

**LOUISIANA CLERKS OF COURT ASSOCIATION
CLERKS ONLY MEETING
HON. MICHAEL THIBODEAUX, PRESIDENT
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
VIDALIA, LOUISIANA**

The Louisiana Clerks of Court Association met on the above date with the following Clerks present: Robby Barousse, Gerald Harrington, Hart Bourque, Darlene Landry, Brian Lestage, Jim Martin, Cindy Johnston, Gary Loftin, Lynn Jones, II, Eugene Dunn, Carl Broussard, Janet Payne, Pat Gladney, Glyde Webber, Beatrice Carter, David Dart, Walter Lee, Ann Johnson, Elray Lemoine, Michael Thibodeaux, Bubbie Dupont, Ann Walsworth, Richard M. Arceneaux, Louis Perret, Vernon Rodrigue, Steve Andrews, Linda Cook, Tom Sullivan, Jr., Marion Hopkins, Carol Jones, Louie Bernard, , Arthur Morrel, Bill Hodge, Dot Lundin, Lanell Landry, Carolyn Ryland, Charlie Oubre, Beverly Gordon, Eliana Defrancesch, Charlie Jagneaux, Allen Blanchard, Sr., Malise Prieto, Julian E. Dufreche, Bobby Boudreaux, Dodi Dodd Eubanks, Diane Meaux Broussard, Mark Graffeo, Felicia Ann Hendl, Christine Crow, Peter Fitzgerald, Jr. Also present: Debbie Hudnall, Executive Director and Randy Zinna, Attorney. CLERKS ABSENT were: Sammy Couvillon, Sonny Stone, Doug Welborn, Walter Lee, Jon Gegenheimer, Dale Atkins, Stuart Shaw, Ramona Haire, Tammy Foster, Lena Torres, Ed Kinler, Cliff Dressel, Ernie Sikes, Willie Deon, Jr., Johnny Crain, Hollie Vining, Kay Bolding, Don Kelley, John Oliver, Diana Pratt Wyatt, Charles McNeely, Danielle Schott, Ellen M. Hazeur, Martin Broussard, Carol C. Carter and Gasper J. Schiro

The Clerks Only Meeting was called to order by President Michael Thibodeaux , the invocation was given by Ann Walsworth and Pledge of Allegiance led by Malise Prieto.

Clyde Ray Webber welcomed the Clerks to Vidalia and introduced H. L. Irving, Director of Vidalia Conference Center and Jeannie Branton. Mr. Irving asked Clerks to consider Vidalia for the 2011 Clerks of Court Convention and Ms. Branton gave a detailed description of the Conference Center.

LEGISLATION

President, Michael Thibodeaux stated that each district had been asked to submit any legislation they were interested in for 2009. He had been asked to bring up three retirement proposals.

1. Make the accrual rate of 3.33% retroactive to 1989.

He was subsequently asked to withdraw this proposal.

2. Include employer match of deferred compensation in retirement.

After discussion with other Associations and Attorney Randy Zinna, President Thibodeaux recommended there be a cap of \$500 to \$1000 per month on the match that could be included in the retirement

3. Replace DROP with BACK DROP

**Louisiana Clerks of Court Association
Clerks Only Meeting, December 1, 2008
Page 2**

(**Exhibit 1**) The actuary, Gary Curran, had been asked to calculate the costs of these proposals to the system.

Debbie Hudnall informed the membership that the Retirement Board of Trustees may have to consider increasing the employer retirement contribution rate above the recommended actuarial amount due to the performance of investments since the release of the actuarial report.

After lengthy discussion on retirement issues, Vernon Rodrigue moved that there be no changes to the retirement system at this time. Motion seconded by Bobby Boudreaux. Charlie Jagneaux offered a substitute motion to recommend to the Retirement Board of Trustees that the employer contribution be increased by 1.5% effective July 1, 2009. Motion seconded by Gerald Harrington. **Motion carried** with the following Nays be recorded: Vernon Rodrigue, Bobby Boudreaux, Charles Oubre, and Malise Prieto.

President Thibodeaux informed the members that the Retirement Board would have to make the final decision.

President Thibodeaux then asked for a Legislative report from each of the districts.
District 1 – Tom Sullivan reported that District 1 would like legislation to amend criminal fees. After discussion, President Thibodeaux appointed a committee consisting of Charlie Jagneaux, Robby Barousse and Malise Prieto.

District 2 – Dot Lundin – No Report

District 3 - Robby Barousse reported for Diane Broussard that their District would be introducing a local bill for a car allowance. The amount would be 12% of the Clerk's full salary that would cover the expenses of a car and the vehicle would belong to the Clerk.

District 4 – Pat Gladney – No Report

District 5 – Carol Jones – No Report

District 6 – Lanell Landry – No Report

District 7 – ElRay Lemoine – No Report

District 8 – Bubbie Dupont – No Report

District 9 – Christine Crow – No Report

FEES LITIGATION

Randy Zinna gave an update on the fee litigation and reported they hoped to have a ruling from the Court before the end of the year on the Motions for Summary Judgment.

**Louisiana Clerks of Court Association
Clerks Only Meeting, December 1, 2008
Page 3**

Additionally, Randy informed the members that the Clerks that participate in the Louisiana Clerks of Court Risk Management Fund were also covered by a general liability insurance of \$100,000. Currently, any attorney's fees goes against the \$100,000. He recommended that attorney's fees not go against the insured amount or that the amount of liability increased.

Legal Fund Financial Update (On file in office)

Debbie Hudnall gave a financial update on the Legal Fund. She further reported that there were still some accounts receivables and payables outstanding.

New Business

Debbie Hudnall reported that the Association Office had been very busy in helping with the transfer of Retirees to the new Aetna Medicare Advantage Plan. The new insurance program is for the Retirees who are Medicare eligible which will be effective January 1, 2009 and is not optional. It is a Medicare replacement with a \$100 deductible and pays 95% of Medicare allowable up to \$2000.00 out of pocket and then at 100%. Their drug plan has a co-pay is \$10, \$20, and \$40. It is a fully funded plan and premiums are much less expensive.

Additionally, the Association office had been busy with the transfers of the DROP funds in LAMP to the Self-Directed Plan at Great West. Debbie gave an update on how the Self-Directed Plan works and the benefits to the DROP participants. She informed the members that the State Retirement System and the State Police Retirement System participates in a Self-Directed Plan.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Carolyn Ryland and it was seconded by Allen Blanchard. **Motion carried.**



LINDA COOK
SECRETARY

MICHAEL THIBODEAUX
PRESIDENT