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

September 9, 1961

The regular annual meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Wyoming State Bar was held in the Kalif Temple, Sheridan, Wyoming, on September 9, 1961, the same having been called to order at 2:45 P.M. by President George P. Sawyer. Those present were:

George P. Sawyer—President
John P. Ilsley—Past President
George J. Millett—President-elect
Jerry W. Housel—Vice President
John T. Dixon—Secretary-Treasurer

Commissioners present were:

Fred Wheeler of the First Judicial District
Charles L. Bates of the Second Judicial District
Harry Schwartz of the Fourth Judicial District
Robert B. Bowman of the Fifth Judicial District
Paul T. Liamos of the Sixth Judicial District
Robert Burgess of the Seventh Judicial District.

Wyoming State Bar members present were:

Frank J. Trelease
Elmer Scott
Ross D. Copenhaver.

Frederick E. Burdett of the Third Judicial District was absent.

President Sawyer introduced Dean Frank Trelease, who discussed the possibility of the Wyoming State Bar establishing a scholarship fund for use by outstanding students contemplating entrance into Law School. Dean Trelease cited several instances where promising students had been forced to go to out-of-state schools for lack of funds and the availability of scholarships elsewhere. In concluding his remarks, Dean Trelease suggested that a Committee be appointed to study the matter and report to the membership as a whole at the 1962 annual meeting. It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that President Sawyer, at his convenience, appoint a Committee for the purpose of investigating the advisability of establishing a scholarship fund to the University Law School.

Dean Trelease also informed the meeting that it would be necessary for the Rules Committee to meet several times during the year and he asked that the Rules Committee be allowed expenses for the meetings. Harry Schwartz, Commissioner, Fourth Judicial District, moved that expenses be appropriated and allowed to the Rules Committee in accordance with Dean Trelease's request. Upon said motion being second by Fred Wheeler, First Judicial District, Torrington, Wyoming, the question was put and the motion unanimously carried.

President Sawyer then brought up the Group Life Insurance Program and introduced Mr. C. N. Bell of Cheyenne, Wyoming, the new agent for said Program representing Continental Casualty Company. Mr. Bell stated that he wished to contact all members of the Wyoming State Bar urging them to join the Life Insurance Program on a voluntary basis and requested a membership list for the accomplishment of this task. He also informed the meeting that the Life Insurance Plan had been improved over the original plan offered to the members, stating that he felt the new plan had several distinct advantages and benefits not included in the original program. At the conclusion of Mr. Bell's remarks, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary-Treasurer furnish a list of the membership to Mr. C. N. Bell for the purpose only of contacting members for enlistment in the Life Insurance Program. Mr. Bell was further instructed by President Sawyer to inform all members contacted that participation in the plan was purely a voluntary matter and up to each individual practitioner.

President Ilesley then introduced Elmer Scott of Worland, Wyoming, who invited the Commissioners, on behalf of the Washaki County Bar, to select Worland as the 1962 convention site. Mr. Scott explained that Worland had never had the convention and with the recent growth in membership in the Wyoming State Bar, would not be able to handle same a few years from now. Vice President Housel informed the meeting that the Park County Bar Association had withdrawn its application to have the convention held in Cody, Wyoming, in 1962, in favor of Worland's bid.

President Sawyer also informed the Commissioners and Officers that the Town of Jackson and Jackson Lake Lodge had invited the State Bar to hold its 1962 convention in those respective places.

After full discussion, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried, that the bid of Worland to host the 1962 annual convention, be accepted.

Discussion was next had concerning dates for the 1962 annual meeting. President Sawyer informed the meeting that he had had several requests to change the date to sometime other than the weekend immediately following Labor Day. It was the general consensus of opinion among the Officers and Commissioners that a meeting held prior to Labor Day might very possibly conflict with the tourist season, thereby reducing in number the towns able to handle the convention, and also that a later date in the year might very possible reduce attendance due to inclement weather conditions. President Sawyer also informed the group that he had attended several Bar meetings during the year which were two-day sessions only and that he felt the 1962 annual meeting could be held in the same period of time. After full discussion, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried, that the 1962 annual convention be held on September 7 and 8, 1962, in Worland, Wyoming. It was further moved, seconded and carried that

September 6, 1962, also be set aside as a convention date in the event President Sawyer deemed the same necessary.

Ross D. Copenhaver of Powell, Wyoming, Chairman of the Uniform Jury Instructions Committee, requested an allocation of \$500.00 to pay expenses and mileage for that Committee during the 1962 year. Mr. Copenhaver informed the meeting that the Uniform Jury Instructions Committee intended to have several meetings in Casper in hopes of accomplishing the task set before it. It was regularly moved by Harry Schwartz, seconded by Robert B. Bowman, that Mr. Copenhaver's request be granted and the sum of \$500.00 be appropriated for the use of the Uniform Jury Instruction Committee.

President Sawyer then asked for comments on the recommendation of Dean Trelease that the Wyoming State Bar join with the States of Nebraska, Colorado and South Dakota in the hiring of a full time continuing Legal Education Director. President Sawyer informed the meeting that Wyoming's share in such a program would be \$1,500.00 a year based upon a four state \$20,000.00 budget for the program. After full and complete discussion, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the Wyoming State Bar appropriate \$1,500.00 for the four states continuing Legal Education Director, subject to final approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Wyoming State Bar upon the establishment of the office and selection of the director.

The next item of business to come before the meeting was a discussion of the Minimum Fee Schedule and John T. Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer, informed the group that the 1961 minutes revealed that the Minimum Fee Schedule was adopted as set forth by Elmer J. Scott, Chairman of that Committee, with the exception of those portions pertaining to probate fees and closing charges for real estate transactions. Closing charges for real estate transactions and probate fees were referred to a Committee by the 1961 meeting for continued study and investigation prior to final acceptance, approval and publication of the new Minimum Fee Schedule as prepared by Mr. Scott's Committee. Since the Committee appointed to investigate probate fees and closing charges for real estate transactions were unable to complete their work prior to the 1961 session, it was duly moved, seconded and carried that the new Minimum Fee Schedule be published, including the same probate fees and closing charges for real estate transactions set forth in the Minimum Fee Schedule of January 15, 1955. It was further moved, seconded and carried, that President Sawyer contact West Publishing Company to see if that company would donate their services in publishing the Fee Schedule. In the event that a donation of the publication could not be obtained, the Secretary-Treasurer was further instructed to mimeograph the new Minimum Fee Schedule and distribute same to all members of the Wyoming State Bar.

Past President, John P. Ilsley, then brought up the matter of a client

security fund, and it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the President appoint a Committee to investigate the possibility of establishing a client security fund and report to the general convention in 1962.

Secretary-Treasurer, John T. Dixon, then informed the meeting that he thought the business of the Bar had increased to such an extent that it would be well worth while for the Wyoming State Bar to purchase a photocopy machine for use by the Secretary-Treasurer. At the conclusion of Mr. Dixon's remarks, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that a sum not to exceed \$400.00 be appropriated for the purchase of a photocopy machine of the Secretary's choice.

Secretary-Treasurer, John T. Dixon, informed the group that the financial status of the Wyoming State Bar had increased each and every year during the past few years to such an extent that the State Bar has had for several years a large sum of cash on hand in a checking account. Mr. Dixon further informed the meeting that the lowest cash on hand balance during the year was just shortly under \$9,000.00. After full discussion, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary-Treasurer invest from the general funds whatever sums of money could be spared from that account, said investment to be in certified deposits in an approved national or state bank.

President Sawyer informed the meeting that the Wyoming Junior Bar had requested the appointment of a permanent committee for the purpose of affiliation with the Junior Bar Conference of the American Bar Association, and at the conclusion of the discussion concerning the Junior Bar's request, passage of the following resolution was duly moved, second and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED, that there shall be a permanent committee known as the Wyoming Junior Bar Committee, which shall be composed of all members of the Wyoming State Bar 35 years of age and younger, and that the President of the Wyoming State Bar, immediately after taking office, shall appoint a Chairman of said committee to serve for one year; that the Wyoming Junior Bar Committee shall affiliate with the Junior Bar Conference of the American Bar Association, and that the Chairman take the necessary action to accomplish such affiliation.

The Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to increase his Bond to \$15,000 to cover the increase in financial status during the past few years.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
John T. Dixon
Secretary-Treasurer