

Meeting Minutes
Solo/Small Firm Section Council
Colorado Bar Association
September 27, 2006
Prepared by: Lori A. Blodorn, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:35 a.m. Present at the CBA offices were Council members Henry Smith, Brian Popp, D.A. Bertram, Scott Stauffer and Lori Blodorn, and CBA Staff Liaisons Reba Nance and Michelle Gersic. Present by conference call were Brock Wood and Sean Bell.

Brian Popp gave the Treasurer's report. Total revenue for the section as of August 31, 2006 is \$5,910. The section also had a carryover balance of \$3,249.27, bringing the current balance as of August 31, 2006 to \$9157.27. Expenses for the two months ending August 31, 2006 of \$400.84 leaves a remaining budget of \$8,758.43 as of that date.

The Council discussed the reason for the \$3,249.27 balance in the account from the section's previous fiscal year as well as expenses for the current year. It was determined that the Council has seen an decrease in expenses over the past fiscal year because the section had discontinued the print version of its newsletter and had not sponsored a full-day conference as it had in previous years.

Expenses for the current year include the \$160 per month administrative fee and the annual solo/small firm holiday party. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of sponsoring a half-day or full-day networking and CLE program for section members in the coming year. Council members discussed whether such a program would be held at the offices of the CBA or off-site either within Metro-Denver, or as an outreach program to section members in other areas of the state. It was decided that this matter would be tabled and discussed further at the next meeting of the Council.

Dana Collier-Smith of the CBA then made a presentation to the Council regarding the CBA's issue committee in opposition to Amendment 40. Dana discussed the CBA's request that each CBA Section donate a portion of its reserves to the CBA's efforts to defeat Amendment 40. Discussion ensued regarding whether the CBA had received all appropriate assurances from legal counsel that the CBA is not subject to the new Secretary of State requirements that organizations obtain consent of all members prior to using dues for this issue committee. The Council was assured that the CBA was an issue committee organized around a ballot issue and is not subject to these new rules. Discussion also ensued and the Council was assured that the CBA, and not the section or the Council, would be solely responsible for all legal and tax reporting requirements. After receiving such assurances from the CBA, the Council then discussed the requested contribution to the Vote No 40 campaign. Questions were raised regarding the 35% political contribution tax that would also have to be paid on the contribution. After Motion and Second, the Council unanimously agreed that the section will contribute \$1,000 to the Vote No 40 campaign and will increase that contribution to also cover the 35% tax. The Council unanimously agreed that the total contribution would be \$1,350. Dana also agreed to provide the council with the documentation received by the CBA from its legal counsel on the questions raised by the Council.

Discussion was then held regarding the two vacancies on the council. It was announced that Robert Wareham, Immediate Past Chair, had resigned, as well as Debbie Britt, Chair-Elect. It was determined that, according to the bylaws of the Section, Robert Wareham's position could not be filled and would be left vacant. After Motion and Second, the Council unanimously agreed that the CBA should send an email to section members seeking nominations for the vacant Chair-Elect position.

Discussion was then held regarding the annual holiday party. After Motion and Second, the Council unanimous agreed that the annual holiday party would be held on December 8, 2006 and that the fee charged to section members to attend the party would be \$5.

Discussion was then held regarding upcoming Section meetings on January 24, 2007 and April 25, 2007, and topics for the CLE programs to be held at those meetings. The Council discussed the following topics: Research options for Solo-practice attorneys, and building a website for your practice. There was no motion or approval of these topics and discussion was tabled.

Motion to Adjourn being carried, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:55 a.m. The next Council meeting will be January 24, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.

As Secretary, I hereby certify the foregoing minutes as a true record of the meeting held on September 27, 2006, of the CBA Solo/Small Firm Section Council.

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