

Wisconsin Coroner's and Medical Examiner's Association

Board of Directors Meeting

Jefferson Street Inn, Wausau, WI

Sunday April 6, 2014 1700 hours

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Barry Irmen at 1700 hours. An attendance sheet was passed around. Those attending: President Barry Irmen (Dane), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Jen Schroeter (Kenosha), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Mary Ricci (Barron), Treasurer Bob Kulhanek (Sheboygan), Secretary Laurie Parisey (Oconto), Three year Trustee Al Klimek (Door), Two year Trustee John Larson (Marathon), 1 year Trustee Jay Deppe (Jefferson), Sergeant-at-Arm's Amy DeMeter (Door), Member-at-Large Joe Morovits (Crawford), Past President P J Schoebel (Dodge), Legislation Committee Scott Rifleman (Portage), Tom O'Connor (Fon du lac), Rory Groessl (Kewaunee), Sherri Arlen (Marathon), Lobbyist Chris Lenzendorf.

AGENDA is presented to all present by Barry Irmen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion (AI/PJ) was made to approve the Board of Director meeting minutes from the January 17, 2014 meeting. Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

PRESENTATION: Lobbyist Chris Lenzendorf updated the board on the status of the AB530 Bill. If anyone wants to watch the proceedings from our hearing, it is available online at [www.wiseeye.org](http://www.wiseeye.org). The Bill went well but kept getting put off. They went to speak to leadership and had to jump hoops to find out some members were intentionally stalling. Voss and Weininger said that the Bill would not move on due to Amy Sue having her name on the Bill. (There are politicians against her). Chris and Frank were given "rules" to follow. As of now, the Bill looks good as is and it is considered to be constitutional. The Counties Association and the Badger Sheriff's Association was not happy with the mandatory training for elected officials that may affect other offices so we may need to just take that part out to clear up any problems. Also, Amy Sue cannot be the author although we would somehow find a way to give her credit for all her work.

Bill Kramer was the Assembly leader but will not be running again. Tyler August is rumored to be taking his place and it appears that Robin Voss will continue next session as the Speaker. August and Voss would be considered the leadership for the Republican Caucus. Chris and Frank are looking for Kleefisch and Loudenberg to be authors of our Bill in the Assembly while looking to Lassee to author the Senate.

There was a question from the group regarding the Federal guidelines being set vs the State right now. The Federal guidelines are just advisory. If we get something in place, we would follow what we have. There are still some counties that do not support the training but they don't understand that the funding

would be covered by the State. Other concerns were being able to take time off work to attend the training.

Now that this session is ended, the State will be in an election cycle working towards the November elections. The Bill should be ready to go in again for December 2014 so when the next session begins in January 2015 we will be on top of it. Hopefully, it will be moved along the system and passed by May 2015. The fees would be ended at this time and started back up in December 2014 at half the cost to only \$2,000/month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Barry Irmen states he has been very busy working on the legislative issues. He has met with several groups to discuss the AB530 Bill. Public Health is working to see that every county has a Mass Fatality Plan. We need to cover the liability of assisting other counties if mutual aid is needed. We need to look for something similar for the Medical Examiner/Coroner offices as well. We are not set up for this as other agencies are. Responders would need to be ID to insure they have the necessary requirements/qualifications for what they are being called in to assist with, etc...

1<sup>st</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT: Jen Schroeder reports that we have 61 registered for this conference and 12 vendors. ATSF is sponsoring the John Larson Roast on Monday night. Marathon County Jessica and Sherri will be helping get everything set up. There will be a Pub Crawl on Tuesday night for anyone interested in going. Barry took care of the giveaways.

2<sup>nd</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT: Mary Ricci reports ABMDI accreditation has approved 17 credits for this conference. Credits will now have to be submitted at least 60 days in advance and there is no exception. Some discussion was held on why is it so difficult to get ABMDI to work with our organization to get these credits. When we go through the technical college there is no problem at all. She also did look into the Funeral Director Association and found that their accreditation requirements are very strict and does not feel that our training will qualify. She didn't get ahold of the Wisconsin Nursing Association to see how nurses can use our accreditation to their benefit but will be doing that soon.

SECRETARY REPORT: Laurie Parisey - none.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Kulhanek. We received a handout showing the financial status of WCMEA as follows: Balance on hand as of: 07/01/2013 \$67,078.08

03/31/2014 \$53,874.27

Bob reminds the group that the balance shown is an unstable balance as there are many conference bills still outstanding. Several members have not paid for the conference yet along with a couple vendors. He does not believe that we will come out ahead on this conference. Bob also states that the LaCrosse (October 2014) conference will be very expensive and is asking for everyone to think of ways we can save (i.e. meals, breaks, going to 1 vs 2 conferences per year, working with more vendors and asking for more sponsorships, night events). More discussion was held to include returning to Wausau Technical

College and partner up with them and stay at an offsite hotel and having a Conference Committee. Barry, Bob, and Jen will look at some pricing. Another option could be going back to the old schedule of January being the basic type training for “new” coroners/medical examiners and have the “big” annual meeting the third week of June.

A motion was made by (John/AI) to hold the 2015 Annual Meeting in June. Passed unanimously on a voice vote. It will be put on the agenda at the October 2014 Annual Meeting. Staying with 2 conferences per year will also be brought to the membership.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS REPORT: Amy DeMeter reports that the merchandise is set up and ready.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Joe Morovitz –none.

TRUSTEE’S REPORT: 3 year Trustee Al Klimek- none, 2 year Trustee John Larson - none, 1 year Trustee Jay Deppe - none.

PAST-PRESIDENT REPORT: PJ Schoebel (Dodge) – none.

LEGISLATIVE: Scott Rifleman reports he has nothing more to add to presentation information.

A motion (Barry/Jay) was made to continue to pay the Lobbyist the April balance due of \$4,000 and begin payments again in December 2014 through May 2015 at the lower rate offered to the WCMEA of \$2,000. Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

INFORMATION/TECHNOLOGY: Barry Irmien – none.

NEWSLETTER: Jennifer Schroeder - none

MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE: Amy DeMeter – none.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE: Barry reports he will follow up with the board later.

APPROVAL OF OFFICER and COMMITTEE REPORTS: A motion (Laurie/AI) was made to approve the committee reports. Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Will be checking through the email addresses again to get out the conference information to everyone.

The current Constitution Bylaws will be sent out via email for approval at the Annual Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

AI discussed some issues regarding the Release of Death Information regarding the cause and manner of death. Some parts of the death certificate are restricted as for cause while the manner of death is considered public. As an organization we need to work with the counties corporate council and get them on board to be on the same page especially regarding toxicology issues. We need to look at standardization on what information can be released. The AG office can come in and present (open records).

The October Conference is done.

Mass fatality work is completed.

Next Board of Directors Meeting is set for Friday, July 11, 2014 at 5:00pm in Stevens Point.

We need to watch the schedule for elections/nominations deadlines and have closed by next board meeting.

Another concern is how to handle refunds for members that pay for conference and have a serious medical problem. Should work on a policy to cover.

A motion (PJ/Joe) to adjourn the meeting at **1918** hours. Passed unanimously on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary Laurie Parisey, ABMDI

Oconto County Chief Deputy Medical Examiner