Meeting Minutes for the Forensic Science Institute of Ohio

The Annual Meeting of the FSIO was called to order on December 8, 2016, at 10:15 am, at the Ohio Fire Academy, Room 2303, 8895 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Past President Jim Smith (BCI London) presided over the meeting.

The following Members and guests were present: Rebecca Barlag (Ohio U.), Tammy Bonner (OSHP), Bob Budgake (Canton-Stark Retired), Nasir Butt (Cuyahoga Co.), David Cogan (Toledo), Tim Duerr (Miami Valley), Jeff Lynn (BGSU), Sam Marso (Cuyahoga Co.), Denise Rankin (Miami Valley), Heather Sheskey (OSHP), Jami StClair (Columbus), Tony Tambasco (Mansfield), Mike Trimpe (Hamilton Co.) and Chad Wissinger (State Fire Marshal). A quorum was present. Thirteen of the sixteen eligible voters were represented. Linda Erdei (Lake Co.) was represented by proxy.

Secretary Budgake presented the minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting. The minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion, Tony Tambasco; Second, Mike Trimpe. All Members voted in the affirmative.

Chad Wissinger presented the Treasurer’s report. He disclosed that the FSIO has a checking account balance of $15,196, a savings account balance of $4,476 and a Tong Award’s Fund balance of $42,781. The Tong fund owes the FSIO $9,270 for awards paid, on its behalf, since 2004. Chad continues to recommend that we delay any reimbursement, until the fund is self-sustaining i.e. maintaining the $35,000 principal, while paying the annual awards. In 2016, the awards paid totaled $600. The Tong Fund Board continues to monitor these investments, with a goal of providing a more secure and reliable source of income in the future.

Old Business:

President Werry was not present to report on organizing a 2017 meeting of Ohio’s drug analysts. This matter was tabled until our next meeting.

Past President Smith queried the group for suggestions regarding additional discipline meetings for 2017. Chad Wissinger proposed a digital evidence session and will eagerly explore the feasibility. No other suggestions were proffered. Jim Smith encouraged the Members to survey their staffs for additional recommendations.

Mike Trimpe provided a flyer detailing the MAFS meeting to be held in Cincinnati, September 17-22, 2017. This flyer is incorporated into the minutes. Mike anticipates approximately 350 attendees.

New Business:

Jim Smith, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers for year 2017: President-Elect – Nasir Butt (will become President in 2018),
Secretary – Bob Budgake and Treasurer – Chad Wissinger. Motion to close the nominations and approve the presented slate of candidates, Jami StClair; Second, Mike Trimpe. All Members voted in the affirmative. Jeff Lynn will become President on January 1, 2017. Current President Brandon Werry will remain on the Board and serve as Advisor.

Bob Budgake presented the Associate Membership application of Krystal Soles, who works as a criminalist in the drug section of OSHP. Motion to accept, Bob Budgake; Second, Chad Wissinger. All Members voted in the affirmative.

Treasurer Wissinger indicated that an audit of the FSIO finances is due. Nasir Butt and Jeff Lynn passionately volunteered to perform this task at our next meeting.

Jami StClair suggested that we consider some form of a sponsorship for the MAFS meeting. Mike Trimpe volunteered to explore the possibilities and report back to the FSIO.

The next meeting of the FSIO is scheduled at 10 am, Thursday, March 9, 2017, at the Ohio Fire Academy, 8895 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Motion, Chad Wissinger; Second, Bob Budgake. All Members voted in the affirmative.

The meeting adjourned at 10:41am. Motion, Bob Budgake; Second, Chad Wissinger. All Members voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Budgake, Secretary, FSIO