

**LOUISIANA CLERKS OF COURT ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2007
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA
1:00 P.M.**

The Louisiana Clerks of Court Association Board of Directors met on the above date with the following members present: President Cliff Dressel, Jim Martin, Michael Thibodeaux, Robbie Barousse, Diane Meaux Broussard, Mark Graffeo, Johnny Crain, Lynn Jones, Gary Loftin, Allen Blanchard, Joan Caraway, Bill Hodge, Lanell Landry, Ann Johnson, Bubbie Dupont, and Tom Sullivan. Also present: Legal Counsel - Randy Zinna, Acting Director – Debbie Hudnall, Louis Perret, Ann Walsworth, Linda Cook, Darlene Landry, Felicia Ann Hendl, Malise Prieto, Hart Bourque, Sammy Couvillon and Don Gualdo representing Gasper Schiro.

Members absent were Beverly Gordon, Gasper Schiro, and Peter Fitzgerald.

The invocation was given by Michael Thibodeaux followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Jim Martin.

2007 CONFERENCE REPORT

Lynn Jones, Chairman, reported that the 2007 Conference will be held April 9th – April 13th and everyone should receive a CD with all of the information in two days. He reported there will be two registration forms; one for the clerks and one for the deputies. He asked that all respond as quickly as possible.

Louis Perret reported that he had been contacted about some Clerks not filing the Certificates of Divorce as required by law and was asked to remind the clerks of the requirement.

At this time, President Cliff Dressel asked Acting Director, Debbie Hudnall, to leave the room.

President Dressel asked for a motion to go into executive session. Johnny Crain moved to go into executive session and it was seconded by Tom Sullivan. **Motion carried.**

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman, Gary Loftin, reported that the Search Committee, along with other clerks, had met on Wednesday, January 17th, at the direction of the general membership, to seriously negotiate with Debbie Hudnall to accept the position as the Executive Director of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association. The unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee to the Board of Directors is as follows:

1. To hire Debbie Hudnall as Executive Director of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association effective September 1, 2007, at an amount equal to the full maximum compensation allowed for a Clerk of Court in the lowest population bracket . Any increases in compensation for clerks in lowest bracket would also apply to the Executive Director.

2. To authorize President Cliff Dressel to enter into a 5 year service contract with Debbie Hudnall, LLC which sets forth her duties as: to be responsible for monitoring all legislative issues which affect the Clerks of Court; assist in writing legislation; testify on issues, coordinate the testimony of others during the legislative process; answer questions for any state agencies as well as those described in the By-Laws of the Association; and to be responsible for all duties set forth by the Board of Directors and any Policy and Procedure's adopted prior to the contract. No additional compensation is to be paid for the additional legislative duties of the Executive Director, but she will be reimbursed any actual expenses related to the legislative duties.
3. To authorize the Executive Director to be paid 15.3% of her salary either by lump sum or quarterly payment, off-setting her social security requirements; relieving the Association from making matching social security contributions.
4. To authorize the Executive Director to receive group health, life, and dental insurance through the Insurance Trust in which she will be reimbursed her actual costs of insurance in an amount not to exceed the costs paid for other employees of the Clerks' Association.
5. To authorize the Executive Director to be vested with the sole authority regarding the employment, advancement (within budgetary guidelines), discipline, and termination of all employees of the Association. Disciplinary or termination actions must be approved by the Association Attorney.
6. To authorize the Executive Director to be entitled to 15 days vacation and 10 sick days with full pay, annually. She is to be exempt from overtime requirements; however she will be entitled to compensatory time for work required outside normal operating hours.
7. To provide a suitable vehicle, with all fuel, maintenance, and insurance provided by the Association to the Executive Director with the Executive Director to be responsible for any tax liability associated with personal use of the vehicle.
8. To provide a cell phone or PDA with adequate minutes and services in order for the Executive Director to more efficiently communicate with the Association Office and Clerks of Court.

The Board of Directors, the Search Committee, and all clerks present discussed the subject at hand at great length with President Dressel calling upon each clerk in attendance to make comments.

At this time, Debbie was asked to return to the meeting to answer questions of the Board and those present. After answering questions, Debbie was asked to leave the room again.

A motion was made by Jim Martin to hire Debbie Hudnall as Executive Director pursuant to the package presented by the Search Committee. The motion was seconded by Gary Loftin. By a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to hire Debbie Hudnall as Executive Director of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association.

The minutes should reflect that Johnny Crain was at the meeting, but had to leave and was not in attendance to vote.

With the conclusion of the executive session, the meeting went back into regular session.

Debbie was invited back into the meeting and President Dressel congratulated her on being awarded the job of Executive Director of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association. President Dressel said we look forward to Ms. Hudnall coming to work for the Association pursuant to a contract drafted by Mr. Zinna and that she will report to work full time effective September 1, 2007, and will remain as interim director until that time pursuant to the salary she is receiving at present and pursuant to the duties and hours she is working at present.

Debbie Hudnall thanked the Clerks for placing their trust in her by appointing her as Executive Director of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association and assured everyone that she would work hard to make the clerks proud of their selection of their new Executive Director.

Gary Loftin, Chairman of the Search Committee, thanked everyone for of their help in making this selection successful.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gary Loftin informed the Board that the Association does not own a lap top computer and moved that Debbie be allowed to purchase a lap top for the Association. The motion was seconded by Lynn Jones.

Motion passed unanimously.

Lanell Landry moved to adjourn the meeting. Joan Carraway seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

MEETING ADJOURNED.

S/ Diane Meaux Broussard
DIANE MEAUX BROUSSARD
SECRETARY

S/ Cliff Dressel
CLIFF DRESSEL
PRESIDENT