

**MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
Meeting by Phone Conference  
June 22, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

9:03 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Melinda Dexter, President-Elect; Dawn Houghton, Secretary-Treasurer; Cheryl Anne Farmer, Executive Assistant; Tammy Nielson, Director; Laurel Jacoby, Director; Annette Blough, Director; Robert Smith, Director; Elsa Jorgensen, Director; Sharon Kandt, Director; Paul Brandell, Past President.

SIGN ANTITRUST DOCUMENT

Form signed and emailed to Cheryl Anne.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** There was no President's message. Melinda made an announcement that Sharon Kandt was named NCRA's Educator of the Year. There were congratulations all around.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Reading and approval of Minutes from April 27, 2013 – Tammy Nielson made a correction in the roll call. She was not at the meeting. Laurel Jacoby made a motion to approve the minutes; Paul Brandell seconded. Motion passed.

1, 4, 5, 9 and 10 were pulled for the consent agenda. Paul Brandell made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Robert Smith seconded. Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Convention/Seminar (Dexter, Jorgensen) - Cheryl Anne indicated the Kalamazoo attendance is worse than ever and it is adding too much expense. The TRAIN session was discussed. Mindy Dexter is going to National to get info on TRAIN. Dawn Houghton offered her Kalamazoo location for the TRAIN. Mindy Dexter suggested we advertise our convention in the JCR. Cheryl Ann will look into it. Cheryl Anne indicated the brochures will be done within the week. Cheryl Anne indicated the realtime speed contest rules have changed and that Cecil Gordon may not be able to administer the test. Cheryl Anne will email Cecil to find out for sure. Sharon Kandt and Robert Smith indicated they could help. Cheryl Anne reserved April 26 for the spring seminar in Howell.
2. Executive Director's Report (Farmer) - Approved.
3. Fundraising (Jorgensen, Jacoby) - Approved.
4. Membership (Nierenberger, Smith) – Paul Brandell had a conversation with Matt Carroll regarding lapsed membership. Matt will become a member. Cheryl Anne will send a list of firm owners to Paul who will put together an email package that covers what MAPCR is trying to do to get people to come back.

Robert Smith indicated Anissa wants to do a congratulations letter to send to new certified reporters. Mindy Dexter indicated she had a good handle on TRAIN. She will select more dates after National. She would like our Technology brochure to be posted on Facebook, local high school websites indicating to contact MAPCR to have a reporter visit their school. Cheryl Anne and Elsa Jorgensen are working on our Facebook page. Paul Brandell suggested going to MHSAA website, it lists high schools and sporting teams. Paul Brandell asked Cheryl Anne if we have a link to Matt Dreger's article. Cheryl Anne will scan it, make it into a pdf, and get a link from JCR.

5. Public Relations (Dexter, Nierenberger) – Cheryl Anne indicated we received a letter from Rhode Island thanking us for the We Are Technology and indicated it was very successful. They would like their logo on a PowerPoint and asked if they could order shirts on a per shirt basis. Cheryl Anne will price it and respond.

Sharon Kandt indicated Macomb College sends out a catalog of classes that goes to 350,000 homes and it showcases Court Reporting on the front page.

6. Freelance/Official (Jacoby, Smith) - Approved.
7. Captioning/CART (Blough, Nielsen) - Approved.
8. Legislative (Brandell) - Paul Brandell and Pat Moretti met with lobbyists. There was a proposal from Noah Smith with different levels of involvement. He is not a major player but we can't afford a major player. The Governor is going through statues that have oversight looking to cut costs. They will come up with a plan of action. Anti-contracting and page rates are the main issues. Mindy Dexter wants to be involved in the page rate language and sent an email to Matt Dreger asking how to keep in touch with legislators.
9. Testing/Education (Kandt, Blough, Smith) – Sharon Kandt asked whether the Board of Review has dealt with the temporary certifications. Cheryl Anne indicated it has been tabled. Sharon Kandt indicated there was a CART reporter retiring and there is a position available. Minimum qualifications posted was an associate's degree. Sharon Kandt will contact Michael Hudson, the director, to educate about colleges not offering associates degrees in court reporting and to educate the director. Cheryl Anne will send out an email blast.

Elsa Jorgensen indicated Oakland CC will be sunsetting their court reporting program. Paul Brandell spoke about an article on national grants, 1.1 million will be available for court reporting schools. Sharon Kandt indicated the requirements are very limiting and some colleges aren't eligible to apply. Macomb College may have found a loophole. General decline in enrollment was discussed and the difficulty of the program. Laurel Jacoby suggested targeting the unemployed population.

10. MAPCR Minute – Cheryl Anne indicated we need to appoint a designated person to be responsible for the MAPCR Minute. Mindy Dexter suggested the President be in charge and that we pass it off every year to the next President. A suggestion was also made to combine June and July into a summer edition.

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Past Presidents Advisory Council (Brandell) – Nothing to report.
2. Awards Committee (Perrish, Dexter, Hanson) – Nothing to report.
3. Audit/Finance (Houghton, Nielsen) - Cheryl Anne indicated the spring seminar budget was exceeded by \$604, the Bar Journal revenue was six to seven hundred more than budgeted. We will back out budgeted money to send Elsa to National and offer the funds to Sharon Kandt so she can go to National to receive her award. Sharon Kandt indicated the dean of her school may cover it.
4. Bylaws/Procedures (Kandt) - Nothing to report.

## REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1. Golf Outing (Brandell, Hanson) - The number of players at this time are low, only 51 so far. Another email will be sent out. There are already 15 out of 18 sponsor slots filled so that is doing well.
2. Historian (Brandell) - Paul Brandell is keeping a list of events but would like us to send an email of events so he can include them in his report.
3. Website (Farmer, Houghton) - Cheryl Anne indicated nothing has been done on the website. Elsa Jorgensen is inviting friends to like the page.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS and GENERAL ORDERS - None.

NEW BUSINESS - None.

## ADJOURNMENT

Annette Blough made a motion to adjourn; Paul Brandell seconded; motion passed.

Adjourned at 10:09 a.m.