

California Grand Jurors' Association Board of Directors Meeting
April 26, 2022
MINUTES

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

The roll was taken, and the meeting began at 3:01 PM.

Directors present: Shirley Boracci, Marsha Caranci, Janet Clark, Travis Gibbons, Larry Herbst, Diane Lloyd, Lou Panetta, Barbara Sommer.

Excused: Bob Finlayson

Absent: Henry Rible

Quorum is present.

Others present: Committee Chairs: Lloyd Bell, ACC; Joann Landi, AC; Jerry Lewi, PRC; and Richard Rogers, FC. Member: Jim Glover (Humboldt County).

B. Agenda and Comments

B-1 Agenda Approval: Board members unanimously approved the agenda.

B-2 CGJA Member Comments – Panetta introduced Jim Glover from Arcata, CGJA member and current foreperson, Humboldt County Grand Juror. Glover has agreed to be a candidate for director, north region.

C. Consent Items

C-1 Approved Regular Board Meeting Minutes, 03/22/22: Panetta

C-2 Acknowledged Committee Minutes and other documents in 04/26/22 meeting packet: Panetta. Board unanimously approved the consent items and the minutes.

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

D-1 **President's Report** – Panetta said the April 20 meeting with chapter presidents was fantastic. It will be a regular occurrence.

He has been working with Doug Gillen, President of the Grand Jurors Association of Orange County, with the hope of that association becoming a CGJA chapter. A member of the association, Karen Kindschi, has been using Facebook to reach out to diverse groups and will be a panelist at the annual conference in October.

D-2 Officer Reports

Vice President (Herbst) – no report.

Treasurer (Gibbons) – no report.

Secretary (Sommer) – no report.

D-10 **Annual Conference Committee (ACC)** – Bell said the committee will use anticipated donations and silent auction receipts, budgeted at \$2,000, to reduce the registration fee for 2022. For reference, donations in 2019 were \$2,012, and \$2,376 in 2018.

The 2022 registration fee is \$116, which includes the dinner Sunday evening, and is the same as it was for 2019. Guest meals will be \$67 for those joining registered attendees only for dinner, an increase of \$1 over 2019. Total cost for 2022 – registration and sleeping room – is \$280, a \$15 increase over 2019 due to increased sleeping room rates. They are planning on at least 50 registrants. The conference registration form and information will be posted once it is reviewed at the next ACC meeting.

The committee is seeking proposals for 2023 from The Cambria Pines Inn, Embassy Suites Monterey, and the Oakland Marriott City Center. Other suggested venues from the Board will be entertained. Caranci recommended Embassy Suites in Walnut Creek, saying that it had been very suitable for their training program and was in a good location near BART.

D-3 **Legal and Legislative Resources Committee (LLRC)** – no report.

D-4 **Public Relations Committee (PRC)** – Lewi said this was his last meeting as chair and that he was stepping down from the committee. He will stay on to do the member messages on Constant Contact. The incoming chair will take over the management of the Constant Contact contract.

He noted that the system book had been downloaded 343 times in March. Herbst added the figures of 137 downloads in February and 159 so far in April.

Panetta added comments of appreciation to Lewi for his very extensive service to CGJA and willingness to take on needed tasks.

D-5 **Membership Relations Committee (MCRC)** – Lloyd said the committee lost a recent member, Jody Hansen, who resigned to take on the position of CEO for the Carmel Chamber of Commerce. The committee still needs members. There is considerable enthusiasm on the chapter relations side, less so on the membership side.

CGJA currently has 315 members, with 3 joining in April. Chapters are thrilled with the new system book. It is a huge hit. The presidents meeting was very popular. She will schedule quarterly meetings, the next perhaps in June. Panetta spoke via zoom to the San Joaquin chapter and was well received. Lloyd attended in person. The chapter will be giving a lunch for former and current grand jurors and invited Lloyd to attend, which she will do in-person.

There was a brief discussion about participants on the best practices panel for the annual conference. There will be further discussion at the next board meeting.

Caranci asked about outreach to current IMs (Introductory Members). Lloyd said that was in the works.

D-6 **Training Committee (TC)** – Caranci said the first of five report writing workshops has been done. The others will be completed by about May 20. There is a Legal Advisors workshop next week with 12 registrants. Summer training is back to normal, i.e., most counties want in-person training. She said that is the best kind of training for new grand jurors. However, it means sending training teams all over the state.

The committee has interviewed and approved 6 new trainers, with 2 more coming up this week, so there is a potential freshman class of 8, 3 of whom are attorneys.

D-7 **Finance Committee (FC)** – Rogers said the committee has replaced the tax accountant. Tax returns are done and have been filed, thanks to Gibbons’ efforts.

The committee went over the insurance policies in detail and is comfortable with the coverage with no changes needed. Gibbons thanked Finlayson for the careful insurance review.

A Finance Committee member requested a policy of reviewing the draft minutes *prior* to their release to the board. After a brief discussion, that was deemed inappropriate.

D-8 **Nominations and Elections (NEC)** – Panetta said we still need a candidate for the central region as Sommer is terming out. Otherwise, the committee is on track. Jim Glover has agreed to run for the northern region position and all eligible board members have agreed to be candidates.

D-10 **Awards Committee (AC)** – Landi said the committee would be meeting off schedule to consider 2 requests for Certificates of Special Recognition.

D-11 **Bylaws & Policy Review Committee (BPRC)** – no report. Caranci said they hope to meet in May or early June to review revised committee procedures. She reminded officers that they should review their procedures and submit any modifications so that they can be reviewed along with the others. It is beneficial for the committee to go over everything at the same time.

D-13 **Technology Committee (Tech)** – Herbst reported that the web usage statistics were about the same as in February. The top download was well-written report examples.

D-14 **Grand Jury Effectiveness Workgroup (GJE)** – no report. Panetta requested that statement 5.A.i (Panetta is "supportive") in the GJ Effectiveness Workgroup minutes in the current board packet in the minutes be modified to read as follows. "Lou gave Bob direction to write a proposal for board review including the differentiation between the current Effectiveness Workgroup and a Standing Committee. Also articulate the progress to date of the project and provide an assessment of its value to CGJA" (this statement has been added to the workgroup minutes – BAS).

D-15 **Diversity Study Workgroup** – no report.

D-15 **Grand Jury Awareness Workgroup** – see action item. Panetta commented that Clark did an excellent job with the media interview. Herbst asked if there were any other transfers that would be involved in the merging of the workgroup with the PRC. Panetta said he didn’t know of any. Three of the four workgroup members are already members of the PRC.

E. Action Agenda

E-1 Ratify the appointment of Karen Jahr as director for the North area.

[Motion made by Panetta, seconded by Boracci]

The motion passed, 8-0-0, by hand vote.

E-2 Ratify the appointment of Juliana Olinka Jones as chair of the Public Relations Committee.

[Motion made by Panetta, seconded by Caranci]

The motion passed, 8-0-0, by hand vote.

E-3 Ratify dissolution of the Grand Jury Awareness Workgroup and merge its responsibilities into the Public Relations Committee

[Motion made by Panetta, seconded by Caranci]

The motion passed, 8-0-0, by hand vote.

Approved 05-24-22

F. Director Comments – none.

G. Adjournment (4:00 PM)

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Sommer, Secretary