## **Approved Board Minutes**

### LOUISIANA CLERKS OF COURT ASSOCIATION CLERKS ONLY MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2009 10:00 A.M. NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

The Louisiana Clerks of Court – Clerks Only meeting met on the above date with the following members present: President Robby Barousse, Louie Bernard, Gerald Harrington, Hart Bourque, Darlene Landry, Samuel Couvillon, Brian Lestage, James Martin, Cynthia Johnston, Gary Loftin, Lynn Jones, Carl Broussard, Janet Payne, Patrick Gladney, Clyde Ray Webber, Doug Welborn, Beatrice Carter, ElRay Lemoine, Michael Thibodeaux, Bubbie Dupont, Ann Walsworth, Richard Arceneaux, Louis Perret, Vernon Rodrigue, Steve Andrews, Linda Cook, Tom Sullivan, Marion Hopkins, Carol Jones, Bill Hodge, Dorothy Lundin, Lanell Landry, Carolyn Ryland, Stuart Shaw, Tammy Foster, Charles Jagneaux, Cliff Dressel, Malise Prieto, Dodi Eubanks, Willie Deon, Holly Vining, Mark Graffeo, Kay Bolding, Felicia Hendl, Donald Kelly, Christine Crow, Lillian Richie, Peter Fitzgerald. Also present: Debbie Hudnall, Executive Director and Randy Zinna, Attorney.

The Clerks Only meeting was called to order by President Robby Barousse. Invocation was given by Ann Walsworth and Mark Graffeo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT**

President Robby Barousse thanked everyone for coming and wished everyone a safe trip back home.

#### 2010 CONVENTION REPORT

Bert LeBlanc reported on the 2010 Convention. He reported that the Convention is progressing very well and assured everyone they would enjoy New Orleans. Dot Lundin shared information about Plaquemines Parish and said she was looking forward to the Clerks coming there.

#### 2011 CONVENTION REPORT

Clyde Ray Webber reported on the 2011 Convention. The date for the convention will be the week of April 18, 2011.

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#### **ATTORNEY-FEE LITIGATION**

Randy Zinna reported on the fee litigation. He reported that seven parishes have not been dismissed. For all the other Clerks that have been dismissed, he reported there would be no more assessments. He reported that Motions for Summary Judgments are set for early January and briefs are due in April.

### **2010 Proposed Legislation**

President Barousse discussed a new fee to be designated for preservation of records. After discussion, Clerks were more interested in trying to pass legislation for criminal fees and then try for the fee for preservation of records in 2011.

Tom Sullivan reported on the proposed criminal court costs legislation. He advised the Clerks that the Judicial Counsel will be reviewing the Fund Balances of Clerks in their annual audit reports. Bill Hodge requested a list of the members of the Judicial Council Court Cost Committee and Debbie Hudnall offered to provide the list.

There was discussion on Clerks' costs for bench warrants, bond forfeitures and bonds collected by the Sheriff. Charlie Jagneaux moved that Randy Zinna research the law on the method for collecting costs for Bonds, Bond Forfeitures and Bench Warrant upon arrest by the Sheriff. Motion was seconded by Malise Prieto. **Motion carried.** 

Tom Sullivan discussed IRS Tax Liens. He reported that direct deposits will have an ACH trace number per lien. The payment for filing will be direct deposited into the clerk's bank account at the time the IRS sends the lien. Currently, the IRS is paying at that time of each filing. The IRS will furnish information to each clerk that will allow the clerk to verify that payment has been paid for each lien. If payment is not correct, the clerk will need to call IRS. Tom reported there are several IRS contact numbers available.

Debbie Hudnall informed the Clerks that Commissioner of Elections, Angie LaPlace, wanted to know if the clerks were having any issues regarding first time commissioners. After discussions, Clerks agreed there were no issues regarding first time commissioners.

Mark Graffeo reported that the Retirement Board was looking into proposed retirement legislation. Several options had been discussed. Mark reported that the Retirement Board had asked the actuary, Gary Curran, to draft additional options regarding new hires. The Board will meet again in February and discuss further.

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Debbie Hudnall informed the Clerks that Rene Graff had resigned from the Association office. Debbie had hired Chris Kershaw, who is a CPA, as an interim employee.

There was discussion as to Clerks accepting credit card payments in the Clerks' offices. Randy Zinna would check to see if Clerks could charge a processing fee as a convenience to cover the fees that the credit card companies charge.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Cliff Dressel moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Lanell Landry.

S/Robby Barousse

Robby Barousse, President