

Washington Uniform Law Commission (WULC)
Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2015

Present: Marlin Appelwick (MA); Dennis Cooper (DC); Jamie Pedersen (JP); Michele Radosevich (MR); Anita Ramasastry (AR); Kyle Thiessen (KT)

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

Update on Uniform Acts

Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (“UIFSA”). UIFSA passed during the 2015 legislative session and was signed into law by the governor.

Harmonized Uniform Business Organization Code (“HUB”). The HUB also passed during the 2015 legislative session and was signed into law by the governor.

Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act (“UFADAA”). Senator Mike Padden, chair of the senate Law & Justice Committee, plans to hold a work session on UFADAA.

Power of Attorney (“UPOA”). Senator Padden also plans to hold a work session on UPOA. The “presumption of durability” may be removed from UPOA.

Uniform Common Ownership Interest Act (“UCOIA”). Senator Don Benton, chair of the senate Financial Institutions & Insurance Committee, plans to hold a work session on UCOIA. The WSBA previously recommended that UCOIA apply to new communities and to existing communities that opt in. JP has changed the wording to make UCOIA apply to new communities and to existing communities that do not opt out. It may be necessary to revert to the WSBA approach to get the bill passed.

Uniform Electronic Legal Materials Act (“UELMA”). Some states have adopted this law but they have not begun to authenticate legal materials. Before introducing UELMA, KT would like to see how these states apply the law. Kerry Radcliffe of the Washington State Register will address authenticating electronic documents at the July meeting of her national professional group. KT’s computer support staff regard implementing UELMA as a mild to moderate project.

Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction (UCCC): UCCC has met resistance from public safety, but HB 1553, a bill which would have allowed a convicted person to get a certificate of restoration of opportunity from the court with a much narrower scope than UCCC, made some headway during the 2015 legislative session. This progress might help break the ice for UCCC.

Uniform Law on Notarial Acts (“ULONA”). AR is working with the Department of Licensing to get ULONA ready for next year’s legislative session.

Uniform Parentage Act (UPA). JP is chairing a study committee to consider changes to UPA and other uniform acts in light of the expected Supreme Court decision in the marriage equality case. JP intends to have the study committee make recommendations at the annual meeting in Williamsburg this summer that a drafting committee be authorized to begin this work.

WULC Budget

KT said that the not-yet-passed budget requests full funding for the WULC. The Office of Financial Management has approved AR's waiver to use agency funds to travel out of state to Williamsburg VA for the 2015 annual meeting of the Uniform Law Commission. JP asked whether the WULC has funds left over from past years (e.g., from 2015 when the ULC annual meeting took place in Seattle and did not require travel funds). KT will check with Debbie Deibert.

Delegation Dinner at Annual Meeting

AR will look for a day and time when all the WULC can meet during the annual meeting. The delegation dinner cannot take place at the same time as the Life Members' dinner.

Outreach to Karen Boxx's Association

At the end of the month AR and MA will speak about uniform laws at a meeting of Karen Boxx's [estate planning?] association. AR will moderate and MA will serve as a panelist.

AR adjourned the meeting at 4:34 PM.