

MINUTES
THE LOUISIANA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF
CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTERS
BOARD MEETING

Friday, March 20, 2009

Pursuant to notice, the meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 20, 2009, at the Crowne Plaza, 4728 Constitution Avenue, Riverboat Room, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with a quorum present.

PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS:

Judge Perrell Fuselier
May Dunn
Suzanne Stinson
Vincent P. Borrello, Jr.
Gail Freese
Suzette Magee
Phillip Kaufman

ABSENT:

Laura Putnam
Dion Young

Attorney:

David Marcello

Administrator:

Tonya R. Armentor

CALL TO ORDER: Judge Fuselier, Chairman began the meeting by asking Suzette Magee to say the prayer and Vincent Borrello, Jr. to start the pledge. Judge Fuselier reported that the minutes from the last meeting will be presented for approval at the next meeting.

Judge Fuselier reported that he would like to see the board investigate our authority to charge an accused person, if found guilty, of any violation of either the statutes or rules of this Board. Judge Fuselier asked David Marcello to investigate this matter further and report his findings at the next meeting.

David Marcello stated that the report for HCR104 was submitted to the legislature. Judge Fuselier gave thanks to Suzette Magee, David Marcello, Laura Putnam, and Tonya for getting this done.

Judge Fuselier reported that Phyllis Pool resigned from the Board and that Phillip Kaufman has been appointed to the Board in her place. Judge Fuselier appointed May Dunn as Treasurer and asked for volunteers to sit on the various committees that now have a vacant seat. Suzette Magee will be added to the Handbook Committee and taken off the Special Office Committee. Phillip Kaufman will be added to the Examination Committee, and the Special Office Committee. May Dunn, Treasurer is now added to the Office Administration Committee.

Judge Fuselier would like to adopt a change to the Disciplinary procedures. My recommendation is that we give anyone who is accused of a violation a two tier level. After a brief discussion, Judge Fuselier stated that the finished product would be that the accused would have his due process. Judge Fuselier stated that he is 100% convinced that the current process is fatally flawed. May Dunn made a motion to table this matter until the next meeting. May Dunn made an amendment to her previous motion to send this item to the Disciplinary Committee. Suzanne Stinson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Judge Fuselier reported that he would advise the Disciplinary Chairman to notify Mr. Veron that his complaint is not actionable and to put it in actionable form. Suzette Magee made the motion as stated above. Phillip Kaufman seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: May Dunn, Treasurer presented the report and stated that all Board Members have been provided a copy of the report. The report shows assets and liabilities on an accrual basis. The monthly operating income and expenses cover the period of February 27, 2009 through March 20, 2009. Total income equals \$1,100.00 with total disbursements \$29,869.71. Total assets equal \$148,015.11. May Dunn made a motion to adopt as read. Suzette Magee, seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN: Disciplinary Procedures. This matter was reported previously.

REPORT OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE: No Report.

REPORT OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE: No Report.

REPORT OF THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE: Mr. Vincent Borrello, Jr., Chairman reported that he would report back at the next meeting.

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Ms. Suzette Magee reported that the report for HCR 104 was completed and hand carried to the legislature along with the recommended legislation for temporary permits. David Marcello went over what was submitted and the temporary permits legislation in detail. David asked if we had someone to sponsor the bill and recommended that we have someone by next week. Phillip Kaufman made a motion to adopt report as given. Vincent Borrello, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Judge Fuselier called for a 10 minute recess at 3:29 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 3:40 p.m. with a quorum present and with Dion Young remaining absent.

REPORT OF THE CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Ms. Suzanne Stinson, Chairman reported that the committee did meet earlier today and looked at a request for c. e. approval from Rhonda Baiamonte. The QuickBooks course looks to have been given by a CPA and we are requesting additional information be submitted on the presenter before accepting. This matter will be re-visited at the next meeting. The next item we considered is that of online courses. We voted to table until the next meeting. Suzanne Stinson moved to accept report as given. May Dunn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE: Vincent Borrello, Jr., Chairman reported that the office has been experiencing a larger volume of work and recommends that a permanent part-time employee be approved. That the part-time employee would be hired by Tonya Armentor, Administrator of the Board Office and would work up to a maximum of 25 hours per week as necessary at a rate of \$8.00 per hour. Vincent Borrello, Jr. made the motion as stated above. Suzette Magee seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL OFFICE COMMITTEE ON TRANSCRIPT CERTIFICATION: Vincent Borrello, Jr., Chairman reported that David Marcello had contacted the Texas CCR Board. David Marcello stated that the digital signature was by rule and not by statute. That it is not legally bound or enforceable. David Marcello presented a discussion draft memorandum to all Board Members. David Marcello stated that if digital signatures are to be pursued by this Board then it would be best to seek legislation. Phillip Kaufman stated the Legislative Committee needs to meet very soon to discuss the legislation on digital signatures.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. I. A.'s for informational purposes only. All current Board Members were given a copy of each one used and the full history of the Intergovernmental Agreement used in previous years.

B. Financial Disclosure Forms. David Marcello explained that the CCR Board Members fall under the 2.1 tier.

C. Renewal List. Tonya Armentor presented a list of all reporters who have now paid since January 10, 2009 to be reinstated. Suzanne Stinson made a motion to reinstate all reporters on the list. Suzette Magee seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The No Pay Suspended list was presented and represents all reporters who have not paid at this time and who have been suspended by statute since

January 1, 2009. Vincent Borrello, Jr. made a motion to accept the No Pay Suspended List. May Dunn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The No C. E. Suspended List was presented and reflects all those reporters who have not obtained the required continuing education credits by January 30, 2009. Suzette Magee made a motion to suspend all reporters on this list. Vincent Borrello, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The Revocation List was presented and reflects all those who have been suspended and are now up for revocation. Phillip Kaufman made a motion to revoke all reporters on this list. May Dunn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The Retired, Inactive and Deceased List were presented for information purposes and are to be included in the mail out of all lists. Suzanne Stinson made a motion to mail out all list. Vincent Borrello, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phillip Kaufman made a motion to set the next meeting at 12 p.m. on May 1, 2009. Vincent Borrello, Jr. seconded the motion. Phillip Kaufman made a substitute motion to have Tonya poll all board members for the next meeting date, time, and place. May Dunn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

May Dunn made a motion to add Dorothy Rull to the agenda. Vincent Borrello, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Dorothy Rull was present and is requesting reinstatement of her license. After a few questions and a brief discussion, Vincent Borrello, Jr. made a motion to reinstate her license upon payment of all fees and payable within 30 days from today. Phillip Kaufman amended the motion have Ms. Rull provide proof of continuing education credits. May Dunn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Suzette Magee made a motion to adjourn. Vincent Borrello, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.