-71 President-Elect, automatically became the President of the Wyoming State Bar for the 1971-72 year.

At the conclusion of the elections, there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was duly adjourned at 12:05 o'clock P.M., Friday, September 10, 1971. However, President Copenhaver admonished the members there present that the meeting had not concluded, since it was necessary for the members and their wives to attend a social hour at the Elks Club hosted by the American National and First National Banks of Powell, The First State and The Shoshone First National Bank of Cody. This mandate was taken seriously by most of the members of the Bar, who after a delightful social hour were entertained at the annual banquet, held at the Cody auditorium, whereupon well earned golf awards were made. Another highlight of the convention then followed, and Mr. Marvin Bishop of Casper, Wyoming was presented the coveted 50-year plaque, and the gavel of office was passed to Joseph B. Sullivan by past president Ross D. Copenhaver. At various times and places thereafter, thus concluded the 1971 Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH E. DARRAH  
Secretary-Treasurer