



National Association of Sentencing Commissions

Business Meeting Minutes August 14, 2018

The National Association of Sentencing Commissions held its business meeting during the 2018 NASC Conference on August 14, 2018. NASC President Bennett Wright, Executive Director of the Alabama Sentencing Commission, called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. (Eastern).

Mr. Wright thanked the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission for hosting the annual conference. Specifically, he thanked Sara Andrews, Executive Director, and her staff for all their efforts in making it a successful conference.

Mr. Meyers, Outreach and Education Manager of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing moved to approve the 2017 NASC business meeting minutes. Scott Schultz, Executive Director of the Kansas Sentencing Commission seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

NASC Treasurer Mr. Fry reviewed the NASC financial report, provided in the conference materials. NASC incurs approximately \$2,000 in general administrative costs each year. These expensive cover items such as board insurance, website/administrative accounts, etc. The annual conference is the only generator of funds for NASC. Thus, these administrative costs are absorbed into the registration fee.

NASC suffered financial losses in two recent conferences. The 2016 Salt Lake, Utah, conference incurred a \$7,838 loss due to room attrition (contract guaranteed using a set number of rooms). A financial loss of \$12,721 occurred for the 2014 conference in New Haven, Connecticut, due to room attrition and, what turned out to be, an unsponsored dinner. However, the 2015 conference in Alaska showed a profit of \$3,376. The 2017 Santa Fe, New Mexico conference was financially successful, showing an \$11,350 profit, largely by securing a hotel that did not require a guaranteed room block.

As of July 1, 2018, the NASC balance is \$39,356. This figure does not include the conference registrations or expenses for 2018. However, the conference is expected to show a profit. NASC should aim to maintain a financial balance of between \$50,000 and \$60,000. As a 501(c) entity, it is recommended to stay below a \$100,000 balance.

David Soulé, Executive Director of the Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy, moved to approve the July 1, 2018 treasurer report. Sara Andrews, Executive Director of Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission, seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Wright addressed the NASC Executive Committee elections. There are three vacancies.

- Mr. Wright, Executive Director of the Alabama Sentencing Commission, is completing his second term, and is not eligible for reelection.
- Rebecca Murdock, North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, is eligible for a second term. However, she chose not to run.
- Linden Fry is resigning from the Executive Committee. He recently retired from the DC Sentencing Commission to start his own law firm.

The ballot included three nominations.



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- Rebecca Dial, Research and Policy Associate, NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission;
- Nathaniel J. Reitz, J.D., Executive Director, Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission; and
- Michael Schmidt, J.D., Executive Director, Oregon Criminal Justice Commission

All three were elected to the Executive Committee. Their terms will end with the 2021 NASC Conference, and they will be eligible to stand for re-election of a second term.

On behalf of NASC and the Executive Committee, Susanne DiPietro, NASC Vice President and Executive Director of the Alaska Judicial Council, thanked outgoing NASC president Bennet Wright (Executive Director of the Alabama Sentencing Commission) for his service to NASC. He served two terms (six years) on the Executive Committee, the last one as President and previously as vice president. Ms. DiPietro also thanked Linden Fry, outgoing Treasurer (formerly counsel to the DC Sentencing Commission). Mr. Fry served one full term and one year of his second term on the Executive Committee. He served as treasurer for all four years and agreed to continue to assist in the transition to the new treasurer. Ms. DiPietro also thanked outgoing Executive Committee member Rebecca Murdock who served a full term on the Executive Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 a.m. (Eastern).

Prepared by: Diane E Shoop PhD (August 18, 2018)