

**LOUISIANA CLERKS OF COURT ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2007  
MONROE, LOUISIANA**

The Louisiana Clerks of Court Association Board of Directors met on the above date with the following **members present**: President Jim Martin, Michael Thibodeaux, Robby Barousse, Louie Bernard, Diane Meaux Broussard, Mark Graffeo, Lynn Jones, Louis Perret, Dot Lundin, Allen Blanchard, Lanell Landry, Ann Johnson, Bubbie Dupont, Peter Fitzgerald and Tom Sullivan. **Also Present**: Debbie Hudnall and Attorney Randy Zinna. **Members absent** were Cliff Dressel, Beverly Gordon, Pat Gladney and Bill Hodge.

The invocation was given by Peter Fitzgerald. Lynn Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Robby Barousse made the motion to approve, as presented, the minutes of the last regular meeting of Thursday, May 17, 2007. The motion was seconded by Tom Sullivan. **Motion carried.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Association Financial Report of June 30, 2007 (Exhibit 1):**

Mark Graffeo presented the financial report for June 30, 2007, with exhibits furnished to each Board member. He reported current cash assets before dues were \$211,000. The current totaled of other assets is \$265,000, and liabilities and capital totaled \$262,000. The Association's income statement showed the actual year to date revenue for the year totaled \$369,000 with \$359,000 budgeted. On the expense side, the expenses were down from what was budgeted because salaries were much less than what was budgeted. Year to date expenses totaled \$358,000, but had been budgeted at \$395,000 so there was a savings of \$23,000. The overall income for the year was \$10,000 and there had been a projected loss of \$36,000.

**Legal Fund (Exhibit 2):**

As of June 30, 2007, the LAMP balance was \$180,000 and assets totaled \$198,730.10. The total revenue assessments for the six months ending June 30, 2007, were \$424,000 and the legal fees expense totaled \$262,223 leaving a net income of \$162,676.61.

A motion was made by Lanell Landry to remove the receivables of \$11,000 from Jefferson Parish because they have no intentions of paying this assessment. Mark Graffeo seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

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Debbie Hudnall reported that the Association is still working with the smaller parishes to make their payments to the legal fund.

**2007/2008 Association Dues Update (Exhibit 3)**

Mark Graffeo presented the 2007/2008 Association Dues update with \$148,000 billed as of July 1, 2007, and \$122,000 received as of July 18, 2007, with \$25,665.82 outstanding.

A motion was made by Louis Perret to accept the financial report as presented by Mark Graffeo. The motion was seconded by Peter Fitzgerald. **Motion carried.**

**FEE LITIGATION - COMMENTS BY RANDY ZINNA**

Randy Zinna reported there will be a detailed update on fee litigation for the institute in Lafayette next month. The attorneys are taking depositions and filing briefs with the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit and moving the case along.

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Debbie Hudnall said the Association received a thank you note from Casey Thibodeaux thanking the Association for the scholarship.

Regarding the letter with the Rules and Regulations for Election Expense from the Commissioner of Elections, Debbie informed the Board that she had been in contact with Angie LaPlace at the Secretary of State's Office with concerns with the rules. Debbie also reported to the Board that Act 28 of 2007, which is the Capital Outlay Appropriations Bill, includes 8.1 million dollars for the Louisiana Clerks of Court. These monies are to fund an application she had submitted on behalf of the Louisiana Clerks of Court to create the Louisiana Clerks of Court Data Networking System. These monies will be payable from the General Obligation Bonds. She informed the Board that 5 million dollars is in Priority 2 and 3.1 million dollars is in Priority 5. She asked that the Board have a strategic planning meeting to decide in which direction they would like to proceed in utilizing these funds.

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Insurance Trust – Board of Trustees –**

President Jim Martin reported that the transition from FARA to the Hunt Group went as smoothly as possible. He further reported that the month of July had very high claims experience, although these were claims incurred under the FARA network. Blue Cross has assured the Insurance Trust that once the BlueCross Network is in place there would be an additional 10% discount on claims.

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**Retirement and Relief Fund – Board of Trustees**

President Jim Martin reported that the Retirement Board traveled to St. Louis for the educational program and the Board was very impressed Summit Strategies' operation and the outstanding job they were doing. The rate of return on the retirement funds for the last quarter was 5.1% and the rate of returns for the year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> was 15.2%.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Education Committee –**

Bill Hodge reported the next Clerk's Institute will be in Lafayette August 20 – 22, 2007.

**Legislative Committee - (Exhibit 4)**

Debbie briefly reported on Legislation and informed the Board there would be a full update on legislation at the Clerks' Institute in August

**OTHER BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Mark Graffeo for an additional fee in the amount of \$3000 to be paid to Joe Woods and Lynn Berry for their hard work during the legislative session. Motion seconded by Louie Bernard. **Motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion was made by Tom Sullivan to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Louis Perret. **Motion carried.**

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DIANE MEAUX BROUSSARD  
Secretary

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JIM MARTIN  
President