

State Judicial Nominating Commission
Organizational Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2020

The meeting was held via conference call and was called to order at 8:32 a.m. Members present were Trish Roberts, Kathy Law, John Gray, Jeff Goodman, Dan Huitink, Kristina Stanger, Kathy Pearson, Janece Valentine, Steve Berger, Dorothy O'Brien, Leon Spies, Henry Bevel, Christine Conover, John Bloom, Lance Horbach, Helen Sinclair, and Steve Sukup.

John Gray moved, Henry Bevel seconded, to approve the November 26, 2019 organizational meeting minutes as distributed via email prior to the meeting. Motion carried.

Leon Spies moved, Lance Horbach seconded, to approve the minutes from January 9, 2020 as distributed via email prior to the meeting. Motion carried.

The Commission discussed dates to hold the public interviews for the opening on the Supreme Court due to the upcoming retirement of Acting Chief Justice Wiggins on March 13, 2020. The interviews will be held at the Judicial Building on Friday, March 6, 2020. The applications will be due by 11:59 p.m. on February 21, 2020.

The Commission discussed relying on recommendation letters received for applicants in the Cady vacancy for applicants applying for the Wiggins vacancy due to the short timeframe between openings. Jeff Goodman moved, Steve Berger seconded the following motion:

In light of the fact that the SJNC recently completed the nomination process on January 9, 2020 to fill the vacancy created by Chief Justice Cady's unexpected passing, and the SJNC will meet again on March 6, 2020 to nominate persons to fill the vacancy created by Justice Wiggins' upcoming retirement, Section 10 of the Uniform Rules regarding public commentary will, under these unique circumstances, be deemed substantially complied with only to the extent that the SJNC may rely upon those letters of recommendation submitted on behalf of applicants for the Chief Justice Cady vacancy who resubmit their applications for the vacancy created by Justice Wiggins's retirement.

Motion carried unanimously.

Kristina Stanger moved, Jeff Goodman moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Law, Secretary