

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Troy, MI
Friday, October 12, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

9:44 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Paul Brandell, President; Anissa Nierenberger, President-Elect; Melinda Dexter, Vice President; Elsa Jorgensen, Secretary-Treasurer; Kelli Werner, Past President; Cheryl Anne Farmer, Executive Assistant; Darlene Fuller, Director; Gerry Hansen, Director; Annette Blough, Director; Sharon Kandy, Director; Laurel Jacoby, Director; Pat Hyland, Director.

SIGN ANTITRUST DOCUMENT

Form signed. Paul mentioned that Pat Graves noticed the antitrust document wording needs to be looked at regarding each person signing their own form. "Each committee member" will be checked by Cheryl Anne.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Paul thanked everyone for serving year after year. We have new people coming on the board, new ideas, and enthusiasm. It's great and what we need. We will be talking about the book that Cheryl Anne suggested we read, Race for Relevance, and Anissa has a presentation on it. We have made moves to help our members and reporters across the state. MAPCR has a lot to offer to the nonmembers in the way of bettering themselves, certification, getting better referrals. MAPCR needs to focus on ways to offer betterment.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Reading and approval of Minutes from Saturday, July 27, 2012.

Paul thanked Elsa for the quick turnaround. Corrections, clarifications:
Audit/finance talks about golf outing. Wording on money is off. We made \$3500 to \$4000. Expenses were \$8321 brought in \$11,980.

Kelli said she was planning the euchre game, not Mindy.
Darlene moved for approval; Kelli seconded. Approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Convention/Seminar (Nierenberger, Jacoby) (CA and Mindy)
Mindy for spring seminar – MWW ½ day; second half of day having someone from TRAIN. Then thought to do TRAIN during the year for members and nonmembers done through the year and in different areas of state. Drive for RT. Keep seminar in spring as hands-on training for CAT.

Need grammar-related material. CA suggested having breakout sessions of different CAT programs. Members relate being overwhelmed with so much CAT training. Pat mentioned CAT vendors wouldn't want to come for a half a day. Darlene said that members have asked about CAT training at fall. CA mentioned book – how will the reporter get better? Focus on hands-on info to make them better. Paul said that that ties in with CART. CART providers may not come to a general convention for CAT. They want to be trained. Annette said the dictionary training would entail repeat workshops and it may be boring. Anissa offered afternoon – link to Dictionary Jumpstart module.

Darlene said she has had great feedback on training. We need a market share. Lots of trainers offering training that you pay them and go online and offer training. What do members want?

Anissa said that the spring seminar is where members get more bang for their buck. Darlene: need to keep members' CEUs. Discussion about differing levels of reporters: advanced and beginner. CA said maybe track CAT in beginner, intermediate, advanced.

Discussion about half day vs. whole day of training. Cheryl Anne said at least we could offer a half day for CAT program and draw the balance for MWW. MWW is a big draw. Paul asks will people come just for MWW? CA said we need to market it. Elsa said open to scopists to proofers and MECRA. Anissa mentioned: What if we brought MWW to Kalamazoo to try and boost attendance? Pat Hyland likes the TRAIN idea, but the people that need it are not members. CA/Mindy wants us to recruit nonmembers, nonRT to come to mini TRAIN.

Mindy likes the idea of having a good speaker at the convention rather than a seminar. Discussion about having MWW in the fall convention. What about BCS, DigitalCAT? Mindy suggested we continue to have "rockstars" for convention. Anissa said spring hands-on, and fall cool speakers. Gerry reminded on focus of adv/beg. Laurel suggested having beg CAT in a.m. and DJ at the same time then flip to advanced CAT in afternoon and DJ at the same time. 1.0 PDC for doing DJ. Ask for MWW for fall.

Pat Graves wants to see focus of RT. Do we have a list for CAT vendors? Is it driven by CAT trainer or what the members want? The Howell facility continues to get good reviews. Have spring springboard the TRAIN seminar to sign up for interest.

Kalamazoo to be Friday night and Saturday. Kelli said we should look at something different for Friday night. Different ideas discussed. Maybe a bar crawl?

2. Executive Direct Report (Farmer)

CA – one thing. Administration. Has had to maintain two databases for the website because of new format. One database file corrupt, records jumbled. We need to bump up database. Will be able to have more options for e-mail and do e-newsletters. Wants to consolidate two databases. Entails \$500 a year to do that. CA asked the board to consider it and will bring it up at the next board meeting. Anissa mentioned Race for Relevance – needs more budget allocation to technology items. We need to be able to upload webinars. We need to be able to do it. Paul agrees. CA explained cost of \$1050 to increase three times as much. Wants to keep WildApricot. Excellent support.

3. Fundraising (Jorgensen, Werner) – approved

4. Membership (Nierenberger, Jacoby, Hansen) – approved

5. Public Relations (Dexter, Nierenberger)

Mindy: Continue I Am Technology (IAT) campaign. Doing packaging to other states and associations. Next step is to update brochure. It's currently geared towards non-CR. Court administrators are putting out info on "technology toolkit" includes DAR. Wants to do a legal side brochure to send to court administrators. Show a judge at a monitor and attorney with iPad getting realtime feed. Also show a freelancer with multi hookups. Darlene said it's the judge, not the court admin. Highlight why stenographic reporters are the ones who should be used. Darlene suggested we market to judges for county board of commissioners. Mindy would like to have CART and caption on back – find out who to market to.

Paul talked about his experience with the "invisible syndrome." Reporters want

to be invisible. The danger would be that admins realize that realtime exists and non-realtime reporters get fired for not providing realtime, and DAR comes in. The two things have to go hand in hand.

Discussion about pro-DAR court administrators. Cheryl Anne asked for proof of actual numbers regarding DAR. Mindy suggested the trouble with competing with a court clerk being a DAR operator.

Gerry suggested a seminar: We're here to save your job. Mindy talked about TRAIN from spring to summer. The tech toolkits are going out in 2013. We need to be ready.

Laurel started discussion about nonmembers and reporters still thinking they have a choice to do realtime. Darlene mentioned receiving a letter from Network Reporting (CER). CA said they do need steno reporters. CA – asked about PR aspect. CER can't do dailies. Mindy talked about video courtroom and that a team of CERs can have lots of typists that can do dailies.

Darlene forwarded a blog about CERs and ability to send to typist for dailies. The only difference is realtime.

6. Freelance/Official (Fuller,Dexter,Jacoby)

7. Captioning/CART (Blough)

Annette works w a lot of nonmember CART providers, not NCRA. They have let everything lapse. They're CART and reporters. She got two people and a student to come to the convention. Annette mandates RT certified; pay is based on cert level. Federal center requires certified reporters. There is a dire need for certified reporters.

Discussion about reporters on older equipment. Paul asked if this can be remedied with info at the spring seminar. Annette is putting together CART training. CA said this needs to be a separate day of training for CART. Paul brought up Sue Deer-Hall's presentation on technical and ethical training. Annette feels that most of the CART providers are ethical, but the one or two who are not can spoil the bunch. Annette feels there is a need to consider vision impairment as well. CA asked if that is something that MAPCR should tackle or Annette to tackle. Annette wants to bring it to MAPCR to make it formal. Paul said it leads to SDH's input. Paul asked for Sue Deer Hall's and Annette's contacts so MAPCR can contact them.

Mindy thought maybe CART and TRAIN. Anissa wants to see CART be separate from TRAIN. Paul said TRAIN will be separate dates. Annette has someone putting together info/presentation.

Pat Graves: Nowhere in the report was there mention of consumer education/client education. Consumer and client need education as well. Client will demand certified CART. Mindy asked about where to send info. Pat Graves suggested Deaf associations and checking the online resources at NCRA. CART providers bill of rights and consumer bill of right should be distributed. It's like CART 101. Make that available to members who want to do CART. Annette has had feedback that consumers can tell the difference in certification, even though they may not know the different levels of certification.

8. Legislative (Fuller)

Paul pulled. No report submitted. For those who don't know, Gerry, Dawn Houghton, Pat Moretti, and Paul are going to look into where we stand, how we can move forward on contracting language. Pat Moretti attended STAR convention. She said they always talk about contracting. Paul will contact Pat Moretti to see about history of contracting language to get ducks in a row. Will work to get anticontracting language stronger. If you get the language in place, and the reporter says, well, we have anticontracting, what happens? We have to show we are making an effort.

Mindy spoke about House bill 5813, which proposes that any attorney or party can record their own legal proceeding. It's at the judicial committee now. MJAA is against this bill and they have lobbyists. Mindy will call John Walsh, committee chair of judicial committee. Mindy will find out constituents for one of us to contact constituent. CA said this is another member benefit. Darlene said in their market, not just because of DAR; it's the economy. Focus to keep costs down. It's a cost issue.

Mindy could do a form email and send MAPCR blast.

Mindy brought up discussion on getting a page rate increase. The idea is to separate it. Give an increase in indigent fees, and it doesn't affect civil.

Paul spoke regarding contracting – argument is that it's business practice. He stressed the appearance of impropriety.

Anissa spoke regarding email blasts. We have four databases of email: student, freelance, official, CART/caption. For nonmembers put out a dangler: We have this info you need to keep you on the cutting edge, in the know. Mindy reinforced this idea: This is what this association is doing; you're missing out.

Annette regarding contracting: What if the job turns out to be from out of state people and CR doesn't know it's contracted?

Testing/Education (Gordon,Dreger,Kandt)

Sharon spoke about the temporary certification issue. Sharon has a partial resolution. Sharon has students not done with school speeds, but they've passed legs of RPR. Still have to complete school program to go to state to take written. Darlene took RPR and passed before finishing school; same for Paul. Sharon talked to college administrators for an "and/or" provision. The next issue is getting the okay from NCRA to do that. If NCRA agrees, it would eliminate the need for the temporaries. Paul said you still have students that finish requirements and haven't passed RPR; they need a temporary. Someone relayed that Denice Purves said there is no need for temporary certification. There needs to be a temporary from graduation to passing RPR as it makes the student/new reporter more employable. The temp could last a year.

Sharon spoke with Ms. Purves, who said the issue was that some people were on temporaries were on for years. Maybe have further enrollment in a CR program could extend temp. Paul doesn't think the board will go for that. Start with new reporters. Paul said SCAO wants to work with firm owners to see their training procedure of new reporters.

9. Record Times (Werner,Dexter) – approved

Mindy moved to approve, Kelli second. Motion passes

Paul moved to take a break. Anissa second. Break 11:11 a.m. to 11:23 a.m.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Past Presidents Advisory Council (Werner) nothing to report
2. Awards Committee (Perrish,Zimmerman,Hansen) nothing to report – we do have awards
3. Audit/Finance (Jorgensen) CA said we're on line. Haven't met on some things but we've decreased certain things. Budge meeting in November.
4. Bylaws/Procedures (Kandt) Paul and Sharon will talk to get a handle on streamlining outdated and superfluous wording. Paul spoke to Pat Hyland re business meeting nominating slate. Needs to ask of any nominations from the floor. Where does Paul do that? Pat Hyland said to say, "Here is the slate. Any nominations from the floor?" Pat wondered if Paul needed to ask. Check bylaws for nominating.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1. Student Seminar/Outreach/Career Day (Nierenberger,Kandt,Blough)
Anissa – one thing. BPofA – Business Professionals of America. They are geared towards business. There are 19 states that have BPofA. Anissa’s goal is to reach out to CR associations in those states and have them do RT presentation at the BPofA. March 22/23, 2013 is the convention at Amway Grand hotel in Grand Rapids. Wants to approach it from their perspective tying in LOL and text speak and relate it to steno. Paul asked about streaming to iPhone or iPad so they can see it. Annette volunteered to help. Anissa will take reporters to dinner as a treat.
2. Golf Outing (Brandell,Hansen) Paul is committed to handle this and will pick up the momentum.
3. Historian (Werner) Necrology report/morbidity report – Kelli.
4. Website (Farmer,Dexter) Will post new store items on the site. CA sold \$200 worth of shirts at national convention in August.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS and GENERAL ORDERS

CA left the room, and the board members talked about CA’s contract.

The board discussed and arrived at an offer.

Paul asked for a motion. Anissa made a motion to pay CA a raise of 1.5% each year for a two-year contract and a bonus of 20% of the profit of sales from the WAT project. Pay Hyland seconded. Motion passes.

Presented to CA by Paul, and CA agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Mindy motion to adjourn. Kelli second. Motion passed. Adjourned at 12:00 noon.