

WEST VIRGINIA LAW INSTITUTE
GOVERNING COUNCIL
MINUTES
Meeting of March 17, 2015

1. The Governing Council of the West Virginia Law Institute met on March 17, 2015, at the Offices of the West Virginia State Bar in Charleston. The meeting was called to order and chaired by President Scott Curnutte. Also in attendance or participating by phone were Council members Andrew Byrd, Mike Frazier, Brendan Leary, Roger Hanshaw, Ben Hogan, Rich Olsen, Will Rhee, John Wallace, Jacqueline Wilson, William Wooton, and Director/Secretary Robert Bastress, and Council Assistant Anna Dewitt.

2. The Council considered and accepted the minutes of its September 19, 2014, meeting.

3. President Curnutte welcomed three new Governing Council members, Andrew Byrd, Roger Hanshaw, and Rich Olsen.

4. Director Bastress delivered his report. The survey of state Administrative Procedure Acts is near completion. An electronic copy of the current draft had previously been distributed to Council members. The work on surrogate decision-makers has continued, both in terms of researching other states' laws and in having distributed a survey to all of the State's circuit judges. Another survey will be sent to State administrators involved in surrogate decision-making. The survey on state redistricting alternatives had bogged down, but was again making progress with the hiring of a new student researcher.

5. Director Bastress also presented on the landlord-tenant project that the Institute had completed about ten years ago and that had produced a proposed bill that initially had the support of the interested sides. The bill failed, however, when some landlords withdrew their support. Bill Wooton moved and Andrew Byrd seconded that the Institute reconvene the sides and, using the prior draft bill as a framework, work out a new proposal. The motion carried.

6. In terms of new projects, Director Bastress proposed updating and revising the Bill Drafting Manual prepared by Legislative Services to add legal and academic authority where appropriate and to make it more user-friendly. After discussion, Bill Wooton moved and Andrew Byrd seconded that the Institute work with Legislative Services to undertake the project. The motion passed.

7. Director Bastress reported that the Institute had \$26,181.44 remaining in research funds.

8. There was no other new business.

9. The Council set the date for its next meeting, which will be Friday, September 25, 2015, at 3:00 PM at the W.V.U. College of Law in Morgantown.

10. The meeting was adjourned.