

MINUTES
Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit
Executive Committee Conference Call
July 19, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

Participants:

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

Roll call was taken, and all were present.

The minutes of the Executive Committee's April 5, 2017 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Greenbaum reported the balance of the parent account as \$10,004.50 and the balance of the appeals branch account as \$16,377.93. She noted that the appeals account, recently bolstered by money from the circuit Attorney Admission Fee Fund for the circuit oral history project, was not set up to bear interest because that account typically has only had \$500 to \$600.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Voelker said that she had that day emailed the directors requesting branch annual reports. She said she was in the process of updating the Historical Society website with Judge Riley oral history interview, display, and biographical brochure and mention of Judge Morris Arnold's new book, *The Arkansas Post of Louisiana*. She also said that she had received notice that it was time to renew the Society's corporate registration and that she would send the forms to Ms. Greenbaum.

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 William Jay Riley – 70 in 2017

Chair Judge Kopf reported that he had conducted Judge Riley's interview in June and that it was released without editing to preserve the natural flow of conversation between old friends who were once law school classmates. The open-ended questions produced a conversation of over two hours and a transcript of about 90 pages. Judge Kopf noted that this was done at no cost to the Historical Society, as the District of Nebraska agreed to pay for the transcription, which was

the only cost. [The video and transcript are accessible on [Judge Riley's page](http://www.lb8.uscourts.gov/pubsandservices/histsociety/coa8.riley.html) of the Historical Society website: <http://www.lb8.uscourts.gov/pubsandservices/histsociety/coa8.riley.html>.]

Judge Michael J. Melloy – Senior Status

Mr. Lyford reported that Judge Melloy has agreed to do an oral history interview, to be conducted by Judge Ebinger.

Judge Roger L. Wollman – Age over 80

Mr. Boyd reported that Judge Wollman was interviewed by Judge Hansen in June in the U.S. Courts Library. The interview lasted over two hours and captures a natural rapport and wonderful conversation between the two.

Judge Diana E. Murphy – Age over 80

Mr. Boyd said that Judge Murphy was interviewed by Minnesota Associate Justice Margaret Chutich, her former law clerk, in December and that the U.S. Courts Library should receive a copy on disc soon. [The Library has received the disc.]

Judge James B. Loken – Age over 70

Mr. Boyd said that he will approach Judge Loken to see if he would agree to be interviewed.

Judge Pasco M. Bowman – Senior Status

Mr. Brust reported that Millie Adams had approached Judge Bowman about his oral history interview but that he declined.

Judge Kermit E. Bye - Retired

Mr. Brust said that Judge Bye was very receptive in December to some form of oral history but that he has not heard back since then.

2018 Judicial Conference

President Lyford said that the 2018 conference will be held in Des Moines, with the general session falling on Thursday and Friday, August 16-17. He said that he would like to organize a social gathering of the Historical Society.

Other Items

Nebraska

Judge Kopf announced that the history of the District of Nebraska, 16 to 17 years in the making, is in the hands of the publisher and is going out for peer review. Peer reviewers are given six months, and then the manuscript goes through the academic editorial board. The book is planned as volume 1 of 2, with this volume covering the founding of the Court until 1933.

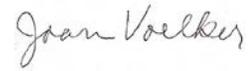
It was noted that the history of Arkansas took about 20 years to come to fruition. Given the hard work that goes into these publications, President Lyford suggested that the Historical Society set up a table displaying books done, such as court histories, Judge Arnold's books, etc., at the next conference so that all can see them.

Next meeting

The date of the next conference call meeting was discussed and agreed upon as **Wednesday, September 13, 2017, at 1:30 p.m.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Voelker".

Joan Voelker, Secretary