

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2016

Attendees: Judges Mahon, Wright, Berkenstock, Greene, Keeney, Brandt, DePanfilis, Magistrali, Randich, Marino, Purnell, Daly, Landgrebe, Lomme, Schad, Probate Court Administrator Knierim and Attorney Gaffey.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:47 a.m.
 2. **Approval of the Minutes:**
Minutes from November 9, 2016 meeting approved.
 3. **Correspondence:** None.
 4. **Treasurer's Report:**
The current budget is \$40,000.00. Year-to-date spending on meetings is \$7,574.00. Report approved.
 5. **Committee Reports:**
 - Continuing Education – Judge Becker
Judge Brandt reported that the next seminar is scheduled for January 24, 2017 and will cover conservatorships.
 - Ethics – Judge Magistrali
The next meeting is in January and the committee plans to address the use of social media and listservs.
 - Legislative – Judge Fox and Judge Rowe
Three potential bills are being discussed by the committee; court operations, random audits of conservators and increasing funding for conservators through Title 19.
 - Nominating – Judge Marino
Judge Marino continues to work on nominations.
 - Planning – Judge Brandt
No report.
 - Procedures Review – Judge Berkenstock
The committee continues the work of revising forms.
 - Public Information – Judge Purnell
Judge Purnell presented four publications of the Consumer Protection Bureau that can be ordered by the courts.
- Ad Hoc Committees:
- Conservatorship Guidelines – Judge DeGennaro
No report.
 - Court Security – Judge DePanfilis
The committee is focusing on ensuring that all courts have had a security assessment performed.
 - Floating Clerks – Judge Berkenstock
No report.
 - Hospitality – Judge Yamin
No report.

Judicial Selection Working Group – Judge Elkin

No report.

Statistics – Judge Dorval

The purpose of this new committee is to design a way of measuring staff workload.

6. **Comments of the Probate Court Administrator:** Judge Knierim

Judge Knierim noted that the budget season has started and that PCA is diligently working on the next proposed budget. PCA is continuing to work on various methods of cost recovery in conservatorship matters, including working with DSS on specific statutory language.

Judge Knierim and Vin Russo are updating statistical information to distribute to judges to utilize when speaking to legislators. He suggested that the focus should be on the safety net function of the Probate Courts.

7. **Comments of the President-Judge:** Judge Mahon

Judge Mahon wishes all a Happy Holiday and hopes for a successful New Year.

8. **Other Business to come before the Executive Committee:**

Judge Greene raised the issue of truancy. He believes that this is an important issue that should be a higher priority for the Executive Committee and can help the probate system increase jurisdiction. Judge Greene runs a truancy program in his court and reported that CMS is not programmed for the truancy program and he would like the IT department to build a truancy module.

As background, Judge Knierim explained that the legislation that permits a Probate Court to establish a truancy program when a local school district within the probate district has been identified as having a problem.

Judge Knierim noted that New London is the only court seeking the CMS module to be developed and while he appreciates the importance of the truancy program, he cannot prioritize the needs of one court over more pressing IT needs that would benefit the entire system. A suggestion was made to refer the matter to the Planning Committee to research the truancy statute to determine if additional courts wish to establish clinics. Judge Mahon referred the issue to the Planning Committee for further consideration.

9. **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Leah Schad
Recording Secretary