

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TELEPHONIC MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OPEN SESSION

Monday, January 3, 2011

2:34 p.m.

Legal Services Corporation
3333 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John G. Levi, Chairman
Martha L. Minow, Vice Chairman
Sharon L. Browne
Robert J. Grey, Jr.
Charles N.W. Keckler
Harry J.F. Korrell, III
Victor B. Maddox
Laurie Mikva
The Reverend Joseph Pius Pietrzyk, O.P.
Julie A. Reiskin
Gloria Valencia-Weber
Victor M. Fortuno, Interim President and General
Counsel (ex officio)

STAFF PRESENT AT THE CORPORATION'S OFFICES:

Kathleen Connors, Executive Assistant to the President
Patricia Batie, Acting Corporate Secretary and FOIA
Officer, Office of Legal Affairs
Rebecca Weir, Special Counsel to the LSC President,
Office of Legal Affairs
Mark Freedman, Senior Assistant General Counsel, Office
of Legal Affairs
Mattie Cohan, Senior Assistant General Counsel, Office
of Legal Affairs
David L. Richardson, Treasurer and Comptroller
Jeffrey E. Schanz, Inspector General
Laurie Tarantowicz, Assistant Inspector General and
Legal Counsel, Office of the Inspector General
David Maddox, Assistant Inspector General for
Management and Evaluation, Office of the Inspector
General
John Constance, Director, Office of Government
Relations and Public Affairs
Stephen Barr, Media Relations Director, Office of
Government Relations and Public Affairs
Treefa Aziz, Government Affairs Representative, Office
of Government Relations and Public Affairs
Sean Driscoll, Special Assistant, Office of Government
Relations and Public Affairs
Lora M. Rath, Deputy Director, Office of Compliance
and Enforcement
Jeffrey J. Morningstar, Director, Office of Information
Technology
John C. Meyer, Director, Office of Information
Management
Charles Greenfield, Program Counsel III, Office of
Program Performance
Joseph H. Green, Program Counsel III, Office of
Program Performance
David de la Tour, LSC, IFPTE Local 135
Stephanie Edelstein, LSC, IFPTE Local 135
Frank B. Strickland, Former Board Chairman

Richard Zorza, Zorza Associates

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Motions: 4, 13, 19

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (2:34 p.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN LEVI: This is a duly noticed meeting
4 of the Legal Services Corporation Board, with notice
5 having been published in the Federal Register on
6 December 23rd. And so I'm calling the meeting to
7 order. This is John Levi. I'm Chairman of the Board.
8 And I want to wish everybody a happy New Year.

9 DEAN MINOW: Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Can we have a motion to
11 approve the agenda?

12 M O T I O N

13 DEAN MINOW: I so move. Martha Minow.

14 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Second?

15 FATHER PIUS: Second from Father Pius.

16 MS. BROWNE: This is Sharon Browne. Second.

17 CHAIRMAN LEVI: All in favor?

18 (A chorus of ayes.)

19 CHAIRMAN LEVI: So the second item on the
20 agenda is the report of the Search Committee regarding
21 selection of a candidate for the position of LSC
22 President. And so in my dual role as chair of the

1 Board and chair of the Search Committee, I will give
2 the report.

3 But what I would like to suggest is that any
4 of the search members, when I'm done, if you wish to
5 supplement anything I've said or augment it, please do.

6 Be cognizant of the fact that we're on an open line as
7 it relates to that.

8 And let me just first thank the Committee and
9 the Advisory Committee. I've run many searches before.

10 This was an outstanding search, run with complete
11 confidentiality and integrity throughout the process.
12 And we had a first-class search run with the Heidrick
13 firm and through the hard work of a committee that made
14 itself available, weather notwithstanding, on many,
15 many occasions.

16 And particularly, for those of you who are
17 advisory members, we are so grateful to you. This is
18 not service that you had to give. You gave it
19 willingly and because you wanted to help LSC, and we
20 are all very grateful to you and to the Search
21 Committee for working so well together. I want to
22 congratulate you and thank you for doing just that.

1 Our search process, as you know, has a history
2 that LSC has conducted searches of this kind for the
3 President position over the years. We inherited that
4 process, and that process involved selecting a search
5 firm, and independent search firm, to help with the
6 process of finding an outstanding President for LSC.

7 When many of you joined the Board, a number of
8 you, that process was already moving -- in fact, in
9 some respects when I joined the Board, as Frank had
10 begun to put a process in place. But shortly after our
11 first group was confirmed in April or took office in
12 April, we issued an RFP and conducted a search for the
13 search firm, as you will recall, interviewing a number
14 of firms and ultimately choosing the Heidrick firm,
15 Ellen Brown and Dale Jones.

16 They came and actually met the Board in
17 Milwaukee. And following that, they came to Washington
18 and met with staff and leadership on more than one
19 occasion extensively throughout the building, they made
20 calls around the field, and through that effort put
21 together, with our help, a description for the position
22 of President of LSC and the qualifications that we were

1 looking for.

2 That resulted in a posting for the position.
3 Ads were taken in the American Bar Association National
4 Law Journal, Roll Call, the Hill, and on the LSC
5 website. During the early fall, I believe Heidrick has
6 told me that they had over 175 individuals who they
7 were in contact with as potential candidates or as
8 helpful sources for candidates. And ultimately, we
9 asked that people apply, I think by the end of October.

10 And by that time, we had 48 formal applications for
11 the position.

12 Through an extended period, then, in which
13 Heidrick conducted interviews, our Search Committee
14 decided, together with Heidrick and as the process
15 involved, to interview personally -- the Search
16 Committee to personally interview eight individuals for
17 the role.

18 That group included individuals with
19 corporate, law firm, government, public service
20 backgrounds. It was a group that had both gender and
21 racial diversity. Through additional interviews and a
22 thorough vetting process, one candidate was brought

1 forward as the unanimous choice of the Search
2 Committee.

3 Now, I want to say, before getting to that,
4 that we were very fortunate. I think others who have
5 conducted these searches for LSC in the past can say as
6 well that we were lucky to have an outstanding group of
7 applicants. The competition for the position was very
8 keen, and we were fortunate to have a number of really
9 wonderful possibilities.

10 So the fact that we were able to have a
11 unanimous choice is in some ways both a compliment to
12 the candidate, but also should not in any way diminish
13 the talents and strengths of the applicant pool and the
14 candidates that we were fortunate to meet.

15 So after our discussions and interviews, we
16 have decided to nominate to the Board for the position
17 of President a man by the name of James Sandman. He's
18 the former long-time Managing Partner at the law firm
19 of Arnold & Porter, where he was five times elected
20 Managing Partner, from 1995 to 2005, and since 2007 has
21 served as the General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer
22 for the District of Columbia Public Schools.

1 Throughout his career, Jim Sandman has worked
2 to promote pro bono legal services for low-income
3 Americans and to increase diversity in the legal
4 profession. He is a former President of the 90,000-
5 member District of Columbia Bar, and served for several
6 years, from 2000 to 2005, on the board of the
7 Neighborhood Legal Services program in D.C.

8 Mr. Sandman became General Counsel and Chief
9 Legal Officer for the D.C. Public Schools in 2007
10 following a 30-year career at Arnold & Porter, where
11 not only was he the Managing Partner from '95 to 2005,
12 but he also was the Managing Partner in the Los Angeles
13 office in the early '90s, and prior to that had worked
14 for a number of years in the Denver, Colorado office.

15 He's a Vice Chair of the D.C. Bar's Pro Bono
16 Committee and Chair of the Bar's Initiative Working
17 Group. He's been a member of the D.C. Bar's Board of
18 Governors from 2003 to 2008.

19 He's the current Co-Chair of the District of
20 Columbia Circuit Judicial Conference Committee on Pro
21 Bono Legal Services, and a member of the Pro Bono
22 Institute's Law Firm Pro Bono Project Advisory

1 Committee. As a member of the ABA, Mr. Sandman from
2 2007 to '08 served on the ABA's Standing Committee on
3 Pro Bono and Public Service. He's also Vice Chairman
4 of the Washington Performing Arts Society, and he's on
5 the boards of the International Senior Lawyers Project
6 and the Meyer Foundation.

7 He's been a member of the NALP Foundation
8 Board for Law Career Research and Education, a trustee
9 of Wilkes University, an overseer of the University of
10 Pennsylvania Law School, and a director and corporate
11 officer of the Whitman-Walker Clinic. He has also
12 served on the Scholarship Selection Committee of the
13 Minority Corporate Counsel Association.

14 In 2007, he received the University of
15 Pennsylvania Law School's Alumni Award of Merit, and
16 the Legal Times named him one of the 90 greatest
17 Washington lawyers of the last 30 years.

18 We are very, very fortunate to have -- I'm
19 sorry. I forgot. Mr. Sandman is a summa cum laude
20 graduate of Boston College, got a law degree from the
21 University of Pennsylvania cum laude, and then clerked
22 for the Third Circuit for Judge Max Rosenn. He's

1 married to Beth Mullen, who's the Executive Director of
2 Friends of Rock Creek's Environment, a nonprofit
3 organization. They have two children, and they reside
4 in the District.

5 As I said, Mr. Sandman had very strong
6 competition for this role. We salute and thank all of
7 those who applied for their interest in helping LSC and
8 the cause of equal justice in this country.

9 Jim Sandman is an outstanding choice for LSC
10 at this or any other time, and I'm thrilled to be able
11 to say that that is the report of the Committee. And
12 if there are members of the Committee that wish to say
13 anything else about this, please chime in at this time.

14 And after that, I'll ask that the report be adopted.

15 Any other members of the Committee want to say
16 anything? Doug Eakeley? Frank?

17 MR. EAKELEY: Well, as a member of the
18 Advisory Committee -- this is Doug Eakeley -- I just
19 wanted to say how privileged I felt to be asked to
20 participate, and how really amazing the process was and
21 the ultimate outcome.

22 MR. STRICKLAND: John, this is Frank speaking.

1 I would echo what Doug said. I think the search
2 process was one of integrity. I congratulate you on
3 doing an excellent job in chairing the Committee. I
4 agree with you that we had a great search consultant,
5 or two consultants, in the persons of Ellen Brown and
6 Dale Jones. They are both outstanding professionals.

7 We had a very strong applicant pool. I was
8 very pleased to see the depth and breadth of that pool.

9 And it was a real challenge for the Committee to sort
10 this out, and I think that the Committee as a group did
11 an outstanding job on that and came to a wonderful
12 result. I'm very pleased with the result, and fully
13 endorse the recommendation of the Committee.

14 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Any other member of the
15 Committee wish to speak?

16 MR. VICTOR MADDOX: John, it's Vic Maddox. I
17 just want to say that I certainly appreciate the level
18 of energy and dedication you've demonstrated over the
19 last, I don't know, six months, I guess, as we've been
20 through this process, and that we wouldn't be where we
21 are today, I don't think, without an extraordinary
22 amount of work and commitment on your part. And so I

1 just want to thank you for that.

2 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Thank you very much, Vic.

3 MR. STEIN: This is Bob. I'd like to, since
4 people are echoing, echo both Vic and also the --

5 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I think you just dropped.

6 MR. STEIN: -- work. This was a really good
7 process.

8 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Well, with that, and before it
9 gets too late here in terms of people's schedules,
10 could I have a motion to act on the recommendation?

11 M O T I O N

12 MS. REISKIN: Yes. This is Julie. I'll move
13 to support the recommendation.

14 PROFESSOR VALENCIA-WEBER: This is Gloria.
15 I'll second.

16 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Vic, do you want to as well?

17 MR. VICTOR MADDOX: I'll certainly move that
18 the full Board adopt the recommendation of the Search
19 Committee and vote to extend an offer of employment as
20 President to Mr. Jim Sandman.

21 DEAN MINOW: This is Martha Minow, and I
22 second.

1 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Okay. Well, I think it's been
2 double moved and double seconded. That's terrific.

3 Any discussion on the motion?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Well, hearing none, can I have
6 a vote? All in favor?

7 (A chorus of ayes.)

8 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN LEVI: We will offer the position to
11 Jim Sandman with great confidence in the future of LSC.

12 DEAN MINOW: Well done, John.

13 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Thank you very much. Thanks,
14 everyone. And my understanding is that he will accept,
15 and my further understanding is that he will be in a
16 position to start somewhere shortly after our annual
17 meeting. He has to work out some of the -- he is still
18 the general counsel of the D.C. schools, and he has to
19 give them the proper amount of time. But also, he is
20 on standby jury duty for the next two weeks and has to
21 call every afternoon to see whether he's on the jury.

22 So with those little wrinkles, I believe we're

1 going to be starting 2011 in very good shape. And I
2 will keep the Board posted.

3 MR. VICTOR MADDOX: Will he be at the annual
4 meeting, John, do you know?

5 CHAIRMAN LEVI: He will be at the annual
6 meeting. And in fact, I am in D.C. today, and shortly
7 will be taking Jim over to LSC to meet the senior staff
8 and employees at LSC.

9 DEAN MINOW: And John, let's talk about how
10 this will be announced, and if anyone has press calls,
11 to whom they should direct it, and so forth.

12 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Steve Barr at LSC has prepared
13 a draft release. And I would say that if you do get
14 questions, you should refer them to Steve. I have
15 unfortunately memorized both his office phone and his
16 cell phone, so I can give that to you if any of you
17 need it, (202) 295-1615. And I guess I won't put his
18 cell phone out on the open line. But I would suggest
19 that we refer any press inquiries to Steve.

20 DEAN MINOW: Very good.

21 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Any other business to come
22 before us today?

1 MS. BROWNE: Well, not business. But John,
2 could you send us a copy of the press release so that
3 we have that?

4 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Oh, definitely. Definitely,
5 Sharon. The press release will go to every Board
6 member as it gets finalized this afternoon. And I
7 don't know if Steve is on the line, by any chance, but
8 I assume it will be ready within the hour or so.

9 DEAN MINOW: And is this news embargoed, or
10 would you like -- I mean, this is a public meeting, so
11 obviously anyone in the public can know it.

12 CHAIRMAN LEVI: It's not news embargoed.

13 DEAN MINOW: Yes.

14 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I believe -- Steve, are you on
15 the line, by any chance?

16 MR. BARR: I am. That's correct, Mr.
17 Chairman.

18 CHAIRMAN LEVI: And what would be the normal
19 course here now?

20 MR. BARR: It's a public meeting, it's a
21 public announcement, and we'll have a press release out
22 shortly.

1 CHAIRMAN LEVI: When will your release go out?

2 MR. BARR: Probably within the next 30
3 minutes.

4 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Send the Board an advanced
5 copy. They would appreciate it.

6 MR. BARR: We'll do that.

7 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Okay. Can I also say that as
8 a result of this -- I've talked to Jim about this -- if
9 the Board is available, those of you who are and those
10 of you who aren't -- if you're having to jump through
11 hoops to do this, please don't worry about it; I know
12 he's had a chance to talk to most of you -- but on the
13 Wednesday evening before the Thursday that the board
14 starts its annual meeting, we will have a late
15 afternoon get-together with Jim Sandman and dinner with
16 him, and hope that most of you can make it in to have
17 that opportunity to meet with him.

18 MS. REISKIN: John, are we having the meetings
19 that --

20 PROFESSOR VALENCIA-WEBER: John, this is
21 Gloria.

22 MS. REISKIN: Oh, sorry. Go ahead.

1 PROFESSOR VALENCIA-WEBER: You mean Wednesday,
2 January 26?

3 CHAIRMAN LEVI: That's correct.

4 MS. REISKIN: Do we have any meetings that day
5 during the daytime?

6 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Not on Wednesday.

7 DEAN MINOW: So John, I'm sure we'll do this
8 at the board meeting -- it's Martha -- but I'd like to
9 just say with commendations to Vic Fortuno for his role
10 as Acting President during these many months.

11 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I'm so glad you said that
12 because we do need to recognize Vic. And maybe this is
13 a good time in addition to the annual meeting.

14 But he wore two hats, at least; I think
15 regularly he probably wears more than that anyway
16 because he's certainly the chief historian of LSC. And
17 during the past year, he has really performed yeoman's
18 work, and we are very, very grateful. I hope that Vic
19 knows that and knows how much we appreciate the work
20 that he's done and the work that I know that he'll
21 continue to do for LSC.

22 PRESIDENT FORTUNO: Well, thank you very much.

1 This is Vic. And you're all very kind.

2 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Well, and with that, can we
3 have a motion to adjourn?

4 M O T I O N

5 MS. MIKVA: This Laurie Mikva. So move.

6 PROFESSOR KECKLER: Charles Keckler. Second.

7 CHAIRMAN LEVI: All in favor?

8 (A chorus of ayes.)

9 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Thanks, everybody.

10 (Whereupon, at 2:56 p.m., the meeting was
11 adjourned.)

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