

**MINUTES**  
**Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit**  
Executive Committee Conference Call  
December 12, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

**Participants:**

Hon. Richard G. Kopf, Chair  
F. Richard Lyford, President  
Frances Ross, Vice-President  
Nick Batter, Assistant Vice President  
Joan Voelker, Secretary  
Sheila Greenbaum, Treasurer  
Tom Boyd, Past-President  
Eric Brust, Circuit Librarian

Roll call was taken, and the minutes of the Executive Committee's September 12, 2018 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Greenbaum reported the balance of the parent account as \$9,995.73 and the Appeals account as \$14,404.92.

Ms. Greenbaum pointed out that the balance of the Appeals account was the same because it does not bear interest. She noted that most of that branch's money was committed for the circuit oral history project but not called upon. Ms. Greenbaum said that she had considered putting the money into a certificate of deposit but had not because she believed the money needed to be liquid. Later in the meeting the executive committee discussed the possibility of conversion to a six month certificate of deposit in light of the timing of the next circuit oral histories but rejected the idea since the interest earned would be negligible, particularly in light of the time and effort required to set up the six month CD.

Ms. Greenbaum also reported that her firm had handled this year's e-filing for the parent Society and branches and that all had gone well.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Voelker reported that the Historical Society's [website](#) had been updated with the IRS receipts from this year's e-filing, ordering information for the Southern District of Iowa's updated history and Judge O'Brien's book, Judge Murphy's memorial session, and Judge Wollman's portrait ceremony.

Treasurer for Parent Society & COA Branch

Mr. Boyd reported that the attorney considering the position of treasurer for the parent Society and Court of Appeals branch had declined candidacy. Discussion ensued as to a suitable

candidate and with a plan to follow up on a lead. Chair Judge Kopf pointed out that it is best to have a treasurer independent of the federal judiciary and federal government.

#### Accountant to Assist Treasurer

President Lyford suggested waiting to look into an accountant to assist the treasurer until the committee is further along in the task of identifying a prospective treasurer.

#### Branch Regulations

Assistant Vice President Nick Batter reported that he had received a compilation of the branch regulations from Ms. Voelker and said that he would be looking them over to see which may need revision. He said that he would be contacting the branches accordingly, and Judge Kopf offered to assist him in the review.

#### Circuit oral histories

The topic then turned to the project to carry out oral history interviews of the Eighth Circuit's court of appeals judges who have taken senior status or will reach the age of 70 by 2021.

#### *Status Updates*

##### *Judge Michael J. Melloy (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) – Senior Status*

Mr. Lyford said that Judge Melloy's interview was slated for summer 2019.

##### *Judge James B. Loken (Minneapolis, Minnesota) – Age over 70*

Mr. Boyd said that Judge Loken had agreed to be interviewed by Judge David Hansen but that they had not yet set a date for the interview.

#### *Next Target Interviews*

##### *Judge Duane Benton (Kansas City, Missouri) – Turns 70 in 2020*

Mr. Lyford said that Judge Benton preferred to wait until summer 2019 for his oral history interview.

##### *Judge Bobby Shepherd (El Dorado, Arkansas) – Turns 70 in 2021*

Frances Ross said that Judge Morris Arnold was considering who could be a prospective interviewer for Judge Shepherd's oral history.

#### Other Items

##### *District of Nebraska*

Mr. Batter and Judge Kopf described an event held in the packed special proceedings courtroom of Omaha's federal courthouse on November 30, 2018. A discussion of the history of the District of Nebraska with Dr. Wunder and Dr. Scherer, co-authors of the soon-to-be-published history of the court, and Mr. Batter was followed by the unveiling on the third floor of the restored historical portraits of Judge Joseph William Woodrough, Eighth Circuit, Justice Samuel Freeman

Miller, and Judge Elmer S. Dundy. Next, attorneys spoke in honor of Judge Smith Camp, who was to assume senior status the following day. Judge Kopf thanked and congratulated Mr. Batter for his role in getting the portraits restored and speaking at the event. Following the meeting, Mr. Batter emailed *Omaha Daily Record* [article](#) and [photo](#) links to the committee.

*Historical Society Chair*

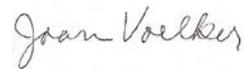
Judge Kopf announced that he would be stepping down as Historical Society Chair at some point in the near future and asked that the executive committee consider a possible successor.

Next meeting

The date of the next conference call meeting was discussed and agreed upon as **Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 1:30 p.m.**

There being no other business, the conference call meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Joan Voelker, Secretary