

Supreme Court of Nevada
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

KATHERINE STOCKS
State Court Administrator



JOHN MCCORMICK
Assistant Court Administrator

MEETING SUMMARY

Organization: **COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL SELECTION**

Date and Time: Friday, May 17, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

Venue: Zoom Meeting

Commissioners Present

Chair, Chief Justice Elissa Cadish
Vice-Chair Gregory Kamer Esq.
Ms. Donna Bath
Ms. Justina Caviglia Esq.
Mr. Peter Guzman
Mr. Joel Locke Esq.
Mr. Lopez-Negrete

Guests Present

Jane Mallory
Tina Talim
Michael Schwartzer
James Puccinelli
Kathleen Knight
OverlyS
DaskasR

Commissioners Excused

Mr. Andrew Diss

Commission Staff Present

Ms. Margarita Bautista

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Chair Cadish convened the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum Pursuant to Rule 4.F.

Sec'y Stocks took roll, and a quorum was present.

3. Eighth Judicial District Department XIV Applicant Review

Chair Cadish provided a summary of the application period that resulted in one applicant. She stated the emergency meeting was called to discuss the process for Department XIV under the Commission's Rules. Chair Cadish read Rule 10.B. to review the options of the Commission with the current single application. Chair Cadish stated that the applicant appears to meet the requirements for candidacy. She further stated she would prefer to reopen the application period.

Com'r Guzman asked for clarification under Rule 10.B if there is an option to send the one applicant to the Governor.

Chair Cadish provided clarification of Rule 10.B allowing for one applicant name to be sent to the Governor.

Com'r Guzman stated his support for both the option of sending the one name to the Governor or reopening the vacancy, but his preference leaned toward sending the one name as it could be unfair under the rules.

Vice-Chair Kamer provided historical background of the Commission sending names to the Governor without reopening the application period. Vice-Chair Kamer further provided a history of applications being re-opened based on the Commission wanting higher qualified candidates. He closed by stating a preference to send the name.

Com'r Caviglia stated she was not opposed to either decision.

Com'r Bath conferred with Vice-Chair Kamer but asked if Ms. Talim had applied before.

- Ms. Talim was taken off mute and answered that she had not applied before.

Com'r Bath continued stating that she supported Ms. Talim moving forward for putting in the work to apply and should not be punished for others not applying.

Com'r Locke stated support for sending one name to the Governor.

Com'r Lopez Negrete stated that the Governor should be able to select from more than one applicant since previous processes have re-opened the application period and is in favor of reopening the vacancy for the sake of the process.

Vice-Chair Kamer stated that candidates are being allowed to game the system by waiting to see who applies after the initial closing of the application period. He stated the Governor has the prerogative to pick a candidate and chose to open the vacancy.

Com'r Guzman reiterated his support for sending the name and further stated the Commission has a duty to submit the name to the Governor because she did the work to apply in an open application process.

- Com'r Guzman made a motion to submit the name of the applicant to the Governor.
- Vice-Chair Kamer seconded the motion.
- The following Commissioners voted to approve the motion:
 - Vice-Chair Kamer
 - Com'r Bath
 - Com'r Caviglia
 - Com'r Guzman
 - Com'r Locke
- The following Commissioners voted against the motion:
 - Chair Cadish

- Com'r Lopez-Negrete

Vice-Chair Kamer suggested a subcommittee to review the application if any negative information comes forward on the background check. He suggested the two Commissioners that voted against the motion to be on the review team.

Chair Cadish clarified the intent of the Commission by stating:

By May 31st, the Commission will forward the complete application package including background and credit checks as well as reference letters to the Governor. An emergency meeting will be called if the Commission's subcommittee finds concerning information in the background investigation.

Chair Cadish asked for a vote on the above intent.

- All Commissioners present agreed on the process.

Com'r Bath thanked Mr. Kamer for pointing out the potential for manipulation of the process through the precedent of reopening applications in the past and applicants waiting to submit until after knowing the initial candidate pool.

Chair Cadish thanked the Commission for their participation.

4. Adjournment

Chair Cadish adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.