

JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

March 2, 2011

The Judicial Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on March 2, 2011 at 5:45 p.m.

BOARD PRESENT

Kate Ali'varius
Phillip Austin
Daniel A. Barker
David P. Brooks
Peter Lesar

BOARD ABSENT

David Talamante

STAFF PRESENT

Kathleen Broman
Michael Claspell
Matt Tafoya
Paul Thomas

Chairman Ali'varius excused Boardmember Talamante from the entire meeting.

1. Approve minutes from the February 2, 2011 Board meeting.

It was moved by Boardmember Brooks, seconded by Boardmember Barker, that the minutes of the February 2, 2011 Board meeting be approved.

Chairman Ali'varius declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the reappointment of Magistrate Valerye Boyer-Wells.

Chairman Ali'varius declared the public hearing open at 5:47 p.m. for the purpose of receiving comments on the reappointment of Magistrate Valerye Boyer-Wells.

Presiding Magistrate Matt Tafoya addressed the Boardmembers and recommended that Magistrate Valerye Boyer-Wells be reappointed for a two-year term. He stated that Magistrate Boyer-Wells demonstrates an enthusiastic and empathetic demeanor in the courtroom and treats everyone with dignity and respect. Magistrate Tafoya also remarked that Magistrate Boyer-Wells possesses great humility and a willingness to learn and improve as a judicial officer. He urged the Board to give strong consideration to Magistrate Boyer-Wells' reappointment to the bench.

Chairman Ali'varius thanked Magistrate Tafoya for his comments.

3. Interview Magistrate Valerye Boyer-Wells for reappointment.

The members of the Judicial Advisory Board posed selected interview questions to Magistrate Boyer-Wells.

Chairman Ali'varius thanked Magistrate Boyer-Wells for her input.

4. Convene an Executive Session.

It was moved by Boardmember Baker, seconded by Boardmember Austin, that an Executive Session be convened at 6:15 p.m. to discuss the reappointment of Magistrate Valerye Boyer-Wells.

Chairman Ali'varius declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

a. Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of the City. (A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1))

1. Reappointment items for Magistrate Boyer-Wells

(At 7:02 p.m., the Executive Session adjourned and the Board reconvened their regular meeting.)

5. Discuss and make recommendations to the City Council on the reappointment of Magistrate Valerye Boyer-Wells for a two-year term.

Chairman Ali'varius stated that the Board spent a considerable period of time in considering Magistrate Boyer-Wells' reappointment. She noted that those efforts included, but were not limited to, the following: reviewing the application for reappointment; conducting reference checks and courtroom visits; formulating and assigning interview questions; and conducting the public hearing and interview.

Boardmember Barker stated the opinion that the court surveys were the most important component of the reappointment process due to the fact that they reflected a cross section of opinions derived from attorneys, staff and litigants. He commented that in most all of the survey categories, Magistrate Boyer-Wells received ratings that were at or above those of her peers. Boardmember Barker also noted that the Board conducted reference checks concerning Magistrate Boyer-Wells and said he was impressed by the comments that "her ethics meet the highest standard," she possessed great integrity and was a well-respected member of the community.

It was moved by Boardmember Barker, seconded by Boardmember Austin, that Magistrate Valerye Boyer-Wells be reappointed for a two-year term.

Chairman Ali'varius declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

Chairman Ali'varius, on behalf of her fellow Boardmembers, congratulated Magistrate Boyer-Wells on her reappointment.

6. Adjournment.

It was moved by Boardmember Brooks, seconded by Boardmember Barker, that the meeting of the Judicial Advisory Board be adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Chairman Ali'varius declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Judicial Advisory Board meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 2nd day of March 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

LINDA CROCKER, CITY CLERK

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