

California Grand Jurors' Association Board of Directors Meeting
January 26, 2021
MINUTES

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

The roll was taken, and the meeting began at 3:00 PM.

Present: Directors, Shirley Boracci, Marsha Caranci, Janet Clark, Bob Finlayson, Travis Gibbons, Joann Landi, Lou Panetta, Jim Ragan, Barbara Sommer.

Absent: Bernadette Cheyne (excused), Tim Hafner (excused).

Quorum is present.

Others present: Karen Jahr, Chair BPRC and LLRC; Lloyd Bell, Chair ACC; Jerry Lewi, Interim chair, PRC; Diane Lloyd, Interim chair, MCRC.

B. Agenda and Comments

B-1 Agenda Approval: Panetta

Board members unanimously approved the agenda (amended to correct dates).

B-2 CGJA Member Comments - none

C. Consent Items

C-1 Approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes, 11/24/20: Panetta

C-2 Acknowledge Committee Minutes and other documents in 01/26/21 meeting packet: Panetta
Board unanimously approved the consent items.

D. Officer and Committee Chair Reports – see committee minutes in packet for details on current activities

D-1 **President's Report** (Ragan)

D-2 **Officer Reports**

Vice President (Panetta) – filling in for the president, Panetta announced the resignation of Ron Zurek from the board and all committees. Lloyd Bell will serve as the interim chair of the Finance Committee until a permanent replacement is found. Jerry Lewi and Diane Lloyd continue as interim chairs of the PRC and MCRC, respectively. More permanent chairs need to be found for these committees.

Treasurer (Gibbons) – there was a new IRS requirement adding a little extra expense. He completed it this week. The current tax consultant (Wheeler Inc.) is raising its fees. Gibbons is seeking an alternative and will report back next month.

Secretary (Sommer) – no report.

D-3 **Legal and Legislative Resources Committee (LLRC)** – Jahr said that not much is going on. SLO County GJ made inquiry regarding peace officer personnel records. Clarification only.

- D-4 **Public Relations Committee (PRC)** – Lewi said that the committee has completed its work on the history document which will be taken up as Action Item #3. A current project is an updating of the grand jury system book.
- D-5 **Membership Relations Committee (MCRC)** – Lloyd thanked Panetta for his assistance as there is a lot going on in the committee. There is a need to get to more depth, particularly in reaching out to chapters. Committee member Kathy Mastako is doing a great job (see the **MCRC Chapter Liaison Report: January 2021** in the meeting packet).
- D-6 **Training Committee (TC)** – Caranci said that the training program is whizzing along, with four different venues just this week. Twenty-one people are signed up for the next Legal Advisor Workshop – a substantial increase over past attendance. Report Writing Workshops are now being offered throughout the year as a number of grand juries are operating on the calendar year.
- D-7 **Finance Committee (FC)** – Bell said that the annual appeal was wildly successful, bringing in \$4,700. The committee has debated whether to send a mail appeal. They did. Most of the donations came by check through the postal service.
- D-8 **Nominations-Elections Committee (NEC)** – Panetta is in the process of putting together the committee. Boracci (director, North) will chair it. Other members are Frisbie (member, North), Herbst (member, South), Finlayson (director, Central), Kati Martin (member, Central). Others to be decided.
- D-9 **Awards Committee (AC)** – no report. Clark asked about members, and Lloyd indicated that some Mother Lode Chapter people might be interested.
- D-10 **Annual Conference Committee (ACC)** – Bell said the committee has come up with three options with regard to the 2021 conference:
 - #1 Proceed with plans for an in-person event.
 - #2 Cancel. Hotel will refund the \$600 deposit.
 - #3 Reschedule for 2022, keeping the deposit in place.In the ensuing discussion, Ragan opted for #3. Clark argued for option #1 stating that people are likely to be ready and eager to get out in the fall. Caranci pointed out that they might travel and not be around for the event. Others pointed out the uncertainty of the situation with regard to the vaccine. Asked for his opinion, Bell said that we want to hold a conference at that venue, so cancelling is not a good idea. He favored option #1. An informal vote was taken. Eight favored option #3 and one person favoring option #1.
- D-11 **Bylaws & Policy Review Committee (BPRC)** – no report.
- D-13 **Technology Committee (Tech)** – Panetta said that Herbst will manage the transition of Zurek’s responsibilities. Passwords have been changed. Gibbons said financial passwords also have been changed. There are two PayPal accounts. The management account has been suspended and he is working on the basic account.

E. Action Agenda

- E-1 **Rename asset account number 1056 to the Ron Miguel & Audrey Lynberg Training Scholarship Fund** [Motion made by Bell, seconded by Clark]

Discussion: Bell stated that the renaming satisfied the donor of \$1,000 to the fund.

The motion passed, 9-0-0, by voice vote.

- E-2 **Transfer of funds in the amount of \$30,000 from the General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund**
[Motion made by Bell, seconded by Caranci]

Discussion: Bell explained that an excess of funds in the general fund was being transferred. Ragan asked why a rainy day fund? Bell said it was set up as a second savings fund. Caranci recalled a time about 16 years ago when money ran short due to legal costs. She added that the amount reflects the net profit for the year.

The motion passed, 9-0-0, by voice vote.

- E-3 **Approve two versions of updated history document for posting on the website.**
[Motion made by Lewi, seconded by Gibbons]

The motion passed, 9-0-0, by voice vote.

F. **Director Comments** – none

G. **Adjournment (4:05 PM)**

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Sommer, Secretary