

PINAL COUNTY COMMISSION ON TRIAL COURT APPOINTMENTS

MINUTES

June 25, 2018

PRESENT: Justice Clint Bolick, Chair; Stephen Cooper, Tad Davis, James Dutson and Marty Hermanson

Jack Files arrived at 10:41 a.m.

ABSENT: Laura Calvert, Tiffany Shedd and Cody Weagant

Justice Clint Bolick called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He introduced himself welcomed the Commission members and introduced new Commission member, Tad Davis.

Justice Bolick then explained that they were meeting to select candidates to be interviewed for two vacancies on the Pinal County Superior Court created by the retirement of Judges Henry Gooday, Jr. and Brenda Oldham.

Public Comment

Justice Bolick called for comment from the public. No public was present.

Approval of Minutes

Justice Bolick asked if any member wished to submit changes or additions to the draft minutes of the October 19, 2017 meeting. It was moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Disqualifications and Disclosures

Justice Bolick inquired about any basis for disqualifications or disclosures pursuant to the Commission's rules regarding conflict of interest or bias.

Jim Dutson disclosed that he knows Barbara Hazel from his congregation and he has appeared in front of Lawrence Wharton.

Stephen Cooper disclosed that he worked with DeLana Fuller about 14 years ago and he has appeared in front of Lawrence Wharton. He also disclosed that he chaired Robert Olson's election committee over 20 years ago and has a case pending in front of him, he recused himself from Robert Olson's application.

Tad Davis disclosed that he has previously worked with Patrick Gard and Lawrence Wharton and he has appeared in front of both of them. He has had cases with Barbara Hazel, DeLana Jacobs Fuller and he has appeared in front of Robert Olson and Megan Weagant.

Discussion of Applicants

Justice Bolick explained the tentative list process and the straw vote process for the applicants to be selected to be interviewed. He opened the floor for discussion.

The Commission took turns to discuss all applicants in alphabetical order. Stephen R. Cooper did not participate in and was excused from the room during the discussion of Robert Carter Olson.

After further discussion, Justice Bolick opened the floor to create a tentative list of candidates to be interviewed.

Selection of Applicants for Interviews

Marty Hermanson moved to interview **Patrick Gard, Danielle Harris, Barbara Hazel, DeLana Jacobs Fuller, Megan Weagant and Lawrence Wharton**. The motion was seconded and passed by a vote of 4-0-1 with Justice Bolick abstaining.

Tad Davis moved to add **Robert Olson** to the interview list. The motion was seconded and passed by a vote of 3-0-2 with Stephen Cooper and Justice Bolick abstaining.

Interview Schedule and Due Diligence Assignments

The Commission agreed to meet at 9:30 a.m. on July 31, 2018 for the interview meeting. The Commission will use follow up questions as necessary.

Staff was directed to schedule interviews at 25-minute intervals and to finalize the due diligence assignments.

Justice Bolick encouraged Commission members to submit interview questions to staff. The members will discuss any new material and make a selection of questions at the meeting on July 31, 2018.

Adjournment

Justice Bolick thanked the members for their service. At 10:53 a.m. it was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.