

**MINNESOTA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION  
GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of February 9, 2010, Meeting

Members in attendance: Bob Boisvert, Beth Papacek, Tom Trachsel, Connie Howard, Mark Pihart, John Klassen, Mary Martin, Jessica Looman, Linda Mealey-Lohmann, Chuck Knapp, and Beth Bertelson.

Members not in attendance: Chris Jozwiak

Other attendees: Elyse Farnsworth, MSBA and Jessica Thomas, MSBA.

The meeting started at approximately 3:35 p.m.

- I. Approval of prior meeting minutes.** The minutes of the January 12, 2010 meeting were approved.
- II. Financial report.** The most recent balance was reported as \$34,984.59.
- III. Section projects**
  - A. Labor and employment publication.** Ms. Farnsworth reported that the next publication will include an announcement concerning the Labor and Employment Law certification program.
  - B. Practicelaw.org.** Ms. Martin presented an updated list of external links that will be added to [practicelaw.org](http://practicelaw.org).
  - C. State court database.** Mr. Boisvert reported that a meeting was held last week with certain other sections. The Civil Litigation Section, Family Law Section, and Labor and Employment Law Section reached a consensus to move forward with this project, and a Committee has been created. Justin Cummins will be the Section's representative on this Committee. A motion was made and approved for the Section to provide \$3,000 of funding for this project on a one-year pilot basis.
  - D. Section website.** Mr. Pihart and Ms. Farnsworth reported on the efforts to update the Section's website.
  - E. Labor and Employment Law Certification program.** Jessica Thomas discussed the implementation of the certification program. The exam will be held on October 2. The application fee will be \$150 for public attorneys, and \$250 for private attorneys. A motion was made and approved to waive the portion of the application fee that would go to the Section for the eleven members of the Committee who worked on the

development of the program. Mr. Boisvert reported that Minnesota CLE is planning to conduct a review course on August 12 and/or 13.

- F. **Law school outreach.** The law student reception is being held on March 25 at Solera in downtown Minneapolis.
- G. **Speakers bureau.** Ms. Looman reported on the efforts to create a speakers bureau to add to the Section's website.

#### IV. Section Programs

- A. **Fall Labor & Employment Law Institute.** Completed.
- B. **Winter luncheon.** Ms. Papacek reported that the event will be held on March 10, 2010 at Windows on Minnesota; that the focus will be on the ADA; and that the panel will include a government attorney, a plaintiffs-side attorney, and a management-side attorney.
- C. **Spring Employment Law Institute.** Planning for the Spring Institute is ongoing.
- D. **Nine Days in June.** Ms. Papacek reported that the Section was not invited to participate in this program.
- E. **Enforcement agency training program.** Ms. Bertelson reported that the EEOC has not been pursuing a training program this year, but that there may be opportunities with other agencies.
- F. **Annual dinner.** Mr. Knapp reported that two potential speakers for the annual dinner have not formally responded to the Section's inquiries. There was a further discussion of options for possible speakers. No date has been selected, because the Employment Law Institute is being held on Monday and Tuesday this year.

#### V. Section liaisons.

- A. **MSBA Assembly.** No report.
- B. **NLRB.** No report.
- C. **DOL.** No report.
- D. **EEOC.** Ms. Bertelson reported that EEOC is increasing its staffing.
- E. **MDHR/City Agencies.** No report.
- F. **Minnesota Legislature.** No report.

**G. Bureau of Mediation Services.** No report.

**VI. Miscellaneous**

- A. MSBA/MABL Haiti Earthquake Relief Effort.** Mr. Boisvert discussed MSBA's solicitation for its Haiti earthquake relief fundraising effort. A motion was made and approved to contribute \$1,000 to this effort on behalf of the Section's members.
- B. February 2 MSBA annual law school mixer.** Mr. Boisvert reported that the event was well attended and well received, and that three members of the Governing Council attended – himself, Ms. Papacek, and Mr. Trachsel.
- C. Council Membership.** Mr. Boisvert reported on the process with respect to expiring terms, serving as officers, and by-laws amendments. The notice for the winter luncheon annual meeting will be mailed to Section members.
- D. NLRB CLE.** Mr. Trachsel reported that this event will likely be held on April 7 or 8 in downtown Minneapolis. A follow-up e-mail message with additional details will be routed for comments/approval, so that planning may move forward on a timely basis.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:10 p.m.