

**State Judicial Nominating Commission**  
**Minutes of a Meeting**  
**November 22, 2024**

A meeting of the State Judicial Nominating Commission of the State of Iowa (the “Commission”) was held on November 22, 2024, via videoconference, pursuant to notice given by e-mail from Janece Valentine, the Chair of the Commission, to each of the members of the Commission (each, a “Commissioner”). Attending the meeting were all of the Commissioners except Ashley Hoegh, Al Parrish, and Garret Piklapp.

1. Call to order.
  - a. Janece called the meeting to order at approximately 4:05 p.m. (CT).
2. Proposed rule amendments.
  - a. Janece noted the Commission had previously discussed an amendment to the Amended and Restated State and District Judicial Nominating Commissions Uniform Rules of Procedure (the “Commission Rules”) to prohibit communications between commissioners and the Governor’s office.
  - b. The Commissioners then had a discussion.
  - c. Jerry Schnurr then made a motion to replace the last bullet in Section 2 of the Commission Rules with the following text: “Once a vacancy on the court is announced, Commission members shall not discuss the applicants with the Governor before the commission meets to screen and nominate applicants and shall only communicate with the Governor after the nominations are submitted.” Leon Spies seconded the motion. The motion was then approved by a majority of the Commissioners then in attendance.
3. Other potential rule amendments.
  - a. Janece then noted a potential rule amendment to require training for new commissioners. Jerry Schnurr and Leon Spies offered to assist with such potential rule amendments, including by soliciting input from district commissioners and Professor Rachel Caufield of Drake University School of Law to form an ad hoc committee.
  - b. Dustin Graber then made a motion to require four days’ advance notice of any further proposed changes to the Commission Rules. The Commissioners then had a discussion and agreed to further explore this topic. Thereafter, Dustin withdrew his motion.
4. Adjournment.
  - a. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:22 p.m. (CT).

Prepared by: Brett Roberts, Secretary