

Washington Uniform Law Commission (WULC)
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2014

Present: John Cary (JC) (chair pro tem); Anita Ramasastry (AR) (late arrival); Marlin Appelwick (MA); Dennis Cooper (DC); Jamie Pedersen (JP) (early departure); Absent: Kyle Thiessen (KT)

JC called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Approval of Minutes

With regard to the meeting minutes for May and August, 2012, and February, May, August, and November of 2013, the commissioners either have not yet approved the minutes or have approved them at a meeting whose own minutes they have not yet approved. MA moved to approve, affirm, ratify and post all of these minutes, JC seconded, and all present voted in favor.

Legislative Report (JP)

Four WULC bills were under consideration during this legislative session:

Debt-Management Services. The House did not take action on this bill, so it is dead for the session.

Power of Attorney. The chair of the Senate Law and Justice Committee did not bring the bill up for consideration.

Uniform Interstate Family Support Act. The bill is in the House Rules Committee and should get out in the next few days. Sen. O'Ban will give it a hearing in the Senate. If it is not sent to the Senate Law and Justice Committee, its prospects look good.

Real Property Transfer on Death. This bill is on the House floor calendar and has good prospects.

Other Activity on Uniform Acts

Debt-Management Services. JC and Mike Kerr, former ULC legislative counsel, attended the legislative work session on November 22, 2013, on this subject. Thereafter MA spoke with Representative Kirby and found that he is not a fan of the uniform act. Moreover, the Seattle delegation regards the uniform act as not tough enough on the industry. Rep. Kirby does not intend to bring up the act in the future.

Uniform Law on Notarial Acts. AR met with the Department of Licensing. DOL supports the Act and would like to move it forward in 2015. The Department of Licensing would like to work with stakeholders in the interim. The WSBA Real Property, Probate and Trust Section supports the act because attorneys are exempt.

Collaborative Law. WSBA has proposed rules to carry out the part of the uniform act that was not put into statute but the court has declined to take action on the proposal.

Electronic Legal Materials Act. JP talked with KT and KT would like to delay introduction in order to work through the act in the context of Washington law. It is possible that the Act can move ahead in the next legislative session.

Uniform Wage Garnishment Act. JC is serving on the drafting committee and will attend a drafting committee meeting in March.

Annual Meeting

Fundraising. So far the WULC has raised \$65,000. JP will send a list of donors to Sharon and MA so that the same people are not solicited a second time for gifts.

Packet. The packet is nearly done. AR will circulate it to commissioners.

Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets (FADA) Event. The commissioners discussed whether the event could be revised to make it of even greater interest to sponsoring firms. In addition, commissioners discussed opportunities for lawyers from sponsoring firms to talk about topics for future uniform acts, trends in uniform legislation and specific uniform acts.

CLE Credit. AR will check with Elizabeth Cotton whether the Chicago office can work with state accrediting agencies to qualify attendance at annual meeting sessions for CLE credit.

Gifts. The last major piece for the annual meeting is the gift bag. Sharon is working on this item.

Meeting Schedule for 2014

MA moved, and JC seconded, that the commissioners approve the meeting dates for 2014, as shown in the draft letter to the Washington State Register: February 12, May 14, August 13, and November 12. All commissioners present voted in favor of the motion.

JC adjourned the meeting at 4:34 PM.