



BoardLines

October 2010



New Members Approved

ACRA is pleased to welcome as new members: court reporters Debbie Acevedo-Ramirez, Marge Harcarik, Robin Johnson, Colleen Kelly, Karen Kessler, Cindy Mahoney, Michael Babicky, Luz Franco, Kathryn Lorenz, and Monica Hill and students Leslie Cook and Gretchen House. Welcome!

Management Company

Robin Hirth went over Board members' new three-ring binders. She confirmed officers and directors are covered under a general liability insurance policy. A discussion was held regarding whether non-Board committee members were covered. It was the Board's belief they are. Robin will check to confirm this. The Individual Code of Conduct forms were signed by Board members. Robin reported that approximately 100 raffle tickets have been sold. Discussion was held regarding having one last push at ticket sales and scheduling a holiday get-together to draw for the raffle. Freelance firms are to be contacted. Karen will contact Pima County officials. Rossana reported she's made contact with Coconino County officials. Tom from Stenograph will be invited to draw the winners. Evaluations from the Annual Convention and Seminar were mostly positive.

Appointment of New Board Member

Laura Ashbrook was appointed to the Board as a Director of Officials. Welcome, Laura!

Bench and Bar

A discussion was held regarding considering advertising in "Arizona Attorney" magazine, having a table at State Bar Convention, perhaps making a presentation to Bar groups. Robin is to look into the cost of an ad. Laura knows someone to lay out and design the ad. She will look into the cost. Robin can make a trifold, modify it for the Bar convention.

Rossana reports Coconino CA would support keeping reporters. Karen reports her email was silent from Pima County officials regarding the legislative proposals affecting grand jury reporters. Cindy reports basically the same with Maricopa County.

John MacDonald gave an update on the legislative proposals affecting court reporters. Contrary to what had been presented by Superior Court administrators, Maricopa County reporters are not okay with changes. This was a misunderstanding by court administrators. The proposed changes would put every aspect of official reporters under the presiding judge and administration.

John MacDonald reported on how the process works at the legislature and also AJC and AOC. He explained who was behind the proposed legislative changes, that we should assume it will go forward. John will make contact with legislators to secure some assistance. The Counties may push it as a cost savings to get it through. John stated we need the AJC/AOC/BOS to get it in their heads that "this is a fight." John will attend AJC meeting 10-21 to represent us. Laura will attend meeting also. Doreen will be out of state and cannot attend. Scott will attend if not in trial.

Cindy Lineburg reported Melinda Vollmer would love to help in any way she can. A discussion was held regarding inviting Melinda to go to the AJC meeting and be a member of the legislative task force. Rossana reports in Oregon there were no statutes and jobs were lost except in one county. Doreen will author a letter to be disseminated to members about what's going on. Donna reported on Wendell Chapman's contact with Tom Home and her contact with John Huppenthal and Doug Ducey.

UPDATE: At the AJC meeting on 10/21, AJC Legislative Proposal 2011-08 concerning placing the hiring and use of court reporters under the control of the Presiding Judge alone, was withdrawn from consideration. AJC will not be pursuing this legislation during this session. However, we anticipate that the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors may elect to pursue this on its own. ACRA is watching this issue very closely.

October 2010 Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Doreen Borgmann, Karen Kahle, Scott Coniam, Cindy Lineburg, Tony Garcia, Laura Ashbrook, Erica Grund, Donna DeLaVina and Rossana Baker.

Also Present: Robin Hirth, Administrator; John MacDonald, Lobbyist; Jack Thomas, ProFund West, consultant.

Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2010:

Money Market	\$63,004.30
Checking	45.79
PAC Fund Account	1,527.92
Equipment Depreciation	(522.00)
Prepaid Expenses	2,036.99
LCD Projector	654.16
<u>Liabilities:</u>	<u>2,715.00</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Bal	\$66,787.16

After expenses from convention and lobbyist fee, estimated total liabilities & fund bal. is \$48,940.59.

AJC Legislative Proposal 2011-09 regarding removing the requirement for a certified reporter in grand jury proceedings and eliminating the automatic transcription of these proceedings was postponed for consideration until it was presented to interested parties for their input. AJC will consider this at its December meeting. ACRA will be present to monitor this meeting.

Certified Reporter Board

John MacDonald reported that the CR Board approved the third-party control changes as is. Discussion was held regarding the subpoenas waiting to be issued through the CR Board.

Superior Court

Diane Sonntag was asked to chair the DSA Committee and the Superior Court Task Force.

Fundraising

Jack Thomas of Profund West gave an extensive presentation of Profund's program for golf tournament fundraising efforts. The Board will consider his presentation and decide on possibly doing a golf tournament fundraiser in the spring. A discussion was held regarding a charity to partner with in this fundraising effort.

Seminars

Robin reported the evaluations from the Annual Convention and Seminar were mostly positive. A discussion was held about the use of seminars from the April Mid-Year Seminar as an end-of-the-year webinar.

Robin reported that she had investigated a location in Flagstaff for the 2011 Annual Convention. The Drury Inn had been recommended as being large enough to accommodate ACRA. However, their rates were considerably higher than other competing sites. The Prescott Conference Center in Prescott has been renovated and was offering the best rate. The Board voted to hold the Annual Convention and Seminar on September 16-18, 2011, at the Prescott Conference Center.

NCRA Testing

Scott Coniam will shadow Pam Mayer at the November 6 NCRA tests and then will take over as Chief Examiner for future tests.

IMPORTANT DATES & UPCOMING EVENTS

November 6, 2010

NCRA Exams

Visit www.ncraonline.org for details

November 10, 2010

Deadlines for submission of articles or advertising
for the Winter Issue of ArizoNotes

Editor: Karen Kahle, hvyntlccr@juno.com

Advertising: Robin Hirth, acra@saminc.org

January 8, 2011

ACRA Board of Directors Meeting
Tucson

2011 Midyear Seminar

April 30, 2011

Holiday Inn, Mesa



2011 Annual Convention

September 16-18, 2011

Prescott Resort



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