

**Equal Justice Wyoming
Board of Commissioners Meeting
November 17, 2015 3-5pm*****

Summary

Those in attendance in Cheyenne were: Ray Fleming Dinneen, Cathy Duncil, Walter Eggers, Ronda Munger and Robert Jarosh. Jennifer Hanft and Mary Johnson joined by phone. Timothy Beppler joined by video.

Executive Director's Financial Review and Update. Angie updated the board on the many events held during National Pro Bono Week. There were 260 individuals who attended the CLE. Equal Justice Wyoming (EJW) is working with the Supreme Court forms committee on the guardianship and name change forms. Angie and Chris are on three working groups for the Access to Justice Commission (ATJC), the Communication, Delivery and Law Improvement working groups. EJW is working to provide a self-help center beginning in January 2016. There will be a full time vista volunteer in the center to assist clients. The Law Improvement Working Group is working to make rule changes such as mandatory mediation and GAL's. Alisa has the live chat up and running directing people to resources. There were no unusual financial expenditures.

Upcoming Budget Submission. The Joint Appropriations Committee meeting will be held December 9, 2015 at 8:00 am. Angie will be attending to answer any questions the Legislators may have. EJW is requesting an additional 230K in spending authority. She will be meeting with Chief Justice Burke prior to the hearing.

Forms automation and Technology Update. Alisa is completing as much of the automation as she possibly can. HotDocs has been exceptionally helpful in fixing errors she has found. Working with the PDF files has proven to be extremely complicated. The divorce with kids' packet will be the most difficult. She will be receiving additional training. Jennifer encouraged clients to use the automated forms, however; some have been unable to download. This is a problem with the browser they are using. They can contact EJW for assistance. Angie will be requesting via email a vote to utilize up to 50 hours with HotDocs to clean up the divorce with kids' packet. This could cost up to 10k. Tim requested an update regarding the Skype usage. At present Skype is not being utilized. Angie feels that most clients are calling the hotline for assistance. Angie submitted an Access and Visitation grant application for 30K. The key purpose of this grant would be to help those who need a custody and visitation order. A panel of mediators would be established with a good referral process. This has been identified as a barrier for low-income individuals. Angie will request approval for funding for a 40 hour family law mediation training. EJW would need to charge approximately 1,200 to 1,300 dollars to individuals for the training. 21-24 individuals are expected to attend. Jennifer feels the training would be beneficial whether the grant is awarded to EJW or not. The trainers have blocked time in April to conduct the training. An email vote will be requested for this expenditure.

Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation Update: Walter updated Rob on the history of the foundation. James Belcher is a new board member of the foundation board. The

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foundation members are working with Colorado members. They are estimating granting funds in January 2016. Tim would like to see a Memorandum of Understanding in the future regarding the utilization of EJW staff to assist the foundation. The ATJC communication subcommittee met last week to discuss marketing. They have found a company to assist; however, the ATJC does not have funds. They have requested that the EJW contribute 2K to assist with the cost of the marketing. An email vote will be taken.

Next Meeting: January 19, 2016, 3-5pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.