

Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2022

Zoom Meeting

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Judge Mettler, presiding

Attendees:

Judge Amber Mettler, Chair
Susan Morandy, LPP,
Recording Secretary
Leslie Staples, LPP
Tonya Wright, LPP
Matthew Page
Steve Johnson
Monte Sleight

Guests:

Carolynn Clark, S.J. Quinney College of Law

Staff: Scotti Hill, Utah State Bar

Chairperson Judge Amber Mettler called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

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.

Steve Johnson moved to approve the February 15, 2022 minutes. Tonya Wright seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. **Approval of Committee Member**

Steve Johnson moved to approve Carolyn Clark as a committee member. Tonya seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

3. **Discussion—Update from LPPs on current casework and projects.**

Meredith Farrell does not have any cases, but has had a lot of calls from the Bar website and Licensed Lawyer. She would estimate about 10 - 20 calls and has referred them to other LPPs. Tonya Wright advised that she also has received several calls and most of them are on debt collection. She settled three cases and started three new debt collection cases. Tonya advised that Angela Willoughby, who is a LPP in Delta, has room to take new clients. Discussion on CLE and information presented. It was noted there were over 400 participants and noted that there attorneys looking to hire LPPs and there are still attorneys that do not know anything about LPPs. At the CLE presentation Commissioner

Sagers advised on the need of the court that she would like to see more LPPs to help with pro se calendars and specifically helping pro se participants finalize their paperwork. There is another CLE which will be a luncheon held at the Matheson Courthouse to have attorneys get signed up on the pro bono calendar.

Monte Sleight advised there are seven people in the MLS classes that still need hours and perhaps they could help with the pro se calendars and be supervised by an LPP. Leslee Staples advised that she is willing to help mentor those in the MLS classes.

Tonya Wright advised that Timp Legal Services was also looking for pro bono attorneys/LPPs who could help them finalize orders after hearings. Volunteers would be provided with a copy of the recorded hearing and the volunteer would prepare the final documents/orders. The Timp Legal Services pro bono volunteers could also be used as hours for MLS applicants with centralized supervision by Timp Legal.

4. Discussion—Update from LPP Innovation Subcommittee. (Scotti Hill)

Scotti Hill advised that LPP Melissa Pharache had contacted her with a lot of questions about starting an LPP firm. Scotti was going to send her resume around.

5. Discussion—Update from Bar/Innovation Subcommittee.

Scotti advised that one of the applicants taking the Bar exam in March has dropped out so there are only four applicants for the March Bar exam. The next exam would be in August.

Update on the I4J group out of Arizona and the proposals they envision should be pilot programs. The proposals should be housed in the sandbox and Scotti will have conversations with the executive director of the sandbox.

Tonya discussed the lack of clarity in landlord tenant. There are no court forms for deficient conditions or a request for deposit refunds. This is part of the curriculum in being licensed but no forms available as they don't pertain to unlawful detainer.

Suggested change to 14.802 from unlawful detainer to Landlord/Tenant, and possibly submitting forms directly to the forms committee for faster approval. Discussion on small claims actions in debt collection cases and landlord/tenant cases and how they are all intertwined.

6. Updates from the Bar: (Scotti Hill)

Scotti Hill advised that A.J. Torres will be the new LPP Coordinator.

Matthew Page asked everyone's opinions on repurposing Marketing budget money to recruiting more LPPs. The Committee felt this was a good use of the budget money. Matthew advised that the Bar ran the KSL Brandview segment again last month and that there will be a live t.v. appearance opportunity and will ask some LPPs if they are interested in participating.

A request was made that all LPPs should check their Licensed Lawyer profile to see what court districts they have selected and it would be beneficial to have all districts selected to assist those in rural areas. Also, all LPPs should add a photograph to their Licensed Lawyer profiles.

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

None.

8. Discussion—Update on outreach efforts: (Monte Sleight)

None.

9. Discussion - Other Business: (Scotti Hill)

None.

10. Adjournment and next meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 19, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.