

MINUTES – BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING
Illinois Judges Association
June 2, 2006

Those members in attendance were:

Robert J. Anderson	Maureen P. McIntyre
Arnold F. Blockman	Lewis M. Nixon
James K. Borbely	Rita M. Novak
James R. Brown	Stuart A. Nudelman
Robert L. Carter	Stephen R. Pacey
Gloria G. Coco	M. Carol Pope
Maureen E. Connors	Jesse G. Reyes
Barbara Crowder	Thomas D. Roti
Kimberly L. Dahlen	Stephen G. Sawyer
Grace G. Dickler	Mary S. Schostok
Laurence J. Dunford	Mark A. Schuering
Kathy Elliott Bradshaw	M. Karen Simpson
James R. Epstein	Timothy J. Slavin
Clark E. Erickson	Ronald D. Spears
Kay M. Hanlon	John O. Steele
Ann B. Jorgensen	Bruce D. Stewart
Richard A. Kavitt	Jane L. Stuart
Stephen C. Mathers	Valarie E. Turner
Gregory K. McClintock	James M. Wexstten

Also in attendance were:

Daniel Gillespie	Sheila Murphy
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Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the **minutes of the December 9, 2005 meeting** were approved as presented.

Judge Reyes informed the Board of upcoming events being planned: IJA participation in Race Judicata; Book drive; Principal for Day; Past Presidents’ luncheon; recognition of members who have served or are serving in the military; working with schools statewide,

joint programs with Women's Bar Association, Hispanic National Bar Association, Asian American Bar Association, Filipino American Bar Association and National Association of Women Judges in addition to a media program with the Illinois State Bar Association. He also informed the Board that arrangements have been made for obtaining IDs from the Cook County Sheriff's Office for retired judges.

The **Financial and Reimbursement Statement** of the IJA was **approved** as submitted.

Chris Ruys delivered a **public relations report**. News clips were distributed to the members, along with a jury service brochure prepared by the IJA and ISBA. She indicated that the cable stations airing our show have increased to 21. 16 shows are scheduled to be taped this year, with 5 in Spanish. Chris will check with WYCC in Chicago to see if they are interested in airing any of the shows. She noted that we are planning a joint seminar with the ISBA on getting positive media coverage. She noted that the officers have met with the Editorial Board of the Sun Times and will be meeting this month with the Editorial Board of the Chicago Tribune.

Judge Stephen Mathers delivered the **Long Range Financial Planning Committee report**. He noted that our net gain, from investment income and increase in the value of investments, was over \$16,000 for this last year. Judge Timothy Slavin indicated that although we did well in investments, next year we need to meet our budgeted dues line item, which is \$177,000. He noted that this year, we collected \$169,000 in dues.

It was noted that one of the initiatives for this year is to formally establish the **Illinois Judges Association Foundation**. It is anticipated that funds would be shifted from the IJA account to the Foundation. This matter will be discussed in full at the December meeting of the Board.

Judge Schuering reported on the **Speakers Bureau**. He noted that this year we increased the number of judges going to various civic functions and schools. Chief Justice Thomas acknowledged these judges in a letter he sent. He noted that at the December Convention, we put on a seminar on how to make a presentation and had CDs available with resource materials.

Judge Wexstten informed the Board that he would continue to work on **state court funding** and will meet with representatives from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. He noted that the Second Judicial Circuit had volunteered to work on the pilot project.

Judge Reyes stated that new Co-Chairs had been appointed for the **Convention Committee** – Judges Gloria Coco and Mark Schuering. Judge Coco indicated that the

Convention will be held this year on December 7 and 8 at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel.

It was noted that the **Judicial Intern Opportunity Program** is progressing well, but that students still needed to be placed in Peoria and Macomb.

It was noted that although we had included an amount in this year's budget for a **lobbyist** that no lobbyist had yet been chosen.

Judge Kavitt delivered the report of the **Benefits and Pension Committee**. He noted that the COLA for July 1, 2006 should be 3.2%. He also noted that COLA is going to be calculated differently in the future and may mean a slight decrease in the figure. He also noted that the COLA for the first quarter of FY 2007 is .5%, which is lower than it usually is. He cautioned that next year is most critical for our pension funding and the Governor may try to institute a two-tier pension system.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the title "Executive Assistant" was changed to "**Executive Director**".

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the **Amicus Policy** of the Illinois Judges Association was approved as submitted.

Judge Sheila Murphy delivered the report of the **Travel and Benefits Committee**. She noted that an email will be sent next week regarding an ISBA sponsored one-week trip leaving on September 22, 2006 to Lake Como and Lake Lucerne. She indicated that a trip to Puerto Rico and Spain are also being planned.

The **membership** report indicated that work needs to be done to obtain a better membership in Cook County.

It was noted that the **Compensation Review Board's Report** was rejected by the House, but that the Senate adjourned before acting on it. It was noted that the Senate could act upon the report in the veto session.

No formal reports were given for the **Associate Judge, Court Facilities, Criticism Response, Electronic Media, Government Affairs, Judicial Discipline, Judicial Selection and Retention and Retired Judges Committees**.

Written reports were submitted by the **The Gavel and Membership Committees**.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane L. Stuart,
Secretary

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