

APPROVED MINUTES

**LOUISIANA CLERKS OF COURT ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014
CONFERENCE CALL
10:00 A.M.**

A meeting by conference call of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.
The meeting was called to order by President Tammy Foster.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Tammy Foster	Julian Dufreche
Diane Meaux Broussard	Brian Lestage
Carl Broussard	Ann Johnson
Holli Vining	Lanell Landry
Dodi Eubanks	Steve Andrews
Mark Graffeo	Cliff Dressel
Rick Arceneaux	Dot Lundin (<i>joined at 10:33 am</i>)
Jeremy Evans	
Lynn Jones	

ALSO PRESENT: Debbie Hudnall, Executive Director

ABSENT: David Dart

President Tammy Foster informed the Board that in late December Joe Woods had informed Debbie that she would be retiring as lobbyist on December 31st. Tammy had asked Debbie to contact Arwin Bascle to see if she would be interested in the job and if so at what cost. After obtaining that information, on January 9, 2014, she had a conference call with the Executive Board along with Lynn Jones and Louie Bernard who were serving as President when Joe Wood signed the last contract.

Tammy informed the Board that because the Legislative Session begins March 10th and with bills already being filed that it was imperative to proceed with hiring a lobbyist now. She said that Arwin Bascle had worked with Joe Wood for the last three years in lobbying for the Clerks and understood the Clerks lobbying process. She said that it was the recommendation of the Executive Committee that Arwin Bascle be hired for one year at \$42,000. She said it was a six to one vote with one nay vote.

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Tammy said that the Executive Committee thought it was important to have as many Board members as possible participating and decided to have the conference call today rather than having everyone drive to Baton Rouge. She then opened the matter for discussion.

Cliff Dressel asked Debbie if the Clerks needed a lobbyist. Debbie said a lobbyist is needed because although she does lobby at the Capitol, she doesn't have the time to stay in constant contact with the legislators and visit with the legislators on their home turf in addition to all of her other duties.

Jeremy Evans stated that the Clerks should look at interviewing other lobbyist now like Randy Haynie, Tyron Picard or Jim Nickel.

Lynn Jones stated that time was of the essence because the legislative session is upon us. He said there just wasn't enough time to properly interview other lobbyist and have them in place for this session. He said the Clerks need to take their time in the interview process because they would want a long time commitment.

Tammy said that lobbyist for Clerks are always discussed at the Strategic Planning meeting in July and she thought that would be a good time to start the process after the legislative session. She said most of the time that clerks didn't have controversial issues and the clerks had always taken a low key approach.

Bryan Lestage said he thought the Clerks should take the advantage to conduct the interviews now. Lynn Jones said there simply wasn't enough time now.

Rick Arceneaux said the lobbyist were already really busy now preparing for the session and that the other lobbyist are not as familiar with the Clerks as Arwin.

Cliff Dressel said he thought we should keep Arwin for a year and it would give the clerks the opportunity to see her in action.

Debbie informed the Board that Arwin represented Tulane University, Louisiana Association of Broadcasters, Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association, Kingsley House and Glaxosmithkline.

Julian Dufreche said that it was important to know who her clients were and to know there would be no conflicts.

Carl Broussard stated that the clerks needed to have a lobbyist in place by next December.

Steve Andrews stated that Lynn Jones needed to be chairman of that Committee.

Rick Arceneaux moved that Arwin Bascle be hired for 12 months for \$42,000. Motion seconded by Cliff Dressel. **MOTION CARRIED** with Jeremy Evans opposing the motion.


Debbie informed the Board that it would be paid on a monthly basis from January through December.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:



Dodi Eubanks, Secretary



Tammy Foster, President