

PINAL COUNTY COMMISSION ON TRIAL COURT APPOINTMENTS

MINUTES

February 27, 2014

PRESENT: Vice Chief Justice Scott Bales, Acting Chair; Laura Calvert; Dennis Manning; Brett Eisele; Irene Littleton; Penny Fendley; David Mix; James Stephens; Kate Milewski; Stephen Cooper; James Dutson; Deanna Recker.

ABSENT: Martin Hermanson; Christine Valenzuela

Vice Chief Justice Scott Bales, acting chair, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

Introductions

Vice Chief Justice Bales introduced himself and welcomed the commission members. He explained that the purpose of the meeting is to interview for the position vacated by Judge Robert Carter Olson.

Public Comment

No public present to comment.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chief Justice Bales asked if any member wished to submit changes or additions to the draft minutes of the January 22, 2014 meeting. It was moved that the minutes be approved as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Disqualifications and Disclosures

Vice Chief Justice Bales asked the commission if there were additional disqualifications or disclosures from the previous meeting.

There was no additional disqualifications or disclosures from the previous meeting.

Interview Questions

A motion to go to executive session for the purpose of selecting interview questions was made at 9:20 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The commission returned to public session at 10:13 a.m.

Due Diligence Reports

The commission went over the due diligence reports for Craig Raymond, Karl Eppich, Lawrence Wharton and Dwight Callahan. Vice Chief Justice Bales asked that the rest of the reports be discussed after lunch.

Candidate Interviews

From 10:43 a.m. to 11:42 a.m. the commission interviewed Karl Eppich, Lawrence Wharton, and Dwight Callahan.

The commission continued the due diligence reports for Danielle Harris, Delia Reeves Neal, and Kelly Neal.

The commission recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

From 12:56 p.m. to 2:35 p.m. the commission interviewed Danielle Harris, Craig Raymond, Delia Reeves Neal, and Kelly Neal.

Discussion of Interviews and Selection of Nominees

Vice Chief Justice Bales reminded Commission members of the constitutionally required balance of political affiliations among nominees. He explained he would only vote on a candidate in the event of a tie.

Vice Chief Justice Bales opened the floor for a tentative list of nominees.

Dennis Manning motioned to add Craig Raymond to the tentative list. The motion passed by a 9-2-1 vote with Vice Chief Justice Bales abstaining.

Laura Calvert motioned to add Karl Eppich to the tentative list. The motion passed by a 9-2-1 vote with Vice Chief Justice Bales abstaining.

Deanna Recker motioned to add Delia Reeves Neal to the tentative list. The motion passed by a 11-0-1 vote with Vice Chief Justice Bales abstaining.

Dennis Manning motioned to add Danielle Harris to the tentative list. The motion passed by a 7-4-1 vote with Vice Chief Justice Bales abstaining.

Kate Milewiski motioned to add Kelly Neal to the tentative list. The motion failed by a 2-9-1 vote with Vice Chief Justice Bales abstaining.

Dennis Manning motioned to close nominations. The motion passed by a 7-4-1 vote with Vice Chief Justice Bales abstaining.

The Commission discussed the results of the vote and Stephen Cooper moved to make the tentative list final. The list consists of **Karl C. Eppich, Danielle Harris, Craig A. Raymond, and Delia Reeves Neal**. The motion was seconded and passed by a 10-1-1 vote with Vice Chief Justice Bales abstaining.

It was then moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Eisele
Commission Secretary