

Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Committee

Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2021
Zoom Meeting
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Judge Amber Mettler, presiding

Attendees:

Judge Amber Mettler, Chair
Monte Sleight
Angela Allen
Tonya Wright

Excused:

Matthew Page
Jackie Morrison
Steve Johnson
Julie Emery

Staff:

Scotti Hill, Utah State Bar
Marina Kelaidis, Recording Secretary

Guests:

Carolynn Clark, S.J. Quinney College of Law

1. Action—Welcome and approval of the draft meeting minutes: (Judge Mettler)

Judge Mettler welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for approval of the minutes.

Carolynn Clark moved to approve the August 17, 2021 minutes. Scotti Hill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Scotti Hill introduced Tonya Wright as a new Committee member.

2. Discussion—Update from Angela Allen on current casework and projects: (Angela Allen)

Ms. Allen gave a brief overview of her recent cases and provided a specific example of how her services provided a low-cost option for a family law matter. Ms. Allen also reported she is working with a marketing firm to get the word out about LPPs. Mr. Sleight asked what areas of the state she is working in. Ms. Allen reported she is located in Davis County; however, she is available and taking cases statewide.

3. Discussion—Update from LPP Innovation Subcommittee: (Judge Amber Mettler, Jackie Morrison, Scotti Hill, Carolynn Clark)

Ms. Hill reported the Subcommittee recently met to review their short-term and long-term objectives and to develop a timetable for achieving those objectives. They are currently working on developing the proposed education experience amendments to Rule 15-703 and anticipate presenting the proposed amendments to the Committee soon.

Ms. Hill also reported the Subcommittee is assisting Professor Carpenter and Dr. Mark with their surveys. Additionally, the Subcommittee is considering developing an internal program satisfaction survey to be disseminated among the working LPPs and potential LPPs. They hope to gather data on the admissions process, definitions, and other LPP related matters.

The Subcommittee will also be looking at the nature of mentorship for LPPs while also keeping a close eye on the Pearson Butler proposal in the Regulatory Reform Sandbox. Ms. Hill reported they also discussed having a Committee member sit in on the Sandbox meetings as a liaison.

Lastly, Ms. Hill reported the Subcommittee discussed creating additional subcommittees to address a list of additional topics that need review and development such as: an expansion subcommittee focused on expanding the areas of practice, a forms review subcommittee, an accreditation subcommittee focused on the LPP specialized curriculum, and a subcommittee for tracking similar programs in other jurisdictions. Judge Mettler reported she will be meeting with Nick Stiles to discuss transitioning this Committee from an ad hoc committee to a standing committee of the Supreme Court. At this meeting, Judge Mettler will also propose adding more committee members to assist in addressing these objectives.

4. Discussion—Update from the Bar, Introduction to new Committee member Tonya Wright: (Scotti Hill, Matthew Page).

Ms. Hill reported all six applicants passed the August 2021 exam. In addition to the new six, one additional LPP will also be swearing in on October 1, 2021. Following the swearing in ceremony, we will have 20 total LPPs.

Ms. Hill also reported they are continuing to work with Ergometrics to develop a scaled score for the LPP exam. In addition, they are working on developing a digital version of the practical portion of the exam, as well as all other sections of the exam.

5. Discussion—Update on rural outreach: (Steve Johnson)

This matter was postponed and will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Discussion—Update on outreach efforts: (Julie Emery, Monte Sleight)

Nothing new to report.

7. Discussion—Old business/new business:

Ms. Hill reported she will be joining the Court Forms Committee and will be able to assist as a liaison for forms. Ms. Wright reported she applied to join the Rules of Civil Procedure Committee.

Angela Allen reported the Limited License Legal Technician program in Washington is still testing before the program sunsets at the end of next year.

8. Adjournment and next meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The next meeting will be held on October 19, 2021 from 12:00p.m.–1:30p.m. via Zoom.