

**Equal Justice Wyoming
Board of Commissioners Meeting
September 15, 2015 3-5pm*****

Summary

Those in attendance in Cheyenne were: Ray Fleming Dinneen, Cathy Duncil, Walter Eggers and Ronda Munger. Jennifer Hanft and Jacquelyn Bridgeman joined by phone. Timothy Beppler and Mark Aronowitz joined by video.

Executive Director's Financial Update. There were no out of the ordinary expenditures during the month of August.

Staff Updates. Angie and Chris made presentations at the State Bar conference. They also met with the Law Library personnel about placing a self-help kiosk at the University of Wyoming. Ray asked how the public will learn about the kiosk. Angie will prepare a press release to go to the media and to social service agencies. Stuart would like to see the kiosks in public libraries and Ray would like community partners educated about this resource. Jennifer expressed concerns regarding the law firm of Jacobs and Polidora putting on legal clinics with our assistance since they are a newly formed firm. She was approached regarding Rennie formerly being employed at Equal Justice Wyoming and that her firm has some kind of inside track to our resources. Angie shared that the firm approached our office to assist in this way and want to support our pro bono efforts. Stuart asked Chris if we would support anyone who wanted to support pro bono and Chris assured the board that we will definitely support any attorney who want to support these efforts. Stuart is continuously seeking ways to improve pro bono opportunities in Natrona County. Chris has emailed all of the county bar presidents to offer assistance. Ray feels the push back gives us an opportunity to discuss the pro bono work. Stuart expressed that opportunities for all attorneys to assist have been available for a long time. Tim commented that the clinics are not about looking for paying clients. Angie will get with Jennifer regarding presenting to the Albany County Bar again.

Approval of the revised June and August meeting minutes. Tim moved to approve both minutes. Ray seconded. All who were present approved and no one opposed.

Proposed Budget Submission. Angie explained the proposed budget submission. She feels we should ask for a 230K increase in spending authority to be in line with what Civil Legal Services fees are bringing in. We could increase our grant disbursements by 250K. Jenn asked if there are any one time projects we could spend on. Angie explained that there are no one time projects and that the spending authority needs to be increased so that the fund is not continuing to build more reserve. Angie will make corrections to the worksheet and send a final out to the board. Cathy asked if the funds from the pro hac vice fees will be included, to which Angie explained that these funds are not included in the budget and that a B11 request will need to be accomplished when these funds are available. Jacquelyn asked what the current reserve is and Angie responded 3,700,000. Angie asked if there were any questions regarding the narrative. Stuart expressed that Angie did a great job writing the narrative. Ronda stated that she has read many narratives and this particular one was well written. Stuart moved to

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approve the proposed budget submission. Jacquelyn seconded. All who were present approved and no one opposed.

Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation Update: Walter thanked the board for responding to the email vote to utilize Equal Justice Wyoming staff. The Equal Justice Wyoming board has been working extensively with the Wyoming State Bar Foundation to transfer responsibilities. Tom Long has been providing assistance with transfer issues. Walter thanked Angie for all the time she has spent working on the transfer. Stuart is sensitive about utilizing the staff and would like to explore other options if it gets overwhelming. The Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation Board is seeking additional members. The press release has not been completed as of it. The board wants to ensure it is a positive change.

Stuart's Award. Angie congratulated Stuart on his Champion of Justice award.

Next Two Meetings: October 20, 2015, 3-5pm and November 17, 2015, 3-5pm. There will not be a meeting held in December.

Meeting adjourned at 4:18pm.