

BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING

August 17, 2011

4 THOSE PRESENT: Judge Flores
5 Judge Walker
6 Judge Lively
7 Sgt. Jana Hawkins
8 Catherine Presley
9 Becky Garcia
10 Tim Funchess
11 Mary Godina
12 Liz Parks
13 Tina Gillespie
14 Rhonda Brode
15 Carolyn Guidry

16 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. We're going to call
17 this meeting, call the meeting of the Jefferson County
18 Bail Bond Board meeting to order. The record will
19 reflect we do have a quorum.

1 BECKY GARCIA: No, sir.

2 JUDGE FLORES: I don't see Mr. Rugg. Okay.

3 Did they bring a report?

4 BECKY GARCIA: Yes, sir, I've already given
5 it to you. You should have it.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Good. Everybody ought
7 to have a copy of the report Ms. Garcia passed out. At
8 this time are there any questions or comments on the
9 monthly report presented from the -- from the D. A.'s
10 office as to the collections of both the county and
11 district level?

12 (None.)

13 JUDGE FLORES: Ms. Presley, any applications
14 to be considered?

15 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Yes, sir, three.

16 JUDGE FLORES: Go ahead.

17 CATHERINE PRESLEY: We have a new applicant
18 for an agent license, Patsy Linda Mason working for Stan
19 Stanley, Allied Bail Bonds.

20 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Members of the board
21 had a chance to look at this application? I believe
22 Ms. -- they say this is a new application, but I thought
23 Ms. Mason had been associated --

24 CATHERINE PRESLEY: It had expired.

25 JUDGE FLORES: All right.

1 CATHERINE PRESLEY: It had expired in the
2 past.

3 JUDGE FLORES: But she'd done it before for
4 several years.

5 CATHERINE PRESLEY: I believe so, uh-huh.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. All right. Any
7 questions on this application from any member of the
8 board?

9 (None.)

10 JUDGE FLORES: Okay, Ms. Presley, it will be
11 approved.

12 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Okay.

13 JUDGE FLORES: And the next one?

14 CATHERINE PRESLEY: The next one we have is
15 a renewal for Richard Coulter doing business as All Star
16 Bail Bond.

21 MR. COULTER: Two years.

22 JUDGE FLORES: Two?

23 BECKY GARCIA: Will his ratio go up? Will
24 his bonding ratio go up or --

25 JUDGE FLORES: What does the statute say?

1 CATHERINE PRESLEY: He's got cash.

2 BECKY GARCIA: He's got cash up? Okay.

3 JUDGE FLORES: Ms. Presley, everything in
4 compliance on this application?

5 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Yes, sir.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Any questions or comments
7 from any member of the board?

8 TIM FUNCHESS: Is there application fees
9 that go with this?

10 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Fees?

11 JUDGE FLORES: Yes, sir; and they are paid
12 to the sheriff's department when they turn in the
13 application.

14 TIM FUNCHESS: Okie doke.

15 JUDGE FLORES: And on those, that's what
16 goes into the bail bond fund. We have a separate
17 account out of the general fund.

18 TIM FUNCHESS: All right.

19 CATHERINE PRESLEY: I bring them after
20 they're approved.

21 JUDGE FLORES: Okay, yeah. Well, if
22 everything is order then, Ms. Presley, I will sign that,
23 also.

24 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Okay.

25 JUDGE FLORES: And then we have one more; is

1 that correct?

2 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Yes, sir. A new
3 application is Lexington National Insurance Corporation
4 doing business as A Fast Response Bail Bond with their
5 agent being Derrick Haynes.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Any member of the board have
7 any questions, or comments on this application?

8 BECKY GARCIA: The registered agent for
9 service on this, it's showing it to be Monks?

10 MR. MONKS: It is. It's me.

11 BECKY GARCIA: You're an attorney?

12 MR. MONKS: Yes.

13 BECKY GARCIA: So all bills of cost,
14 citations and everything should be forwarded to this
15 address; correct?

16 MR. MONKS: Yes.

17 BECKY GARCIA: Okay. So this is going to be
18 separate from the registered agent from the insurance;
19 or are you the registered agent for the insurance
20 company?

21 MR. MONKS: I was the registered --

22 BECKY GARCIA: For the insurance company?
23 For Lexington?

24 MR. MONKS: Yes.

25 BECKY GARCIA: Okay.

1 THE REPORTER: May I have your name please?

2 MR. MONKS: It's John Michael Monks.

3 JUDGE FLORES: Mr. Monks, I believe you've
4 been in the business quite a while.

5 MR. MONKS: I have. I've been in your court
6 in this courtroom.

7 JUDGE FLORES: Right. Any other questions
8 on that application? Okay.

9 (None.)

10 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. This one will be
11 approved also. For everybody on the board, Mr. Haynes,
12 please stand up.

13 (Complies.)

14 JUDGE FLORES: We'll be glad to help you
15 anyway we can. These are the people that are involved
16 in the board. Mrs. Godina is one of our staff persons.
17 She's the one that was conducting the investigation, see
18 if any problems come up, along with Mrs. Gillespie and
19 Ms. Presley with the sheriff's department. Okay. If
20 you have any question, always direct to it one of us and
21 we'll be glad to help you.

22 MR. HAYNES: Thank you. Thank you guys.

23 JUDGE FLORES: Mr. Coulter, I think you know
24 most of the people here; is that right?

25 MR. COULTER: Yes, sir.

1 JUDGE FLORES: And I don't see Mrs. Mason.
2 She didn't come? Okay. All right. Anything else as
3 far as applications or anything else Ms. Presley?

4 CATHERINE PRESLEY: No, sir.

5 JUDGE FLORES: That's it?

6 CATHERINE PRESLEY: That's it.

7 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Mrs. Godina, any
8 complaints at this time.

9 MARY GODINA: No, sir, none at this time.

10 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Do we have a report
11 from the treasurer?

12 TIM FUNCHESS: It's in front of you-all.
13 It's up to date. Collateral balances.

14 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Okay.

15 Any questions or comments on Mr. Funchess'
16 report?

17 (None.)

18 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Auditor, what do we
19 have?

20 RHONDA BRODE: I have both of the reports.
21 I've given you two copies.

22 JUDGE FLORES: And for the record if you'll
23 state your name. I know that I've called everybody else
24 by name.

25 RHONDA BRODE: Rhonda Brode. I have your

1 revenue and expenses for the bail bond fund as
2 requested.

3 JUDGE FLORES: Good deal.

4 RHONDA BRODE: And the bail bondsmen report,
5 basically giving all the limits and balances and status.
6 Nothing out of the ordinary.

7 JUDGE FLORES: Just in looking at some of
8 the list of bondsmen reports and specifically the
9 attorneys --

10 RHONDA BRODE: Uh-huh.

11 JUDGE FLORES: -- I know some of these
12 people listed on here who aren't even practicing
13 anymore.

14 RHONDA BRODE: Okay. Do we have a place on
15 your screen that says deactivated or non-active.

16 TINA GILLESPIE: There's no way for us to
17 know, not really.

18 MARY GODINA: There's no place on the AS400
19 anyway to say active or inactive.

20 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

21 TINA GILLESPIE: We can't take them out of
22 the system no matter what; because the -- it ties into
23 the AS400; and once you key in an attorney's code like
24 they're on a case, if you wipe them out and take their
25 number away, it takes them out. When you go back and

1 look at the history in the AS400, it also wipes their
2 name out of that.

3 RHONDA BRODE: Okay. What I can do to clear
4 this up is drop it into Excel and give you everyone that
5 has a balance.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Sounds great. And I know
7 some attorneys do put up extra money to get extra
8 collateral. Most attorneys, it's just a courtesy fee
9 given by the sheriff's department. I think it's a limit
10 of 20,000.

11 RHONDA BRODE: Yes, sir.

12 JUDGE FLORES: After that, if you want to do
13 more, you have to put up collateral with Mr. Funchess'
14 office. Okay. Any questions on the auditor's reports?

15 (None.)

16 RHONDA BRODE: It also gives status, expired
17 licenses, defaults and things like that.

18 JUDGE FLORES: Great. I think that's what
19 you wanted, Mr. Funchess; right, something you can look
20 at and determine that?

21 TIM FUNCHESS: Uh-huh.

22 JUDGE FLORES: Anything else, Mr. Funchess,
23 that you think we need to address as far as the auditor?

24 TIM FUNCHESS: As far as what?

25 JUDGE FLORES: As far as the auditor's

1 report or anything else you think we may need?

2 TIM FUNCHESS: No, I don't think so. It's
3 fine.

4 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. All right. The last
5 item on the agenda is the proposed changes to the local
6 rules; and basically what we've done -- everybody ought
7 to have a copy of them in front of them or it was
8 e-mailed to most of you. What we've done now is
9 we've -- now basically we have them now on the website.

10 I think there's extra copies up here if
11 anybody needs any. Okay. Anybody else?

12 (No response.)

13 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Hopefully I think it's
14 self-explanatory. The first item is on the Table of
15 Contents; it basically breaks it down into the different
16 sections.

17 First of all, just the organization of the
18 board with the -- who are members, who are the
19 designated members and representatives.

20 I'm sorry.

21 BECKY GARCIA: Judge, are we going to take
22 this item by item on the revisions that we've already
23 kind of accumulated; or how do you want to go through --

24 JUDGE FLORES: Well, I was going to through
25 the table of contents.

1 BECKY GARCIA: Okay.

2 JUDGE FLORES: And then after that I do have
3 the list of the corrections or, you know, additions that
4 were made.

5 BECKY GARCIA: Okay.

6 JUDGE FLORES: Then we can do that.

7 Anybody have any questions on the
8 organization of the board? There's a couple of items
9 that I saw that I think we need to address. First of
10 all, the selection of the chairman, we do say it's to be
11 annually. My suggestion would be to have the
12 election/selection process to be done like in September;
13 and that way the person can take over the 1st of October
14 and just run it on a fiscal year basis, October to
15 October.

16 BECKY GARCIA: What item are you on?

17 JUDGE FLORES: That would be item number
18 A-5.

19 BECKY GARCIA: Okay. After you're finished
20 with that, I need to go back up to 3.

21 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Let's address 3 first.
22 Go ahead.

23 BECKY GARCIA: The change that was made or
24 that was proposed was all notices shall be posted to the
25 internet for posting to the bail bond board web page as

1 directed by the county clerk. If we're going to follow
2 Robert's Rules and the rules of what we have to abide by
3 in posting public notes, we're still required to post
4 down here at the courthouse.

5 JUDGE FLORES: Absolutely.

6 BECKY GARCIA: Now, in addition if the board
7 wants to post it to the internet, then the board can do
8 that --

9 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

10 BECKY GARCIA: -- separate from what we're
11 required to do for our office.

12 JUDGE FLORES: That's fine. I think you
13 have a bulletin board that's available and that can be
14 posted there.

15 BECKY GARCIA: Okay.

16 JUDGE FLORES: I don't think there's any
17 problem with that. I thought you'd already made an
18 amendment to that; is that correct?

19 BECKY GARCIA: We did, but that's -- what is
20 the typed as the amendment is not reflecting correctly.

21 JUDGE WALKER: It says notice shall be
22 given, it says it two different ways.

23 BECKY GARCIA: Right.

24 JUDGE WALKER: Where it says "Open Meetings
25 Act" up in 2 and "All notices shall be posted", that --

1 it should all be under one. It should be under one
2 number. The board shall meet at least once a month, and
3 at all other times at the call of presiding officer.
4 Notice given to pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act
5 and all notices shall be posted to the internet --

6 BECKY GARCIA: Right.

7 JUDGE WALKER: -- for posting to the Bail
8 Bond web page. It's a comma.

9 JUDGE FLORES: And add to that, Judge,
10 Walker, the second -- third sentence: All notices shall
11 be posted to the internet and also posted in the county
12 clerk's office.

13 JUDGE WALKER: I would just say pursuant to
14 the Texas Open Meetings Act --

15 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

16 JUDGE WALKER: -- comma, posted to the
17 internet for posting to the Bail Bond Board web page
18 or -- coma, or as directed by the county clerk. That
19 way you've got every bit under that one.

20 BECKY GARCIA: Because I don't want us to
21 look like we're required to post it to the internet.
22 We're not. We're required to post it to --

23 JUDGE FLORES: Sure, fine. Okay.

24 JUDGE WALKER: And then you get totally get
25 away from number 3.

1 BECKY GARCIA: Right.

2 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Any other discussion
3 on the combination of items 2 and 3 of the organization
4 of the board? And for everybody who's here in the
5 audience, you don't have to stay and watch us if you
6 don't want to. We're just trying to clean up our rules.
7 Okay. Okay. That covers 2 and 3.

8 On 5, in looking at that, I think at the end
9 of where it says how we select the chairman, I think we
10 need to add in there that the right after number 5 where
11 it says "annually, the board shall choose one of it's
12 members to serve as chairman until the next such annual
13 election", I think that we need to put in there that the
14 election or selection needs to be done in the month of
15 September.

16 JUDGE WALKER: What page?

17 JUDGE FLORES: In the September meeting, put
18 annually at the September meeting.

19 JUDGE WALKER: No later than.

20 JUDGE FLORES: That's fine, okay.

21 And to take office October 1st; and that way
22 we run it on the fiscal year. That make sense, Judge
23 Walker?

24 JUDGE WALKER: Yes, sir.

25 JUDGE FLORES: All right. Now any other

1 comments on the selection of the chairman or I think we
2 also provided for a vice-chairman; and I think we can do
3 at that time.

4 I think in -- the history of this board is
5 pretty simple. I think it's been run by either one of
6 the district judges or one of the county judges. I
7 think when it first started out -- and Judge Walker can
8 probably correct me -- Judge Gist was the first person,
9 first chairman; and he had it for 20 years. After that
10 it went to Judge Carver who inherited his position. And
11 when Carver left, I think we did have an election; and
12 that's when I took over. And I think that for the most
13 part Judge Walker is my backup. And when Judge Walker
14 is not here, then it's Judge Dollinger; and then it
15 would be Judge Lively.

16 And normally for that reason it's the people
17 who set bonds; and that's why it's been a judge. It's
18 either county, district or -- Judge Walker sets bonds in
19 district court or JP court.

20 JUDGE WALKER: Do you have page three?

21 JUDGE FLORES: Yes, sir. Do you not have
22 it? Take my notes off.

23 TINA GILLESPIE: Yes, sir.

24 JUDGE FLORES: Does anybody else not have
25 page three?

1 Okay. Now, there's another item that I saw
2 that was not addressed was the board does have basically
3 three -- three employees that are appointed by the chair
4 person; they are at this time, Ms. Presley, Mrs.
5 Gillespie and Mrs. Godina; and they -- they are paid for
6 out of the bail bond fund; and their job -- Ms.
7 Presley's obviously is to handle all the applications
8 and do the screening and whatever; and when they set
9 this thing up, I think Judge Gist and them decided was
10 they do over and above what they're paid to do in their
11 job. They get, I think what is it, \$150 or something a
12 month, a pay period whatever it is; and Mrs. Godina's
13 main function is to investigate the complaints. She
14 goes out to the jail. Mrs. Gillespie takes care of
15 whenever there are calls or whatever, doing the posting;
16 and -- I just wanted to explain because we don't have
17 that addressed in here at all. Okay. And I think it
18 needs to go in there; and right in item number 5,
19 probably right before it says that the board shall
20 retain a licensed attorney.

21 And the record on that is we do have an
22 attorney who volunteers to do it for us; that's Mr. Tom
23 Roebuck. Before him it was Mr. Rick Hughes; and they
24 just basically volunteer their services; okay?

25 I think that if we add on, right behind that

1 sentence on the board shall retain a licensed attorney,
2 something to the effect that the chairman shall also
3 appoint three staff members to conduct the business of
4 board with regard to investigating complaints, verifying
5 license requirements, and other business as required by
6 the board.

7 JUDGE WALKER: And handing out bottled
8 water.

9 JUDGE FLORES: And the main thing they do,
10 and what we started, when we -- basically when I took
11 over we started sending out Mrs. Godina and Mrs.
12 Gillespie to the bail bondsmen's offices, basically to
13 conduct onsite investigations to make sure that they
14 maintain copies of their license and/or records as
15 required. I don't think prior to that we'd ever done
16 that; okay.

17 BECKY GARCIA: Is that something that we're
18 required to do, to do the inspections or -- and to
19 report back, or is that something this board just does
20 on its own?

21 JUDGE FLORES: I think we've just done it on
22 it's own. I think the act requires that they be
23 investigated; but it doesn't set out how or why or
24 anything. That's just something we started doing,
25 sending out Mrs. Godina and Mrs. Gillespie. I'd just as

1 soon keep it that way. We do it on a random basis. We
2 don't want anybody to know they're coming and send them
3 out. They've been able to do that; and I think it's
4 been very helpful; and we follow the spirit of the law
5 by doing that.

6 Any questions on that, Judge Lively?

7 JUDGE LIVELY: No questions, Your Honor.

8 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Anybody else have any
9 comments on that; and I'll get with the reporter to make
10 sure we get the wording right on that. Okay?

11 Going down on the Organization of the Board
12 again, we are going to try to -- number 7 addresses the
13 meetings are to be conducted with Robert's Rules of
14 Order, which we are going to stick as close as we can to
15 Robert's Rules of Order. Very frankly we're going to
16 try to move these things along informally if we can.
17 That's the history of this board and that's what we're
18 going to try to do. If there's an impasse or something
19 that requires strict adherence to the rule, we'll do
20 that; but mainly is to try to move it along.

21 Right, Judge Lively?

22 JUDGE LIVELY: That's absolutely right.

23 JUDGE FLORES: Right, Judge Walker?

24 JUDGE WALKER: Yes, sir.

25 JUDGE FLORES: We're used to saying move

1 along. Okay.

2 And then the next section is the Board
3 Powers and Duties. I think they're pretty
4 self-explanatory; basically comes from the statute.

5 Okay. I think the only correction on this
6 portion was on page 4 section 2(a), just basically
7 saying that the e-mailing of minutes of the previous
8 meetings. Any -- anything further on that, Ms. Garcia?
9 I think that covers what we need to do.

10 BECKY GARCIA: We'll be e-mailed before the
11 next meeting so we have time to review them prior to the
12 meeting?

13 JUDGE FLORES: Do we need to set a time
14 frame, ten days, two weeks anything like that?

15 BECKY GARCIA: Well --

16 JUDGE FLORES: Or just keep it prior?

17 BECKY GARCIA: I say as long as it's the day
18 before.

19 JUDGE FLORES: All right. Or forty-eight
20 hours before. Just in time to get your e-mail and read
21 it.

22 JUDGE LIVELY: Unless it becomes a problem
23 where we're not getting it, just leaving it open like
24 that works just fine.

25 JUDGE FLORES: That's what I thought. Okay

1 any other discussion?

2 THE REPORTER: Judge, I have a question.

3 You and I had talked about whether the board wanted the
4 minutes e-mailed to their county e-mails or posted to
5 the website?

6 JUDGE FLORES: That's a good point.

7 THE REPORTER: You had asked me about that.

8 JUDGE FLORES: Any discussion on that? We
9 have a website, if anybody wanted to have -- just get
10 access they can just go to the website and see the
11 minutes, instead of her having to send it out to
12 everyone.

13 BECKY GARCIA: I actually prefer to be
14 e-mailed because that's the first thing I check is my
15 e-mail, rather than remembering to have to check the
16 bail bond board page, you know, timely.

17 JUDGE FLORES: It doesn't matter.

18 BECKY GARCIA: What is the --

19 JUDGE FLORES: What is the general consensus
20 of the board?

21 JUDGE LIVELY: From my point, it doesn't
22 matter.

23 JUDGE FLORES: Mr. Funchess?

24 MR. FUNCHESS: Is doesn't matter to me
25 either; but e-mail would be nice. You know, it's right

1 there in your face.

2 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Any preference?

3 JUDGE WALKER: Whatever you want to do,
4 boss.

5 JUDGE FLORES: I tell you what, we'll put on
6 it the web page and e-mail. How's that? You can get
7 with Mr. Seholm. We have a deal with MIS.

8 THE REPORTER: Right. Well, it's just that
9 in putting it on the web page if there's a correction or
10 something that needs to be done, then Ken's got to take
11 that down and repost it a second time. So if it just
12 goes out to the e-mails and everybody looks at it and
13 then at the meeting everybody says, yeah, it's fine;
14 then he can just post it one time. My question was did
15 everyone want to get this in their e-mail once a month.
16 My preference would be to just e-mail it and then at the
17 meeting if it's okay, then have Ken do it.

18 JUDGE FLORES: That's fine.

19 JUDGE LIVELY: That's simplifies it.

20 BECKY GARCIA: Yeah.

21 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Any other questions or
22 corrections on the board's powers and duties?

23 JUDGE LIVELY: Judge, do we need to do
24 something with number 3 under that section to harmonize
25 it with the posting and notice that we do under the

1 organization where we changed 2?

2 BECKY GARCIA: You're talking about on page
3 5.

4 JUDGE FLORES: Page 5 section 3, posting or
5 actions of the board to the web page.

6 BECKY GARCIA: That's the next one you're
7 addressing.

8 JUDGE FLORES: Yes, that's the next one
9 coming up. And we thought we'd do that, again.

10 JUDGE WALKER: Why don't we e-mail that,
11 too?

12 JUDGE FLORES: Just go with the e-mail on
13 that also, instead of web page?

14 BECKY GARCIA: And then once adopted, then
15 put it out. Yeah.

16 JUDGE WALKER: Yes, I think so.

17 JUDGE FLORES: Let's just go with the e-mail
18 to the board members.

19 All right. If there are no other questions
20 on that section, let's move to section C on the
21 licensing requirements. Again that strictly pretty much
22 comes out of statute. And that covers all of the
23 changes we previously made, such as that the treasurer
24 will be the main repository of any deeds of trust and
25 any other documents. We tried to clean that up to make

1 sure everything was there; and I think that Mr. Funchess
2 on page 10, item number (c) we had talked about changing
3 the date. I think Mr. Funchess requested that all the
4 tax statements be delivered by February 1st; and -- I'm
5 fine with that.

6 Does anybody have any questions on that? I
7 think we had thrown around some dates, February 15th or
8 whatever; but he says February 1st would be better for
9 his office; and he's the one going --

10 TIM FUNCHESS: Well, statements go out in
11 November; that gives you two months. January 31st is
12 the deadline. I'm just picking the first day after the
13 deadline.

14 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Uh-huh.

15 JUDGE FLORES: That's fine. Any other
16 discussion on that?

17 BECKY GARCIA: The one thing we did add in
18 there was about the insurance company -- I mean current
19 insurance.

20 CATHERINE PRESLEY: On -- on a dwelling.

21 BECKY GARCIA: If there's a dwelling on the
22 plot, that we did add from the previous. I think it's
23 (d).

24 JUDGE LIVELY: On page 7 under section
25 number 2 where it talks about accompanied by real

1 property lists in compliance, that's assuming that's not
2 exemplary -- exemptible property; correct?

3 JUDGE FLORES: Again, what section?

4 JUDGE LIVELY: That would be page 7 under
5 the second section, five lines down where it talks
6 accompanied by real property lists. That would refer to
7 non-except; correct?

8 BECKY GARCIA: Right.

9 CATHERINE PRESLEY: Uh-huh.

10 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

11 JUDGE LIVELY: Do you want to put it in
12 there or does it matter? It matters as to what actually
13 supports the bonds.

14 JUDGE FLORES: Whatever the general feeling
15 of members of board is fine with me.

16 JUDGE WALKER: We don't have a copy.

17 JUDGE FLORES: You don't have a copy?

18 JUDGE WALKER: Ms. Guidry and I do not.

19 They're unable to comment.

20 JUDGE LIVELY: I pulled it down off my
21 e-mail.

22 MARY GODINA: That's the new copy machine we
23 got from the county.

24 BECKY GARCIA: Okay. I kind of know the
25 answer but I just want to be refreshed on it. When --

1 when property is being pledged as collateral and it's
2 going through the approved process, I know the only
3 property they can't pledge is something that has a
4 homestead on it.

5 JUDGE FLORES: Correct. That's what he
6 talking about.

7 BECKY GARCIA: That piece of property that's
8 homesteaded may or may not be their -- where they live,
9 primary residence. Sometimes they may choose to
10 homestead a piece of property valued more than their
11 primary residence, which is fine. So, I just want to
12 make sure that, you know, we are still checking the
13 homestead exemptions on the property that's being
14 pledged as collateral and that there's switching.

15 JUDGE FLORES: Judge -- Ms. Garcia and
16 Judge, I think by putting in the verbiage you're talking
17 about, non-exempt could have --

18 JUDGE LIVELY: It should, because it makes
19 it clear to anybody that's submitting a license,
20 that's --

21 JUDGE FLORES: What do you suggest the
22 change on that so the court reporter can get it down.

23 JUDGE LIVELY: I'm sorry?

24 JUDGE FLORES: What do you suggest that we
25 state, read it out so she can take it down.

1 JUDGE LIVELY: What I suggest is -- and
2 there's several sections that are going to talk about
3 real property. Everywhere it says by -- and I'll start
4 with page 7 on line five, says "each application shall
5 also be accompanied by a real property list". What I
6 suggest is accompanied by a list of non-exemptible real
7 property; and I think there's a couple more spots where
8 that's going to show up.

9 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

10 JUDGE LIVELY: Under 9, also. So that would
11 be page -- page 9 -- may be covered in the first one; so
12 not as necessary; but under 9 it talks appraisals on new
13 or existing property pledged; and it just seems if it
14 read "appraisals on new or existing non-exemptible
15 property", you emphasize the point that that's all you
16 can pledge.

17 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Any questions or
18 comments on that?

19 JUDGE WALKER: Perfect.

20 JUDGE FLORES: That make sense? Okay.

23 JUDGE FLORES: All right.

24 JUDGE LIVELY: And 11 (h), second line,
25 executes a deed to real property, just deed to

1 non-except real property. I think that covers all of
2 those references. And now I'll be quiet.

3 JUDGE FLORES: That's good.

4 JUDGE WALKER: I agree.

5 JUDGE FLORES: That's good. There was a
6 section on that same page, on page -- on page 10 on the
7 Deeds of Trust, I think we took out sections or added
8 sections (c) and (d).

9 BECKY GARCIA: Added (c) and (d).

10 JUDGE FLORES: Any other comments on that?
11 (None.)

12 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Now we go to section D
13 starting on page 12. The bonding business. It's
14 basically the regulations from the sheriff's department.

15 SGT. HAWKINS: Don't have 12.

16 JUDGE FLORES: You don't have 12, either?

17 MARY GODINA: Off the record.

18 (Off the record discussion.)

19 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Any other questions or
20 any comments on section D the bonding business?

21 (None.)

22 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Now, E, do you-all
23 have that, Judge Walker, Taking of Bail beginning on
24 page 14?

25 JUDGE WALKER: Yes, sir.

1 JUDGE FLORES: Good.

2 JUDGE WALKER: We're re-engaged.

3 JUDGE FLORES: Good deal. Any comments or
4 any questions or corrections on section E?

5 (None.)

6 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Moving on -- moving
7 onto section F, which is Advertising; and I didn't see
8 it in there; but I think that basically a lot of those
9 requirements should be by the sheriff's department as
10 far as -- I know in the past we've had comments on
11 whether bondmen could wear their shirts advertising
12 their name to the jail and all that other stuff, and
13 advertising by handing out cards, you know, wherever;
14 and I think those are basically rules that since it's
15 going to be on the sheriff's property, you-all need to
16 do it; and I think Lt. Kelly, when I called, I didn't
17 know if you brought them or not. I --

18 SGT. HAWKINS: He told me about the rules
19 that he was supposed to write; but he had a couple of
20 weeks; so I don't think he got around it -- I'll see
21 that it gets taken care of.

22 BECKY GARCIA: He did return my call after
23 you and I spoke. I told him specifically what we're
24 looking for. He was going to get it done as soon as he
25 could.

1 SGT. HAWKINS: As far as advertising, make
2 sure we post the bonding list. Everybody --

3 JUDGE FLORES: Yes, ma'am; and the rotating
4 of the list and moving the name up to where everybody is
5 at the top at least one month and move back down. If
6 you have a new one, they start at the bottom and work
7 their way up. If you find any requirements or anything
8 that he wants in there, if you could get them, get with
9 the court reporter after the meeting; and then get to it
10 her.

11 Ms. Garcia, anything else we needed to cover
12 on that?

13 BECKY GARCIA: Not as -- not what I can see.

14 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Okay. Final section
15 is on G, page 17, which is Prohibitions and Penalties.
16 Again a lot of that strictly comes from the statute.
17 Basically sets out how the complaints are to be made and
18 who they're going to. I think that what we're trying to
19 do on that, is clarified -- sometimes we'd have people
20 that would go to various sources to file a complaint;
21 and it really needs to go -- come to either my office or
22 Mrs. Godina's office; and that way we can get it -- we
23 can get it addressed and that way everybody on the board
24 can also get notice of it.

25 Any other comments on that, section G?

1 (None.)

2 JUDGE FLORES: Okay.

3 JUDGE LIVELY: Your Honor, may I catch one
4 spot? It may be that my e-mail has transposed letters
5 on the first page, I don't know we're the -- Jefferson
6 Ocunty, not county, so.

7 JUDGE FLORES: We'll change it. We'll fix
8 that one. Give the specific location, so we can have it
9 on the record so the court reporter can find it.

10 JUDGE LIVELY: Page 1, top line.

11 JUDGE FLORES: You have my page 7.

12 JUDGE WALKER: Yes, sir, we do.

13 JUDGE FLORES: I'm going to give it all back
14 so at least we have one good copy.

15 All right. Just another cleaning up session
16 here. Anything else anywhere on these rules and
17 regulations that anybody has, any comments or anything
18 else that we need to address? Okay. What I propose
19 then is that we -- post this on the -- on the website
20 with all the changes; and then we could either adopt
21 them now or wait and adopt at the September meeting.
22 What do you-all suggest?

23 We can adopt with the changes to be to put
24 on web page; but if you want it cleaned up and put on
25 the web page and then adopted in September. Whatever

1 you want to do.

2 JUDGE WALKER: Let's get it finalized.

3 JUDGE LIVELY: I agree, the final copy would
4 be the one to adopt.

5 JUDGE FLORES: All right. Let's go ahead
6 and post it on the web page; and then give you a chance,
7 but at least ten days before the meeting in September;
8 and that way we'll have a chance for everybody to make
9 any final comments; and then we can adopt them in
10 September.

11 THE REPORTER: You mean get them e-mailed
12 for the September meeting?

13 JUDGE FLORES: Yeah, that's fine. Okay.
14 Well, that covers this.

15 JUDGE WALKER: Judge, can I say one thing
16 real quick?

17 JUDGE FLORES: Sir?

18 JUDGE WALKER: Can I say one thing real
19 quick before we close the meeting? On behalf of Ms.
20 Guidry, awhile ago I showed her these numbers about the
21 collections that her office had done, \$6420; and that's
22 why she got choked up and had to leave the room; she got
23 all emotional. She's not in the room to make the
24 apology. She said obviously it's come to her attention
25 that Ms. Garcia is taking off nights and weekends; and

1 she assures the board that will be corrected; and these
2 numbers should be back up; and she's going to address
3 Ms. Garcia.

4 JUDGE FLORES: Well, I think.

5 JUDGE WALKER: I'm still --

6 JUDGE FLORES: Think that the proper way to
7 address it, Judge Walker, is the fact that I think we've
8 got it down to where there's very few arrearages now.
9 They're being handled weekly.

10 BECKY GARCIA: I had to let the handcuff
11 bruises heal before I resume my work.

12 JUDGE WALKER: Every time Ms. Garcia comes
13 over and rubs these numbers in my face; so -- I had to
14 say something about that.

15 JUDGE FLORES: Yeah, those are misdemeanor
16 numbers, not district court numbers.

17 JUDGE WALKER: She does a great job, really
18 do.

19 BECKY GARCIA: Thank you, judge.

20 JUDGE FLORES: Anything else? Any new
21 business we need to address, Ms. Presley?

22 CATHERINE PRESLEY: No, sir.

23 JUDGE FLORES: We do have for those of the
24 new members of the board, I had Tina print it out; there
25 is a new class, bail bond class. It's going to be

1 taught in December. I think the last one of our people
2 that went, I think, Judge Lively attended; and --

3 JUDGE LIVELY: Excellent course.

4 JUDGE FLORES: And Mr. Funchess, you need to
5 take advantage of that. It's going to be in December;
6 and I will have either Tina or somebody e-mail it, the
7 next date that's coming up. I really appreciate the
8 county's putting the pressure on us not to spend a whole
9 bunch of money; but I think these classes that everyone
10 has attended has gotten a lot out of them; but
11 especially the members of the board that have not been
12 need to go; and I'm going make sure -- I'm going to put
13 pressure on Ms. Lolita Ramos to try to go; and maybe
14 you-all can go, and also Mr. -- Mr. Roebuck who does
15 this for us free basically.

16 Any comments to the course, Judge Lively?

17 JUDGE LIVELY: Excellent course. Gives you
18 a chance to see the real world issues that are raised
19 with the bail bondsmen under the rules. So, makes you
20 think about the rules that are out there a little more.
21 Highly recommend it.

22 JUDGE FLORES: Well, when we first started,
23 I made it a point that the main people were going were
24 Ms. Presley, Ms. Garcia, Mrs. Godina and Mrs. Gillespie;
25 and I think they attended two or three of them; and I

1 think that's what's helped us.

2 BECKY GARCIA: I know at one time we had
3 discussed I believe it was Roger Moore coming down and
4 teaching all of us at one time a course. Is there any
5 more discussion on that?

6 JUDGE FLORES: No.

7 BECKY GARCIA: We just would rather go --

8 JUDGE FLORES: I think it's working out
9 better if everybody goes, like I said; none of us
10 have -- none of us that have been have to go for a
11 while. A lot of that is a budget restraint with the
12 county; but I do want the people who have not been. I
13 think the auditor's office has been.

14 RHONDA BRODE: Yes, sir.

15 JUDGE FLORES: The people who have not
16 been, they need to go for sure; and I don't know what --
17 but you -- I think that covers the sheriff's department.

18 CATHERINE PRESLEY: I think so.

19 JUDGE FLORES: That's fine. I don't know
20 whether D. A.'s office would be interested in going; but
21 I'm going to send out a notice again to everybody else.

22 Any other business? Judge Walker, do I hear
23 a motion?

24 JUDGE WALKER: To adjourn.

25 BECKY GARCIA: Second.

1 JUDGE FLORES: Okay. Adjourned.

2 (END OF MEETING.)

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