

DISTRICT JUDGES CONFERENCE

April 23-24, 2009

Cody, Wyoming

A meeting of the District Judges' Conference was held April 23-24 in Cody, Wyoming. The following were present: Brooks, Waldrip, Cranfill, Parks, Kautz, Price, Ryckman, Sullins, Skavdahl, Donnell, James, Fenn, Davis, Guthrie, Arnold, Skar, Sanderson, and Young.

The minutes from the December 2008 meeting in Casper were read and approved. The treasurer's report showed an account balance of [REDACTED] as of April 23, 2009.

The Conference presented Holly Hansen with a plaque and thanked her for her years of service to the District Court bench.

Budget Issues:

Holly and Joann discussed the current budget situation and the Governor's request that we trim our budgets for the remainder of the biennium. The conference with Holly and Joann's assistance identified areas outside of personnel costs that could possibly be reduced. Those included in and out of state travel, one time expense projects, and similar items. The Conference agreed that it was important to make a good faith effort to meet the Governor's request and set up a time table for submitting our proposed cuts. A further discussion was held concerning the statutory procedure for payment of travel expenses when traveling to an outside district. It was suggested and agreed among the membership that we begin to follow the statutory procedure with respect to out of district travel expenses. Finally, Holly and Joann reviewed the various retirement scenarios under the most recent changes to the judicial retirement system.

Sergio Garcia reviewed IT issues and initiatives and advised that a case management system was in the early discussion / planning stages. Sergio also advised that blackberry service would soon be available.

Legislative Update:

Representatives Simpson and Buchanan and Senators Ross and Nicholas attended in person and by phone and reviewed a number of legislative items, primarily budget issues. The primary message was that the state depends heavily on mineral taxation and that mineral prices were flat and that budgets would be tight for the coming year. Senator Ross advised of a study of the criminal code had been authorized.

Other Business:

Judge Kautz and Judge Price made a presentation on the work of the Commission of Judicial Conduct. Sharon Wilkerson advised of potential changes in judicial polling and the attorney mentoring program.

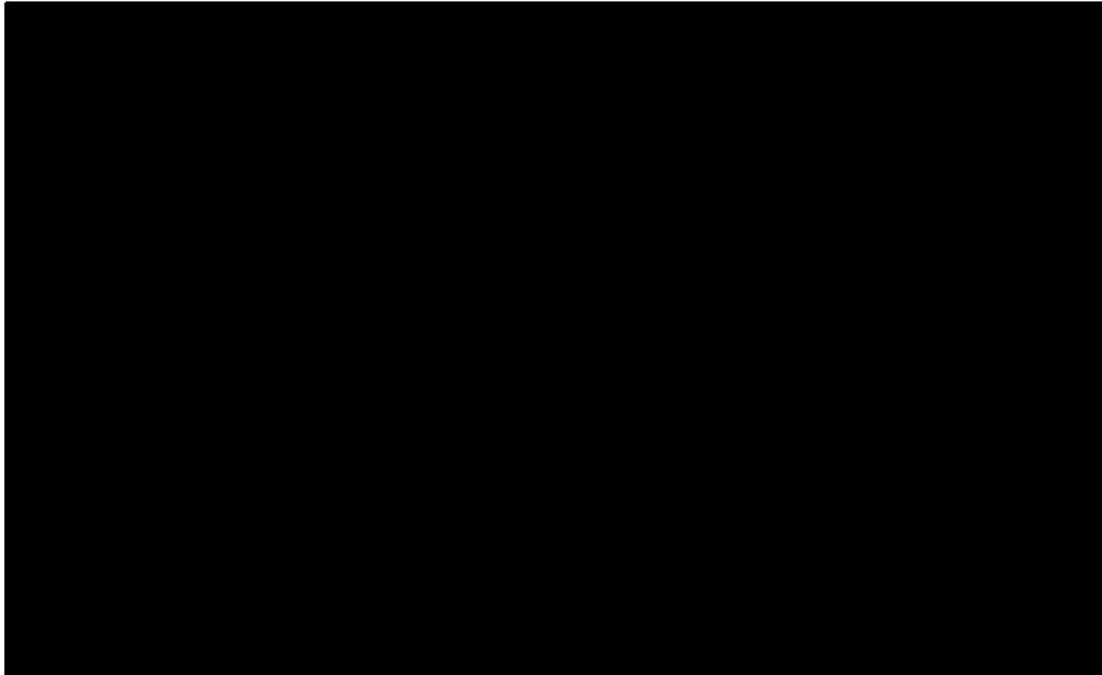
Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigan made a fascinating presentation on the death penalty prosecution of Dale Wayne Eaton. Judge Park as the presiding judge added his insights as well.

There followed a general discussion for the good of the order after which the meeting of the conference was adjourned, to reassemble September 14, 2009 in Evanston at the annual meeting of the Wyoming State Bar.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Young
Secretary / Treasurer

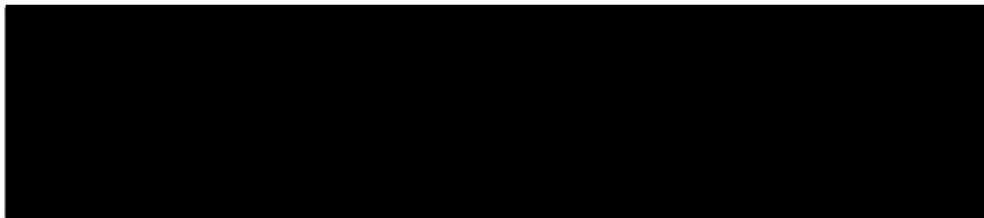
DISTRICT JUDGES' CONFERENCE
TREASURERS REPORT
November 26, 2008 to April 23, 2009



Spring District Judges' Meeting
April 23 and 24, 2009
Cody, Wyoming

Thursday, April 23, 2009
Buffalo Bill Historical Center

1:00 p.m.	Welcome and Approval of minutes
1:15-2:15 p.m.	Holly Hansen and Joann Odendahl Wyoming Supreme Court
2:30-3:30 p.m.	Phil Nicholas, Tony Ross, Edward Buchanan and Colin Simpson Updates from the Wyoming State Legislature
3:45-5:00 p.m.	Judge Kautz and Judge Price Commission on Judicial Conduct
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn



Friday, April 24, 2009
Conference room at The Cody

8:15-9:30 a.m.	Sharon Wilkinson Wyoming State Bar Judicial Pole
9:30-11:00 a.m.	Mike Blonigen Natrona County District Attorney Judicial issued in a capital murder case
11:00-12:00 p.m.	General Discussion
12:00 p.m.	Adjourn