

COURT REPORTERS CERTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes

John H. Reagan Building
105 W. 15th Street, Rm. 131
Austin, Texas 78701
Friday, April 1, 2016
(10:00 a.m. Until Adjournment)

The meeting of the Court Reporters Certification Advisory Board (Board) was called to order by the Hon. William Sowder, Presiding Officer, at 10:05 a.m. Judge Sowder and Kim Tindall were present at the meeting. The members present by teleconference were Robin Cooksey, Deborah Hamon, Janice Eidd-Meadows, and Whitney Lehmberg Riley. Molly Pela did not participate in the meeting. The staff members present were Jeff Rinard, Michele Henricks, Lesley Ondrechen, Scott Gibson, Tyees Holcombe, Socorro Herrera, and Veena Mohan, Assistant Attorney General.

Judge Sowder provided opening remarks and welcomed the Board members.

The Advisory Board members reviewed and approved the prior Board meeting minutes from the January 8, 2016 meeting.

Jeff Rinard provided the Board with an overview of the application for endorsement for California applicant Carley Bagatelos. The Advisory Board members reviewed and discussed the application and materials. During the January 8, 2016 meeting, the Board had voted that the skills portion of the Texas and California examinations were substantially equivalent. The Board also voted to review all requests for endorsement on a case by case basis. If approved, applicants for licensure by endorsement must pass the Texas written exam to become certified.

The Board voted to deny the request for endorsement of Ms. Bagatelos based on her lack of experience and require her to take the Texas written and skills exams. The requirement to obtain a statement of proficiency will be waived if both parts of the exam are taken within one year. Ms. Bagatelos may request reconsideration of the denial from the JBCC.

Lesley Ondrechen gave an overview of the Request for Application for Curriculum Approval from the Court Reporting Institute of St. Louis, an on-line school. The Board reviewed and discussed the application and curriculum and voted to grant approval of the curriculum.

Jeff Rinard provided the Board with an overview of the process to update the Court Reporter Code of Professional Conduct (COPC), specifically Section 17, "Fees" relating to the one-third rule for copies of transcripts. The Board discussed the one-third rule and heard from former Justice Craig Enoch representing the Texas Deposition Reporters Association (TEXDRA). TEXDRA is in favor of amending the one-third rule or eliminating the rule. The Board also heard from Mr. Bill Aleshire representing the Texas Court Reporters Association (TCRA). TCRA is in favor of leaving the one-third rule in place without change. Following the presentations, the Board discussed the one-third rule and voted (4-2) to advise the Committee to amend or eliminate the one-third rule from the COPC when it meets to complete COPC revisions. The COPC committee is made up of Kim Tindall, Robin Cooksey, Whitney Lehmberg Riley, Janice Eidd-Meadows, and Deborah Hamon.

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Minutes of the Meeting

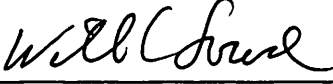
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The Committee's final draft of the COPC eventually will be before the Board. Once approved by the Board, the recommended COPC will be forwarded to the Commission for consideration, possible approval, and posting for public comment.

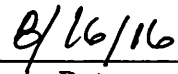
A future meeting date was not decided.

Art Richardson, Craig Enoch, Jesse Tindall, Bill Aleshire, Kim Cherry, Monica Willenburg-Guzman, Lorrie Schnoor, Dale Guedry, Luann Gill, Curtis High, Susan Perry Miller, Teri Thomas Nunley, Mary Berry, and Brian Christopher attended the meeting. Art Richardson, Craig Enoch, Bill Aleshire, Brian Christopher, Teri Thomas Nunley, and Mary Berry gave public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.



Judge William C. Sowder
Presiding Officer



Date