Washington Uniform Law Commission (WULC)
Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2015

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

DC called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

Minutes: MA moved to approve the minutes of the August 12 meeting and MR seconded. All voted to approve.

Website: KT stated that updates to the website, http://ulc.wa.gov/, were completed today; the commissioners should let him know if they want to make additional changes. The website has a link to the legislature website, http://leg.wa.gov/. The commissioners discussed asking the legislature’s website to create a link to the WULC. The legislature’s website has a link to legislative agencies, http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/LegislativeAgencies.aspx; possibly this page could add a link to the WULC website.

Budget: Debbie Deibert of the Code Reviser’s Office provided a spreadsheet showing the WULC expenses from 2002 forward. The WULC requests travel funding for five commissioners because code reviser’s budget funds travel for the sixth commissioner, KT. The ULC in Chicago may budget for a calendar year (as foundations normally do) or for a fiscal year (as the Washington State legislature does); either way, this does not affect paying dues to the ULC.

Legislative Report:

Power of Attorney Act: The legislature held a work session on September 24 at the University of Washington School of Law on the Power of Attorney Act. If the presumption of durability is removed, then Senator Padden of the Law & Justice Committee will move this act along.

Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets: Legislators will discuss this act on November 20, during Assembly Days. Silicon Valley tech companies support the act in its current form. This act also currently resides in the Law & Justice Committee.

Uniform Common Ownership Interest Act (“UCOIA”): This act has a “50% chance” if Senator Benton lets it out of the Financial Institutions & Insurance Committee. The act has become the focus of a homeowner’s association dispute in the 17th district even though the act would apply only prospectively.

Uniform Electronic Legal Materials Act (“UELMA”): KT would like to hold off on this act for another year to “see how things unfold” in states that have adopted it.

Uniform Athlete Agents Act: JP has sent this revised act to lobbyists for the UW and WSU. If they have no concerns, then the WULC may put it forward in 2016.
Uniform Law on Notarial Acts (“ULONA”). Kim Summers at the Department of Licensing (DOL) has proposed revisions to this act. If the revisions are adopted, it would still conform to the uniform act. AR would like to keep DOL on pace for the 2017 session. DOL is doing due diligence on video notarization and e-notarization. JP proposed putting this act forward with a delayed effective date. AR will follow up with Kim Summers and JP.

Voidable Transactions: The commissioners recommended that the WSBA business section look at this act.

Limited Cooperative Association: This act could be useful to large cooperatives who have no means under Chapter 24.06 RCW to reorganize into another form of business entity. Limited Cooperative Association would let consumer cooperatives “migrate out,” thereby providing a great service to Washington State.

Recognition and Enforcement of Canadian Protection: The commissioners recommend that, as soon as the law arrives from the ULC in Chicago, the WSBA look at it. The act could go before the legislature in 2017 or 2018.

Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction (UCCC): HB 1553 passed in a previous session and is coming back. A work session on the bill took place in September. Senator Padden may try to move a reduced version. The uniform act would do three things: (1) “collect” the consequences of conviction; (2) add a notification process; and (3) provide for a certificate of restoration of rights. Columbia Legal Services has made headway with this act, and former commissioner John Cary spent a lot of time on it. If a reduced form of the bill passes, other elements could be added later.

WULC Meeting Schedule for 2016: The WULC meets four times yearly, at 4:00 PM on the second Wednesday of February, May, August, and October. In 2016, these dates would be February 10, May 11, August 10, and October 12. DC will inform the Washington Register of the meeting schedule. The first three meetings will take place by conference call with AR’s law school office as the designated physical location; the fourth meeting will take place at Davis Wright Tremaine in downtown Seattle.

ULC Annual Meetings: The ULC has scheduled its next four annual meetings in the following locations: Stowe VT, 2016; San Diego CA, 2017; Louisville KY, 2018; Anchorage AK, 2019.

Codification of 2015 Laws: The code reviser’s office has completed the codification of laws passed in 2015. MA needs this information to update the WULC history on the web page. The codification can be found online currently by going to http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/ and clicking on the “supplement” button at the top of the page, right under "Revised Code of Washington (RCW)".

DC adjourned the meeting at 4:40 PM.