

MINUTES OF THE STATUTE LAW COMMITTEE MEETING
2017-2019 Biennium
July 12, 2017

The Statute Law Committee held its first meeting of the 2017-2019 biennium in the Senate Rules Room, located on the second floor of the Legislative Building in Olympia.

Agenda Item I. Chair Roger Goodman called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Members present: Hillary Madsen (by phone), Hunter Goodman, Bernard Dean, Susan Howson, Jill Reinmuth, Taylor Wonhoff, and Rick Neidhardt.

Members absent: Jamie Pedersen, Steve O'Ban, and Jay Rodne.

Also in attendance were Kyle Thiessen, Code Reviser, who serves as the committee's secretary; code reviser staff attorneys Lew Lewis, Mark Lally, Alice Im, and Jennifer Arnold; Kerry Radcliff, Washington State Register Editor; Debbie Deibert, Administrative Secretary; Jessica Braatz, Administrative Assistant, and Derek Zable, Legislative Assistant for Roger Goodman.

Agenda Item II. Committee members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

Minutes to the prior meeting were presented. A motion was made by Hunter Goodman and seconded by Rick Neidhardt that the minutes of the previous Statute Law Committee meeting held on January 19, 2017, be approved. The motion carried.

Agenda Item III. Publications.

Alice Im updated the committee that complaints were received in December regarding the binding on the RCWs and that the volumes were replaced and the issue resolved. Session laws will be uploaded into the system within 1 1/2 months after the 3rd special session. There is a new cover for the WAC volumes that are now printed through LSS. Kerry brought one in to display.

Hard copies of session laws, which would include the regular and 1st special session through the 3rd special session, should be published sometime in September. If there is a 4th special session, those session laws will be published in the 2018 session law books.

Kyle provided an overview of this year's RCW publication timeline. The online RCWs are being updated as each session/special session ends. At the end of this year's regular session the codification process began. By the end of August, the online RCWs should reflect the regular and 1st and 2nd special sessions. By using this method, the process is being completed at least three months faster than previous years. The printing process will start at the end of the last special session. The website will include an effective through date, making it clear which session laws are included. The session laws from the 3rd special session should be included by November 1.

No request for changes to the multiple amendment report. It was distributed to SCS, OPR and CRO staff. A motion to approve the list was made by Hillary Madsen and seconded by Taylor Wonhoff. The motion carried.

Recommendations will be brought to the next meeting for an SLC clean-up bill.

Agenda Item IV. Financial Reports.

Kyle reviewed the financial reports. Since all bills for last fiscal year have not yet been paid, the general fund report reflects a higher remaining balance than is actual. Once bills have been paid, it should total about \$150,000. The publication account reflects a 20% fund split to pay central service agencies. The revenue account has stabilized significantly due to the code reviser's office being able to work closely with LSS which has the ability to print on-demand. Selected Titles sets are also being sold again, since LSS is able to print on-demand. Law enforcement, schools, and insurance agencies are requesting these titles. Kyle also provided an overview of equipment purchases, including the large Microplex printer and the binding machine.

Kerry Radcliff reported that she worked with several agencies in case of a government shut-down. Kyle emphasized the need to maintain staff in the code reviser's office during this time. He was approached by agencies who wanted to ensure that staff would still be available.

Kyle reported that the same forms for filing rules have been in place for several years, and requests to update them have been received. Kerry reported that the forms have now been updated. They are now locked so that people are unable to change them. Rules were changed to enable the form to contain extra pages instead of attachments. Kerry has received positive feedback from agencies about the website for making rules. The rule-making class in June was a success with 35 participants and she expects 75 participants at the classes in July.

Agenda Item V. Technical Correction Bills.

A bill sponsored by Senator Fortunato was passed which repealed obsolete provisions. The office will prepare a cleanup bill to fix double amendments, unaligned dates, etc., for next year. There should be something to see at the next meeting.

Agenda Item VI. Succession Planning.

Chair Roger Goodman briefed a timeline regarding succession planning for the new Code Reviser. The job description is now being finalized. Next week a job announcement will go out. A 2-3 week period will follow to accept applications, which LSS will take. The initial review of applications will be completed by mid-August. Screening interviews will occur in mid-September. Interviews of the semi-finalists will be conducted by the sub-committee. Detailed reference checks will be conducted on the finalists, and interviews by the SLC will be conducted in October. December 1, 2017, is the projected start date for the new Code Reviser who will then shadow Kyle through the 2018 session. The sub-committee will meet intermittently during the hiring process. All four legislative members are to be engaged during the hiring process to ensure bi-partisan participation.

Agenda Item VII. Other Business.

In addition, Jessica Braatz is working with Debbie Deibert, Jennifer Meas with Kerry Radcliff, and Kevin Shotwell with Lew Lewis (operating budget) in anticipation of retirements.

Thereupon, the meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m., moved by Bernard Dean and seconded by Jill Reinmuth, the next meeting to be held at the call of the Chair.

K. KYLE THIESSEN, Secretary

ROGER GOODMAN, Chair

Date