

MONTANA CORONERS' ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

November 2, 2021

The Montana Coroners' Association Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Past President Wynn Meehan via zoom. Members present were Past President Wynn Meehan, President Andy LeBrun, Secretary-Treasurer Jace Dicken, Jessie Billquist-Jette, Dick Brown, Trenton Harbaugh, Steve Holton, and Dan Whitted. Sibley Jankoviak was unable to attend.

MINUTES:

Dan made a motion the minutes of the last meeting be approved and Steve seconded the motion with all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The checking account balance is \$2,273.32 and the Stanley-Morgan investment account is \$41,218.62. The 2021 conference expenses are as follows: speaker fees \$15,652, scholarships \$1,000, registration recording fees \$1,000 and credit card fees \$60. This came to a grand total of \$17,791.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jace reported that at the annual meeting there was a motion to create a Standing Legislative Committee with a 2-year term consisting of 6 members, one from each district. He has only one name submitted so far and we need to try and recruit members from the remaining 5 districts.

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 Convention:

Steve has contacted the Hilton West in Billings and also the Billings Convention Center where we met in 2020. Both facilities were interested, but he did not have their actual quotes yet. Steve felt the Billings Convention Center was the most economical and they already reserved the dates of May 1-3, 2022. They do not charge for the conference rooms if we purchase their meals and they accept state rates, which are either \$102 or \$107. The other wanted \$900/day for conference rooms previously. Trent made a motion to choose the one with the cheapest rates and Dick seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

Speakers:

The training committee for obtaining speakers is Jessie, Trent, Andy and Dan. Dan has contacted an FBI speaker and if the committee is interested he will followup with him. Jace made a motion to allow the training committee to spend up to \$5,000 for speakers without board approval. Dick seconded the motion, which was approved by the majority. Jessie reported that Buck Heron from Image Trend has grant money available for Image Trend presenters and they may be able to help defray some speaker expenses. It was also noted that the Crime Lab also has grant money available. We will look into these options also.

OTHER:

POST:

It was noted that Perry Johnson has retired from POST and the new director is Eric Gilbertson.

Medical Examiner/Crime Lab:

Dr. Kurtzman is going to retire in May. Dick feels we need to meet with Dr. Kurtzman and that MCA should have input on who replaces him. The interim laboratory director is Travis Spindler. Travis said turnaround time would improve but that is not happening. Toxicology reports are 10 weeks out in Missoula. MCA needs to push to get a toxicology lab in Billings, where reports are now 12 weeks out which is unacceptable. The labs in Missoula and Billings do not handle cases the same way.

Past President position:

Wynn is not going to run for sheriff/coroner again and is looking at other job opportunities. If he leaves we will have 2 past president positions unfilled. There was a discussion about calling in a previous past president to fill the position. Wynn feels there are several MCA members that would make good board members and he named several from people from Rosebud, Carbon, Lewis & Clark and Teton counties. Dick said they would be good board members, but a past president HAS to be a past president.

Memorial for Dr. Jack Henneford:

Jace reported he sent \$100 to the Henneford family and received a nice letter stating that they gave the money to the library where Jack went frequently in later years.

Date of next board meeting:

The week of January 16-22 was chosen with a tentative in-person meeting on January 22, depending on the weather, and site to be chosen later. If the weather looks bad we will have a zoom meeting on January 16.

Trent made a motion the meeting be adjourned. This motion was seconded and approved and the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Farmer, Recording Secretary