

MINUTES OF THE STATUTE LAW COMMITTEE MEETING
2021-2023 Biennium
November 22, 2022

The Statute Law Committee held its third meeting of the 2021-2023 biennium as a hybrid conference with some attendees attending in person and others via Zoom.

Members present: Chair Roger Goodman, Vice Chair Taylor Wonhoff (TW) (Zoom), Bernard Dean (BD), Jamie Pedersen (JP), Kim Johnson (KJ), Jill Reinmuth (JR), Kyle Sciuchetti (KS), Sam Thompson (ST) (Zoom), and Peter Abbarno (PA) (Zoom).

Members absent: Sharon Brown and Sarah Bannister.

Also in attendance: Kathleen Buchli (KB), Code Reviser and Secretary to the committee; Mark Lally (ML), Deputy Code Reviser; Alice Im (AI), Senior Assistant Code Reviser; Kevin Shotwell (KTS), Senior Assistant Code Reviser; Jennifer Meas (JM) (Zoom), Washington State Register Editor; Jennifer Bourke (JB), Editorial Assistant; Shayne O'Grady (SO), Administrative Assistant.

Agenda Item I. Chair (RG) called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM. Members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

Agenda Item II. There was an amendment to the May 26, 2022, meeting minutes, agenda item VII. To allow the fiscal officer to sign off on the Code Reviser's annual step increase if approved at the spring meeting of the Statute Law Committee. JP moved to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022, meeting as amended, seconded by KS. All in attendance voted to approve. The minutes were adopted.

Agenda Item III. AI updated the committee on publications. The 2022 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) hard copies have been sold and shipped. The total number shipped was 141 which is lower than last year by 11 sets. The selected titles will be shipped out in the next couple of weeks. Last year only 45 sets of the selected titles were purchased. The trend is more people are using the online publication. This year we will order 50 sets and print more as needed.

Agenda Item IV. KB shared an overview of the Code Reviser's Office (CRO) financial budget. Many fiscal duties (budget preparation work) have now

been assigned to LSS and it has been going well. The budget request is primarily a maintenance level request but line items are added to show the need for \$28,000 to update phones. There are several retirements coming (up to seven but at least two). CRO will put in a budget request for at least two of them in the next biennium. The CRO is still purchasing Covid tests.

ML discussed the hiring environment which is difficult. He mentioned CRO is not as competitive with other public service agencies as it could be.

BD shared that House has had recruiting issues as well. A salary survey went out to House and Senate and follow up results will be shared at a future meeting.

JR discussed OPR is dealing with same issues (compensation, working conditions, remote work, session workload) and will share some strategies with CRO.

KJ mentioned SCS had a decent recruitment amount for attorney position posted but session staffing has been more of an issue. SCS have been reaching out to universities for potential employees. She mentioned possible upcoming Legislative wide job fair.

KS remarked that the private sector is struggling to hire people as well.

KB shared that CRO is fully staffed with one person coming on for legislative session.

RG asked for clarification about travel allocation on budget and goods and services explanation. KB shared that the travel allocation was for ULC members to attend ULC conference. The goods and services budget went for supplies, furniture, printing paper, printers, computers, etc.

Agenda Item V. KTS described House Bill No. 1857, the Technical Corrections Bill. The previous year the bill didn't get out of the House of Representatives. This bill is based on the prior year's bill with a few changes.

Agenda Item VI. KB mentioned that after the 2023 Legislative session, the online version of the RCW will be official. JP moved to make online RCW official, seconded by KS. All in attendance voted to approve.

ML thanked everyone for their time and interest. Chair RG thanked members for participation and adjourned the meeting at 12:35 PM, the next meeting to be held at the call of the Chair.

ROGER GOODMAN, Chair Date

KATHLEEN BUCHLI, Secretary