

**Minutes**  
**Conference Call, November 19, 2002, Noon**  
**Board of Judicial Policy and Administration**

The Board of Judicial Policy and Administration met by conference call on November 19, 2002. Chief Justice William Hill, Justice Larry Lehman, Justice Bart Voigt, Judge Jim Burke, Judge Ed Grant, Judge Keith Kautz, Judge Rob Denhardt, Judge Mike Huber, Judge Wade Waldrip, and Judge Scott Cole attended. Holly Hansen, Matt Fermelia, and Linda Burke also attended.

1. Approval of October 15, 2002 Minutes

Justice Lehman moved and Judge Grant seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2002 conference call. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Judge Guthrie Relocation

After a brief discussion about the expected residence of the next Ninth Judicial District Judge, Judge Grant moved and Judge Huber seconded a motion to establish a policy stating that upon taking office or within a reasonable time thereafter the new district judge would be required to be a resident of Fremont County. Chief Justice Hill called for a roll call vote. Voting aye: Justice Voigt, Judge Burke, Judge Grant, and Judge Huber. Voting no: Justice Lehman, Judge Kautz, Judge Denhardt, and Judge Waldrip. Judge Cole was undecided and Chief Justice Hill advised that his vote would then count as a “no” vote. Chief Justice Hill voted aye. Motion failed. The Board decided to discuss this matter again at its December meeting.

3. Rule Changes – Wyoming Court Rules  
Replacement of Justice of the Peace

Holly Hansen and Matt Fermelia explained to the Board that suggested rule changes deleting references to “justice of the peace” were sent to the Permanent Rules Advisory Committee, the Commission on Judicial Conduct and Ethics, and the Wyoming State Bar. Several other suggested rule changes were also sent to the Permanent Rules Advisory Committee. Holly Hansen explained that George Santini, Chairman of the Civil Division of the Permanent Rules Advisory Committee, advised her that the suggestions were appreciated and that he would forward written comments. Matt Fermelia conveyed to the Board that Rick Lewis, Executive Director of the Wyoming State Bar, informed Matt that the Bar would probably amend their By Laws as suggested to delete references to “justice of the peace.” Judge Park, Chairman of the Criminal Division of the Permanent Rules Advisory Committee, indicated to Holly Hansen that the Criminal Rules Committee found no objections to the proposed amendments, and forwarded a couple comments. In addition, Holly Hansen informed the Board that Kim Cannon, of the Commission on Judicial Conduct and Ethics, sent a letter advising that their Commission found the proposed changes to be acceptable. Following the discussion, Justice Lehman moved and Judge Waldrip seconded a motion to approve the above described proposals presented by Matt Fermelia to

the Board in September and decided that the amendments would take effect January 6, 2003.

4. Request for Computer Misdemeanor Information

Holly Hansen explained that she received several requests similar to the one from Ed Rains, General Manager of *The Daily News/rapsheets.com*, concerning the purchase of records of Wyoming misdemeanor dispositions. Hansen wanted the Board to be aware that requests for centralized data base information were increasing. She further explained that the information was most commonly used by law enforcement and agencies performing background checks.

5. Judge Huber Policy Question

Judge Huber requested guidance from the Board concerning a position that the Substance Abuse Division of the Department of Health would fund for a case manager or coordinator to be available at court proceedings to help individuals and/or families set up and follow through with evaluations and possible counseling. Judge Huber explained that the plan would be tried in his county and if successful, the goal would be to hire similar persons around the state in the future. The problem Judge Huber wanted the Board to consider was deciding whose employee this person would be. The Judge explained that the Department of Health would be willing to provide the money, but did not want to take on an additional employee. Other suggestions were local counseling agencies or the Sheriff's Office. Judge Huber reported, however, that the local mental health center did not want the position to be part of its staff. A poll of the Board's members indicated its preference that the position not be a judicial position. Judge Huber indicated he would explore other possibilities.

6. Schedule of Future Meetings

Holly Hansen reminded the Board of the December meeting in Douglas.

7. Other Matters

No other matters were discussed.

Board Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**Future Board Meeting Schedule:**

December 5 and 6, 2002	Meeting in Douglas
January 15, 2003, 7:00 am	Legislative Breakfast, Supreme Court Courtroom
February 11, 2003	Conference Call, Noon (Conflict with Oral Arguments?)
March 19 and 20, 2003	Meeting in Casper
April 8, 2003	Conference Call, Noon
May 13, 2003	Conference Call, Noon (Conflict with Oral Arguments?)
June 19 and 20, 2003	Meeting in Saratoga
August 12, 2003	Conference Call, Noon (Conflict with Oral Arguments?)
September 9, 2003	Conference Call, Noon (Conflict with State Bar?)
October 1 & 2, 2003	Meeting at Vee Bar Ranch
November 11, 2003	Conference Call, Noon (Conflict with Veterans' Day Holiday)
December 4 & 5, 2003	Meeting at Law Enforcement Academy