

MINUTES OF THE PRE-CONVENTION BOARD MEETING OF THE MISSOURI
COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RADISSON HOTEL IN BRANSON, MISSOURI

SEPTEMBER 23, 2005

The pre-convention board meeting of the MCRA Board of Directors was called to order at 10:15 a.m. on Friday, September 23rd, 2005, at the Radisson Hotel in Branson, Missouri.

The Board members in attendance were Rhonda Laurentius, President; Pat Manners, President Elect; Sandy Stewart, Vice President; Angie Culler, Treasurer; Betsy Gromowsky, Secretary; Faith Olliges, Region I Vice President; Richard Grigg, Region II Vice President; Tiffany Hughes, Region III Vice President; Brett Harrison, Region IV Vice President.

Laurie Shingle of NCRA was also present, as well as Diana Taylor, Budget and Finance Committee, and incoming MCRA Secretary Dawn McTeer.

Carrie Kordahl, Region V Vice President, was unable to attend.

President Laurentius called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. She introduced and welcomed the guests in attendance and called for a motion to ratify all email votes conducted since the last board meeting of June 4th, 2005.

RATIFICATION OF EMAIL VOTES

MOTION/STEWART: I move the Board ratify the following email votes:

- The 2005 convention registration rate for MCRA retiree\honorary members is to be \$120, and the registration rate for associate members is to be \$165;
- That \$3,604, which is 10 % of all dues collected as of June 15, 2005, be rolled over into the Certificate of Deposit on September 16, 2005, the maturity date for the CD;
- That MCRA retain MaryAnne Brooks to prepare the 2005 MCRA Convention registration documents and name tags. Further, that the board approve and accept her proposed estimated cost of approximately \$500 figured at her customary rate for nonprofit organizations of \$20 per hour for clerical work or \$2.50 additional per attendee. This service is to include preparation of the database of registrants, numbering for silent auction, preparing name badges and preparing and organizing meal tickets to insert into name badges;
- That MCRA comp three meal tickets for the DSA recipient's family at the Branson Convention;
- That we approve for membership the list of names we have been provided as follows:

Tiffany Bowers, Student
Tony Burlingame, Active
Vicki S. Clark, Active
Terri Corbett, Active
Sarah M. Davis, Student
Julie Del Percio, Active
Melissa Ingram, Student
Yelonda Jones, Student
Karen Lyman, Active
Kimberly McBride, Student
Natalie Moore, Student
Patricia Nichols, Student
Jill Renfro, Active
Sharon Rogers, Active
Connie Shackelford, Student
Patti Snider, Active
Susan L. Steen, Active
Diane Woolery, Active
Debbie Wren, Student
Dan Cunningham, Retiree, which will take his name off the delinquent dues list;

- That the remaining stock of denim and turtleneck MCRA shirts be donated to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

2006 MCRA CONVENTION

Discussion was held regarding the 2006 MCRA Convention to be held in Kansas City, Missouri. Proposed dates of the 2006 convention are September 29 and 30. A list of volunteers and suggested names for appointment to the convention committee will be compiled by incoming Region II Vice President Kathy Foley, and a hotel site will be expeditiously chosen. In light of this discussion and ongoing committee appointments, the following motion was made:

MOTION/STEWART: I move to rescind the previous motion to hold the 61st MCRA Convention at the Westin Crown Center Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, pending further negotiation.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Laurentius next called for a motion approving the minutes of the June 4, 2005 MCRA Board Meeting.

MOTION/GRIGG: I move we approve the minutes of the June 4, 2005 Board Meeting and post same to MCRA's website.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

Discussion was held regarding convention registration reimbursement requests.

MOTION/CULLER: I move MCRA refund to Sheila Travis her \$50 registration fee due to a family emergency.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

MOTION/GRIGG: I move the Board not approve the request of Shana Crane at this time for registration reimbursement.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Laurentius updated the Board on the NCRA Convention and NCSA Meeting. She also provided each member with a hard copy of the previously approved MCRA response to the letter of petition received by the Missouri Supreme Court, the Board of Certified Court Reporters Examiners and the MCRA Board regarding CCR certification.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT ELECT

President Elect Manners reported 17 students were registered to attend convention, and the student sponsorship response was strong. Each student will receive the 50-page publication of "MCRA's 2005 School of Hard Knocks, Sage Advice for the Next Generation."

President Elect Manners also discussed with the Board the accessibility and pricing of convention photos to be made available to the membership to be taken by Judge Stephen Nixon, our convention photographer.

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Vice President Stewart discussed with the Board the current status of the MCRA store inventory and the 2005 MCRA 60th Anniversary commemorative items now available.

MOTION/HUGHES: I move MCRA reimburse Sandy Stewart the amount of \$1,206 for inventory purchased.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

MOTION/HARRISON: I move MCRA reimburse Sandy Stewart \$823.55 for the purchase of 199 etched martini glasses which are being included as part of the registration packet at the 2005 MCRA Convention as a commemorative piece of each dinner setting.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Treasurer Culler provided a copy of the Treasurer's Report to each member of the board, reflecting the latest financial figures including:

- Checking Account Balance: \$33,019.01
- Certificate of Deposit: \$51,054.80

Treasurer Culler also provided a copy of the current 2005 Convention Registration Report to each member of the Board.

REPORT OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Immediate Past President Ballew expressed her appreciation to her fellow board members who served with her during her years of board service.

Immediate Past President Ballew submitted the slate of officers for 2006 proposed by the Nominating Committee as follows:

Patricia Manners, President
Sandy Stewart, President Elect
Betsy Gromowsky, Vice President
Dawn McTeer, Secretary
Angie Culler, Treasurer

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Secretary Gromowsky submitted the names of additional applicants who applied for membership in conjunction with their convention registration and discussion followed.

MOTION/GRIGG: I move the board approve the applications for membership of:
Victoria Hammett, Active
Cindy Messina, Active
Jeanne Phelan, Active

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

REGIONAL REPORTS

REPORT OF REGION I VICE PRESIDENT

Region I Vice President Olliges directed the Board to her current regional report in the 2005 convention packet.

REPORT OF REGION II VICE PRESIDENT

Region II Vice President Grigg directed the Board to his current regional report in the 2005 convention packet and thanked the Board for their assistance during his year of service. Vice President Grigg announced Kathy Foley will serve as Region II Vice President in 2006.

REPORT OF REGION III VICE PRESIDENT

Region III Vice President Hughes advised and updated the Board regarding the array of special events and fundraisers to take place during the convention and thanked her co-hosting members of the Board, Sandy Stewart and Brett Harrison, for their hard work. Special thanks was given to Faith Olliges and President Laurentius for their work with the registration and convention packets.

Vice President Hughes expressed her ongoing dedication to the association as she leaves the Board this year. Vice President Hughes announced Stephanie Prewitt will serve as Region III Vice President in 2006.

REPORT OF REGION IV VICE PRESIDENT

Region IV Vice President Harrison directed the Board to his current regional report in the 2005 convention packet and expressed his gratitude to Region III Vice President Hughes for her energetic and diligent efforts in co-hosting this year's convention and Vice President Stewart for her tireless dedication to the event.

REPORT OF REGION V VICE PRESIDENT

Region V Vice President Carrie Kordahl's current regional report is included in the 2005 convention packet. Brenda Wills-Christensen will serve as Region V Vice President in 2006.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion was held regarding the previous miscommunication in reporting a vacancy for Chief Examiner East, and the following motion was made:

MOTION/OLLIGES: I move that we rescind prior board appointment of Debbie Kriegshauser as Chief Examiner East.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business offered for discussion.

COMMENTS FROM NCRA REPRESENTATIVE SHINGLE

President Laurentius acknowledged NCRA Representative Laurie Shingle who addressed the Board as follows:

“I would like to thank you all for having me here. I’m at your disposal. If there is anything I can do to help during convention, ask me. I know how hectic it gets. I will be glad to help. NCRA Headquarters is glad to answer any questions, weekends, whenever. I thank you for your service too. State associations couldn’t do what they do without people like you who volunteer time and effort. Thank you on behalf of NCRA.”

President Laurentius announced the next meeting of the MCRA Board would take place Saturday, September 24th, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. At that time the Board will again convene at the Radisson Hotel, Branson, Missouri, for the post-convention meeting.

APPROVAL OF DAY-TO-DAY EXPENSES

President Laurentius called for a motion for approval of the day-to-day expenses.

MOTION/GRIGG: I move we authorize the president to approve the day-to-day expenses of this board until the September 24, 2005 board meeting.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

SPECIAL THANKS

On behalf of the MCRA Board and the Association, President Laurentius acknowledged outgoing MCRA Board Members Ballew, Hughes and Grigg and thanked them for their time given to service.

ADJOURNMENT

President Laurentius called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION/OLLIGES: Motion to adjourn.

MOTION SECONDED. There being no further discussion, President Laurentius called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion Carries.

The September 23, 2005, pre-convention meeting of the MCRA Board was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Gromowsky, MCRA Secretary