

WISCONSIN CORONER'S AND MEDICAL EXAMINER'S ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2008
WAUSAU, WI

ATTENDANCE: Board Members: President Al Klimek, 1st Vice-President Laurie Parisey, 2nd Vice-President Jenifer Keach, Secretary Jon Hagen, Trustee's John Stanley, John Larson and Mike Jesse, Sergeant-at-Arms Scott Rifleman, Past-President Traci England.

Others attending: Melissa Haverley, Richard Schleifer, Joe Morovits, Jonn Dinnies, Ray Wosepka, Kevin King, Pat Theder.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Klimek at 1815 hours. An attendance sheet was passed. Everyone present introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 28, 2007: A **motion** was made and seconded (Stanley/Larson) to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2007 meeting. Passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Al Klimek. Is encouraged by communication among the membership. He anticipates a good winter conference. He continues to remain focused on legislative issues.

1st VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Laurie Parisey. Has assisted with the website and with the winter conference. She will be in charge of issuing certificates for those attending the winter conference, and does have certificates for those needing ABMDI credits from the summer 2007 conference. She also is active with WCMEA merchandise.

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jenifer Keach. Worked on the conference, securing speakers and arranging for sponsorship of the Monday evening social event, which is a "Casino Night" that is being sponsored by RTI, ATSF and the Lions Eye Bank.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Jon Hagen. Will continue to e-mail board members these meeting minutes shortly after the conference, to help insure accuracy while the information is still fresh in everyone's mind.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None. Tom Wastart II did not attend the meeting.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: John Larson. Marathon County is again hosting the winter conference this year. John provided directions to the technical college and advised that a shuttle service will be offered from the hotel.

John Stanley. John still is working on non-profit status for the WCMEA.

Mike Jesse. Nothing to report.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Scott Rifleman. Nothing to report.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Kelly McAndrews. Kelly called and said that due to the extreme fog and dangerous travel conditions, she is unable to attend the meeting.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Traci England. The conference came together nicely, although there was a speaker cancellation on short notice. John Stanley will fill that slot with a legislation update to the membership. As of last week, 47 people had registered, although more are anticipated. Eight vendors have signed up. "Casino Night" will be held on Monday night for a social activity, sponsored by ATSF, RTI and the Lion's Eye Bank. Discussion of moving winter conference back later in January, and discussion of potential conflicts. 25 people did take the ABMDI test earlier today, administered by Roberta Geiselhart. Summer conference will be June 1-4, 2008, hosted by Green Lake County.

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY: Jon Hagen. Thanks to RTI for their continued support of The Examiner, the quarterly publication of the WCMEA. Howard Fischer, webmaster, did not attend the meeting. Some problems with the website, which Howard has worked very hard on. Howard will be consulted about resolving some issues regarding the site.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: John Stanley. John will provide conference attendees with a legislative update. **John will provide a copy of his information, which will be attached to these minutes.**

A revision of 979 is anticipated. Discussion was heard about creating a medical-legal death investigation board. Any mandatory training for coroners and medical examiners will be paid for by the state, and a two-year period will be granted before certification is required. Al, Scott and John continue to work with Alice O'Connor, keeping an eye on legislative issues. John thanked Al and Scott for their extra work as he tended to some personal business. Alice is still on a retainer.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Marc Playman, who had been the chair of this committee, has retired as Medical Examiner of Columbia County. WCMEA by-laws state that committee chairman must be actively working in the profession. Al asked for input. John Stanley said that the membership position is not a board position and the association used to try to keep committee chairs as board members, and that it is advantageous to have a board member in that position. Angela Hinze, Playman's successor as ME of Columbia County, reportedly is willing to take over as chairperson of the Membership Committee, but she is not present at this meeting to discuss this with her. Traci England supports supporting the by-laws and having an active C/ME as the chair of this committee. Al will appoint someone to chair this committee. Discussion to have the 2nd Vice-President handle these duties; the 1st Vice-President is active with the Education

Committee. The membership year is now fiscal, from June-June **but there is concern if this was ever approved by the general membership.**

MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE: Laurie Parisey. She recently took over this committee, which was formerly handled by Barry Tomaras. Laurie ordered about \$3000 worth of merchandise for the winter conference. Merchandise may be paid for by cash, check or by issuing an invoice; no credit cards are accepted.

A **motion** was made and seconded (Larson/Rifleman) to accept the committee reports. Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: 25 people took the ABMDI test today. Discussion of possibly offering it again at next year's winter conference.

CEU's will be on all WCMEA conference certificates, starting in June, 2008. ABMDI requirements dictate accurate sign in for each session of the conference for those seeking credits. Certificates will not be given out before the end of the conference.

Lap top computers. Jon has returned the WCMEA lap top that he had. Previously, money was allocated to upgrade this computer, but it was not done (Jon has purchased a personal lap top computer that he will use). John Stanley did not get the other WCMEA computer upgraded, either. Marc Playman did purchase Quicken. We do need to upgrade our equipment, so that speaker's presentations are able to be viewed by those attending. This was a problem at the summer, 2007 conference.

Discussion was heard to establish a committee to look at standard operating guidelines for WCMEA members statewide. Upcoming legislation will dictate some standardization, and this committee could make recommendations. Those interested in being on this committee are Jenifer Keach, Scott Rifleman, Paul Mattlin (Portage County) and Traci England. Jenifer asked for WCMEA members to submit their policies and procedures to help get the ball rolling. Mention was made that every county should at least have basic guidelines in place in the meantime. More discussion is anticipated at the next Board of Director's meeting, anticipated in late February or early March.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion about HIPAA concerns from some hospital staff regarding potential OPO referrals. John Stanley will discuss this with Dr. D'Allesandro and see if he can offer suggestions as to how this could be overcome. Martha Mallon will also be consulted.

John Larson informed the Board of an opportunity to attend a mass casualty and terrorism training session in Israel this coming June. John is asking that the WCMEA provide him with \$2000 for this training; Marathon County is also providing \$2000. In return, John will make a presentation at the 2009 Winter Conference on this subject. Al will discuss this with the other trustee's. John asked that the decision be made during the upcoming conference, as he needs to have a down payment in by mid-January. Tom Wastart is not at the conference, as some members did inquire as to the current financial status of the

association. At the summer 2007 conference, WCMEA did provide two \$500 scholarships to members. A **motion** was made and seconded (Theder/Keach) that the trustees review the request and report back to the Board as soon as possible. Passed on a voice vote.

Ray Wosepka asked that a TV be available during the Casino Night festivities, as the BCS National Championship game (Ohio State vs. LSU) will be played that night. Ray was assured that a TV will be nearby.

A **motion** was made and seconded (England/Keach) to adjourn the meeting at 1937 hours. Passed unanimously on voice vote.

ONGOING BUSINESS: Need to address changing the “membership year” from June-June at the annual meeting at the Summer Conference, June 2008.

Respectfully submitted for review,

Jon K. Hagen, RN, BSN, D-ABMDI
January 7, 2008