

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH BOARD MEETING  
AT THE MSHSAA, COLUMBIA, MISSOURI  
MARCH 18, 2007**

The March Board meeting of the MCRA Board of Directors was called to order at 10:18 a.m. on March 18, 2007. The Board members in attendance were:

Sandy Stewart, President;  
Pat Manners, Immediate Past President;  
Angie Culler, President Elect;  
Tiffany Hughes, Vice President;  
Dawn McTeer, Secretary;  
Faith Olliges, Region I Vice President;  
Gail Conaway, Region II Vice President;  
Stephanie Prewitt, Region III Vice President;  
Elaine Matthews, Region V Vice President.

Diana Taylor was also present.

Members not present were:

Brett Harrison, Treasurer;  
Tracie Brumley, Region IV Vice President.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Stewart called for a motion to approve the pre-convention and post-convention minutes.

**MOTION/HUGHES:** I make a motion to approve the minutes of the pre-convention Board meeting and post-convention.

**MOTION SECONDED:** There being no further discussion, President Stewart called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

**RATIFICATION OF E-MAIL VOTES**

President Stewart called for a motion to ratify the e-mail votes.

**MOTION/HUGHES:** I make a motion to ratify the e-mail votes which were to pay the invoice to the Westin, revise dues renewal and increase dues, the Events Coordinator contract, legislative boot camp fees for Angie, registration, meals and parking, approval for Legislative Committee to look into a page rate increase.

**MOTION SECONDED:** There being no further discussion, President Stewart called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Stewart reported to the Board that MaryAnne Brooks, Events Coordinator, had tendered her resignation. A copy of Ms. Brooks' letter of resignation was distributed to the Board.

Future issues of Progress will be prepared in a printed format. Sandy Stewart and Dawn McTeer will serve as the task force to investigate a more cost effective means to publish the Progress. The deadline for written submissions for the next issue of Progress is May 1. The Region VPs were encouraged to write an article for publication in the next issue of Progress. Tiffany Hughes will serve as the Progress Advertising Editor for the rest of this year.

President Stewart received information regarding the Missouri Bar Conference to be held at Tan-Tar-A May 31 through June 2, 2007. In order for MCRA to be an exhibitor, there would be a cost of \$325, \$400 after April 1, \$100 to include a flier in the portfolio, \$50 for a specialty item with an MCRA logo. There are sponsorship levels ranging from \$1,000 to \$50. There was discussion about MCRA participating as an exhibitor at the conference.

The Solo and Small Firm Conference will be held at Tan-Tar-A June 7 through June 9, 2007. MCRA will be putting on a presentation called, "The Other Professional in the Room: Why the court reporter is your friend in depositions and trial." It will be held on June 7, 2007, at 1:00 p.m.

President Stewart called for a motion to approve a PAC donation by MCRA to the PAC Committee.

**MOTION/CULLER:** I would make a motion we donate \$1,000 of MCRA funds to the PAC Committee in care of Linda Dattilo.

**MOTION SECONDED:** There being no further discussion, President Stewart called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

President Stewart presented the legislative report to the Board. House Bill 826 addresses a page rate increase for official court reporters from 1.50 to 2.25 a page for an original and from 35 cents to 70 cents a page for a copy. It has been brought out and read twice. House Bill 1075 concerns depositions by non-CCRs. It states that, if all parties agree, a deposition reported by a non-CCR is admissible in court. It has been read twice. Neither bill is scheduled for the next step.

Updated expense forms were provided to the Board. Dues renewal forms were disseminated to the Region VPs to update their mailing and e-mail lists.

There was discussion regarding updates and changes to the Policy and Procedure Manual. President Stewart expressed her appreciation and gratitude to Diana Taylor for her service as an advisor and mentor to President Stewart.

President Stewart called for a motion to approve the changes recommended by the By-Laws Committee to the Policy and Procedures Manual.

**MOTION/OLLIGES:** I'll make a motion that we approve the recommendations of the By-Laws Committee of March 9, 2007, regarding the Policy and Procedures Manual update.

**MOTION SECONDED:** There being no further discussion, President Stewart called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

After brief discussion regarding the NCSA annual meeting, it was decided the Board would vote via e-mail if the MCRA elects to send a delegate.

Diana Taylor addressed the Board and updated them on the NCRA by-laws amendment that would allow NCRA members to vote electronically. NCRA has contacted all state organizations in order to gauge their support or opposition with regard to this issue. President Stewart will draft and submit a letter to the NCRA conveying MCRA's support of the amendment.

There was brief discussion regarding a proposal to offer a one and a half day mid-year seminar in June of 2008 worth 10 points.

### **PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPORT**

President Elect Culler reported that she had a great time at boot camp. Senate Bill 675 is now in the Senate Committee. It is a five-year bill that would grant \$100,000,000 to the captioning field for educational and training purposes in order to satisfy the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that by the year 2006 all television communications be captioned.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

President Elect Culler presented Treasurer Harrison's report to the Board. She reported that there was:

Member dues balance due of	\$ 9,120.00
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Checking account balance of	\$46,780.69
Retired member publication income	\$ 350.00
RPR/CRR income	\$ 954.00
Expenses for Progress publication	\$ 1,180.00
CD balance as of 2/28	\$56,887.99

President Elect Culler advised the Board to use the tax exempt letter when making purchases in order to curb costs. The budget report of the Budget Committee was provided to the Board, and there was a brief presentation to the Board regarding the report. There was discussion by the Board of an interactive map to be posted on the web site to show the availability of free-lance reporters by county and city as a means of advertising revenue for MCRA.

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Vice President Hughes reported that she plans to organize two trivia nights as fund-raising events. They will be held in the mid-Missouri area. She will provide cartoon bags and name tags for the MCRA Store at convention.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Dawn McTeer listed one new student member, Elizabeth Hetager, and one member, Eleanor Quinn, for change to retired status for approval by the Board.

President Stewart called for a motion for approval of the student membership application and the request for change to retired status.

**MOTION/OLLIGES:** I'd make a motion that we approve our student member Elizabeth Hetager.

**MOTION SECONDED:** There being no further discussion, President Stewart called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION/OLLIGES:** I move that we approve retirement status for Eleanor Quinn.

**MOTION SECONDED:** There being no further discussion, President Stewart called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

### **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Immediate Past President Manners is looking for candidates who would be willing to serve on the Board.

There was discussion regarding the status of the MCRA credit card. President Elect Culler stated that in the future, if there's ever an MCRA credit card in existence, the treasurer should be responsible for not only canceling the card, but cutting the card up. Diana Taylor indicated that will be included in the Policy and Procedures Manual.

### **REGION I VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Region I Vice President Olliges reported that Region I held a post-holiday party and the region realized profits from that. There was a career day held on behalf of the region for middle schoolers at the Parkway School District. There will be a meeting of the Convention Committee in two weeks. The convention will be held on September 27, 28, 29, 2007, at the Sheraton Westport Plaza. Region I hosted a Trivia night on March 3. There were \$1,400 in profits gained from the event. Members were able to earn .02 CEU points approved by NCRA.

### **REGION II VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Region II Vice President Conaway reported that Region II is working on organizing a trivia night at The Brick in Kansas City. It will tentatively be held in April on a Saturday afternoon. She would like to plan an event for students in order to attract new student members.

### **REGION III VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Region III Vice President Prewitt had nothing to report. If Vice President Hughes plans a trivia night, she will encourage the Region III membership to attend.

### **REGION IV VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

No report given.

### **REGION V VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Region V Vice President Matthews discussed with the Board a matter regarding court procedure brought to her attention by a member of her region.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No report given.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No report given.

President Stewart will check on the progress of Treasurer Harrison and Region IV Vice President Brumley prior to scheduling the June Board meeting.

President Stewart called for a motion authorizing the President to pay the day-to-day expenses.

**MOTION/OLLIGES:** I move that we authorize the President to pay the day-to-day expenses until our next Board meeting.

**MOTION SECONDED:** There being no further discussion, President Stewart called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

The March 18, 2007, meeting of the MCRA Board was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn McTeer, MCRA Secretary