

## ***SCOTT COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER***

*DECEMBER 2011*

**MINUTES OF MEETING:** Attached are the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Executive Council for the month of November 2011. These Minutes have yet to be approved by the Executive Council and will be submitted to the Executive Council at its next meeting.

**CLE:** The Last Chance Seminar has been scheduled for Friday, December 16, 2011. A registration form with more detailed information was previously email to the membership.

**COMPOSITE:** The 2012 composite of our Association has been approved by the Executive Council and will be available to the membership. All members current in their dues are asked to schedule an appointment to have his or her picture taken on January 11, 12 or 13, 2012. These sittings will be held at the Scott County Courthouse at a place to be named in the future. The sign up sheets are going to be scheduled every five minutes from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and then 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. each of the three days. There is a plan to have an alternate date at a later time, but no one should plan on utilizing that as it may fill up. You certainly want be a part of the composite. There will be no cost to the members for this composite unless you order separate copies for your own personal use. Please contact the office of D. Jasper at 332-8181 to schedule your appointment now! We need volunteers to be present during the sittings to coordinate and make sure everything runs smoothly. If you have any inquiries or would be willing to volunteer at all contact D. Jasper.

**RETIREMENT RECEPTION:** There will be a retirement reception for the Honorable John G. Mullin on February 2, 2012, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Davenport. There will be complimentary hors d'oeuvres with a cash bar. Everyone is encouraged to attend and wish Judge Mullin the best.

**MECHANIC'S LIENS:** There is a proposed bill to centralize Mechanic's Liens through the Secretary of State in Des Moines. It would all be by computer and easily accessed by anyone. It would be registered by the address of the property. The abstractors would not certify to this in the abstract and would be the requirement of the examining attorney to check the Mechanic's Lien site as close to closing as possible to make sure there are no Mechanic's Liens. The Real Estate Committee was unanimously in support of this as they felt it was inevitable and it was going to be centralized. They are trying to work with the state to make the process as easy as possible. Anyone with any comments should contact Gorsline at 324-0441.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Joe Creen and Hap Volz have again been appointed for three year terms as Members of the Board of Directors for HELP Legal Assistance.

**COURT APPOINTMENTS:** Anyone interested in representing individuals in Post Convictions or Appeals should contact Kathy at the Court Administrator's Office at 328-4145.

**BAR APPLICANTS:** Four new applicants have applied to sit for the bar exam. These individuals are Jessica L. Fiocchi, Josh R. Ladwig, Samuel R. Bailey and Nathan P. Woodward. Their names will be forwarded to John Molyneaux for review. Anyone with any information/comments should contact Molyneaux at 322-7332.

**SCHEDULING JUVENILE COURT MATTERS:** In order to most efficiently utilize personnel within the Court Administration office, when scheduling Scott County juvenile hearings (both CINA and delinquency), please contact Jenni Criswell at 326-8783 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., or from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If Jenni is unavailable, please ask for Terri Weinberg or Kathy Gaylord.

**NEED HELP?:** Problems with alcohol, drugs, stress or depression? Call Iowa Lawyers Assistance Program at 1-800-243-1533. All calls are confidential.

Any member having any comments may contact the President or an Executive Council member for comments on any matters. Further, any member may request a reservation at the monthly meeting for a presentation to the Executive Council by contacting the President.

# SCOTT COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

November 29, 2011

Present: Jacobs, Syverud, Gross, Larson, Berger, Leddin, Gieck, Clausen, Cervantes, Gorsline, Ripley, Jasper

Guest: V. Motto and L. Jasper

The meeting of the Executive Council was held at the Front Street Brewery and was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by President Gross.

The Agenda was altered to have V. Motto request the four grants for law school students for the 2011/2012 school year; he had another commitment. Normally we make these awards in the spring, but everyone felt it was better to do it earlier in the year when students would still use it during the actual school year. It was moved, second and unanimously approved to again authorize the four separate grants of \$500 each to those associated with Scott County attending an accredited law school. The same rules apply as in the past. V. Motto is to contact the newspapers and the Deans of the two Iowa law schools. Jasper is to place this in the Newsletter.

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Council of October 25, 2011, were unanimously approved without amendment.

Jacobs presented the Treasurer's Report and delivered a check for \$9,385 to Gross for presentation to HELP Legal Assistance. Dues are being paid and a list of those not paying was reviewed and adjusted due to retirement and deaths. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed only paying members and retired members would be on the upcoming composite.

Judge Macek has told Gross he will finally pick his final selection for his portrait to be hung in the back hallways of the third floor of the Scott County Courthouse. The portrait of Judge Greve has already been placed.

Lunch and Learn was again a success with an estimate of close to 40 attending. Thanks goes to Steve Wing for his presentation on the subject of Ethics and the organization of Mark Fowler.

Jasper was authorized to schedule the composite for three days during one of the last weeks in January, 2012. There would hopefully be one make-up date at a later time. Volunteers will be needed to assist in scheduling and monitoring those in attendance.

L. Jasper was present to request funding for the retirement gathering for the Honorable John Mullin. It will be held on February 2, 2012, at the Radisson in downtown Davenport from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved for funding for what we have spent in the past, which was approximately \$3,500.

The terms of two representatives from our Association will expire as members of the Board of Directors of HELP. Joe Creen and Hap Volz were unanimously reappointed for an additional three year term each.

It was suggested the ADR Committee is no longer active and would no longer be needed at this time due to the ongoing mediation committees. It was unanimously approved to inactivate the ADR Committee.

Gorsline indicated there is a new Mechanic's Lien bill prepared for introduction into the legislature. The Real Estate Committee has unanimously approved same. It was felt by the members of the Committee it was inevitable. The intent was to localize everything in Des Moines with regard to Mechanic's Liens. With that as a foregone conclusion, they unanimously agreed to accept the proposal. It would be on the website of the Secretary of State and everyone would register all Mechanic's Liens through the Secretary of State online. It would then be the responsibility of the examining attorney to call the day of the closing to determine if there are any Mechanic's Liens filed. The abstractors believe this would be the most effective way to control the situation because they felt if they put it in the abstract it would be weeks old at the time of closing and would have to be checked anyway. It would require a last minute check and it was suggested staff or the attorney could check on the day of the closing to make sure there were no Mechanic's Liens.

There are four applicants that will be taking the Iowa Bar Examination, namely: Jessica Fiocchi, Josh R. Ladwig, Samuel R. Bailey and Nathan P. Woodward. It was unanimously approved to have this matter referred to John Molyneaux as it has been done in the past for investigation.

The Last Chance Seminar will be held on December 16, 2011. Please mark this on your calendar and more information will be forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis D. Jasper

Secretary

DDJ/jg