

CLERKS SUPPLEMENTAL FUND BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 6, 2020
Conference Call at 11:00 am

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jill Sessions.

PRESENT: Jill Sessions, David Stamey, Marion Hopkins, David Dart, Jim Martin and Ex-Officio Brian Lestage, Debbie Hudnall, Chris Kershaw and Dagmar Hebert

Debbie reported that due to COVI-19, prescription has been extended until May 15th and the number of suits filed has dropped significantly. She stated that some of the April reports had been received but reflect an approximate 50% reduction in suits being filed. Debbie explained a brief history of the fund. She reported that the current bank balance is approximately \$51,000. She noted that the current supplemental pay to clerks is \$133,250 per month. She further explained how the CAP and per suit amount is calculated based on the CPI-U. Debbie then reviewed the number of parishes paying the CAP and suggested the possibility of dividing those parishes into two CAP ranges based on the number of suits reported – 300-500 suits CAP of \$5,400, 500 and above CAP of \$9,000. There was discussion about the length of this proposed CAP increase. Debbie stated that Attorney Sheri Morris had noted that due to COVID-19, basing the change on a quarterly average of suits for the months of April, May and June would be acceptable. The Board would then revisit and make adjustments accordingly. David Dart agreed to reach out to the parishes paying the CAP to see if they would be amenable to this proposal. In the event the parishes are unwilling to increase the CAP payment, the Clerks supplemental pay would be reduced to \$1,000 per month.

Debbie then reported that typically the Supplemental Board would review the year and report to the Clerks at the annual conference a proposal for the next fiscal year. Due to COVID-19, the conference was cancelled but the Association has prepared the number for the Board's review. Based on the current CPI-U the per suit fee can be increased from \$18.00 to \$18.50 and the CAP would increase from \$4,600 to \$4,700, and Orleans Criminal would be increased from \$1,000 to \$1,025. There would be no increase in Clerks Supplemental Pay per month. Debbie noted that there are many moving pieces regarding suits including reducing the jury threshold.

A motion was made by David Dart to ask the larger parishes to increase the CAP based on the average number of suits filed for the 2nd quarter of the year due to the COVID-19 extension of the prescription period and the Clerks Supplemental Pay would remain the same per month. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A motion was made by Jim Martin to be effective July 1, 2020 that the per suit fee be increased to \$18.50, CAP increase to \$4,700 and Orleans Criminal increase to \$1,025 for fiscal year 2020-2021. The motion was seconded by David Stamey. **MOTION CARRIED.**

David Dart will report the responses back to Debbie once he has reached out to the CAP parishes. It may be necessary to revisit this situation depending on the responses.

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A motion to adjourn was made by Marion Hopkins. The motion was seconded by Jill Sessions.
MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debbie D. Hudnall", written over a horizontal line.

Debbie D. Hudnall

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Sessions", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop.

Jill Sessions, Chairman