

Meeting Minutes for the Forensic Science Institute of Ohio

The Annual Meeting of the FSIO was called to order on December 10, 2015, at 10:05 am, at the Columbus Forensic Services Center, 770 East Woodrow Ave., Columbus, Ohio. President James Smith (BCI London) presided over the meeting.

The following Members and guests were present: Tammy Bonner (OSHP), Bob Budgake (Canton-Stark Retired), David Cogan (Toledo), Angela Farrington (Columbus), Pamela Gibson ((OSHP), Karen Kwek (BCI London), Jeff Lynn (BGSU), Tracy Cheaney-Plummer (Columbus), Heather Sheskey (OSHP), Jacqueline Smith (OSHP), Shay Smith (OSHP), Jami StClair (Columbus), Denise Rankin (Miami Valley), Lynne Strainic (OSHP), Steve Schierholt (Ohio Board of Pharmacy), Abby Schwaderer (BCI London), Tony Tambasco (Mansfield), Mike Trimpe (Hamilton Co.), Brandon Werry (OSHP) and Chad Wissinger (State Fire Marshal). A quorum was present. Eleven of the sixteen eligible voters were represented. Linda Erdei (Lake Co.) was represented by proxy.

Steve Schierholt reiterated his request for drug submission data from Ohio's crime labs. After a lengthy discussion, he agreed to visit either OSHP or BCI, to determine if individual lab's raw data can be retrieved from NFLIS. Furthermore, Steve indicated that they need the county of origin for this data. He agreed to meet with us again at our March meeting, to further discuss this issue. In addition, Steve shared an informational handout, which is attached.

Secretary Budgake presented the minutes of the September 10, 2015 Meeting. The minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion, Chad Wissinger; Second, Tony Tambasco. All Members voted in the affirmative.

Chad Wissinger presented the Treasurer's report. His report disclosed that the FSIO has a checking account balance of \$19,787 and the Tong Award's Fund has a balance of \$40,624. Chad advised that this year's Court Testimony and the ASCLD/LAB Accessor Courses generated a profit of approximately \$6,600.

Old Business:

Jeff Lynn announced that the new FSIO website was created and is available for viewing at www.bgsu.edu/FSIO. The intent is to allow users to register for courses, obtain a membership form, view upcoming courses and read various FSIO documents such as the minutes and code of regulations. Jeff asked the Members to view this site and proffer any suggestions.

Jeff Lynn stated that the NES Advanced Clan Lab Training Class, took place at BGSU/BCI Bowling Green, October 19-21. There were thirty-five attendees. Jeff thought that the presentation went very well.

Jeff Lynn indicated that a BGSU professor was willing to present a Hyper Geometrics Sampling Class for a \$1,000 fee. He also revealed that a web based training module, regarding this subject, will be available soon. Karen Kwek recommended that we postpone a decision on offering the class, until we are able to view this module, to see if it will meet our training needs. The Membership concurred. Jeff indicated that other training modules will also be available such as ethics, a legal introduction and pharmacophore issues. Their intent is to offer these web based courses for free. Jeff stated that to be able to access these, the user must provide an outbound IP address for their agency. This is a necessary security measure.

Karen Kwek reported that a meeting of Ohio's latent print examiners took place on November 5th, at the Columbus Police Training Academy. Twenty-four individuals attended, representing seven agencies. Karen revealed that they expected more attendees, but the Cogent user's group meeting was being held concurrently. She thanked BCI Forensic Scientist Daniel Steiner for his role in organizing and moderating this meeting and the Columbus Crime Lab for hosting this meeting. Karen highlighted some of their discussion points such as print sufficiency, verifications, blind verifications, documentation, processing, AFIS/NGI (Next Generation ID) and comparisons. Karen also shared that the State has requested RFPs for an AFIS/Automated Biometrics ID system. She added that in the future, the locals will have to go through the State's system to query the FBI database. Karen indicated that the AG will have future regional meetings regarding this topic. The Members questioned the food expenses for this meeting, which exceeded \$500. Karen thought the reason for this was that they had ordered excess food, because they were expecting many more attendees. Karen indicated she will explore this matter further.

Treasurer Wissinger revealed that he applied for a FSIO debit card. Some issues arose because the FSIO account was originally set-up as a personal versus a business account. The new debit card is now a business account. He also shared that he set up a business interest bearing savings account and transferred \$5,000 into it. Chad reported that a Tong awardee has yet to cash the award check. He is currently researching this concern.

Lynne Strainic advised that they were in contact with Jason Nawyn, US Army Criminal Investigation Lab, regarding instructing a two day Mass Spectral Interpretation Course. Some of OSHP's staff attended a one day version of this course sponsored by MAFS and highly recommended it. Mr. Nawyn advised that he will only charge for travel expenses, estimated at \$2,000-\$3,000. He requested a student cap of 30. The membership suggested a course offering date in the summer of 2016 and a tuition fee of \$200. Motion to proceed with this offering, Bob Budgake; Second, Mike Trimpe. All Members voted in the affirmative.

New Business:

Bob Budgake presented the Membership application of Rebecca Barlag, the new Director of Forensic Chemistry at Ohio U. and the Emeritus application of Tim Shepherd, retired forensic criminalist for the Springfield PD. Tim was a founding FSIO Member. Motion

to accept, Bob Budgake; Second, Brandon Werry. All Members voted in the affirmative. The Members expressed their best wishes to both these individuals. One who is starting a new career path and the other retiring to sunny South Carolina.

David Cogan, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers for year 2016: President-Elect – Jeff Lynn (will become President in 2017), Secretary – Bob Budgake and Treasurer – Chad Wissinger. Motion to close the nominations and approve the presented slate of candidates, Dave Cogan; Second, Jami StClair. All Members voted in the affirmative. Brandon Werry (OSHP) will become President on January 1, 2016. Current President Jim Smith will remain on the Board and serve as Advisor.

Jeff Lynn reported that they will be sponsoring a Ron Smith and Associates course entitled: Scientific Analysis (ACE-V): From the Laboratory to the Witness Stand. A detailed course description can be obtained at the Ron Smith website. The course will be held May 16-20, 2016, at BCI Bowling Green. Jeff has secured a room rate of \$85 a night plus tax at the Hampton Inn. Michele Triplett will be the instructor. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the FSIO subsidizing this offering. Mike Trimpe motioned that the FSIO subsidize this course in the amount of \$7,500. This amount would permit 17 students from FSIO labs to attend for free. A seconding of this motion did not follow. This motion died. Tony Tambasco motioned to permit the FSIO to offer member agencies a \$200 scholarship per attendee. Therefore, the subsidized attendee will be required to pay \$400 for tuition vs. \$600. Second, Angela Farrington. All Members voted in the affirmative. Jeff promised to circulate a class flyer shortly.

Bob Budgake queried the group regarding a request from Mideo Systems, Inc. to sponsor a computer based fingerprint comparison training program for Ohio. The Members expressed concerns regarding this request since not all of the FSIO member labs have latent comparison sections. The Membership concurred that any interested parties can contact Mideo directly.

*The next meeting of the FSIO is scheduled for 10 am, Thursday, March 10, 2016, 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 11:57 am. Motion, Tony Tambasco; Second, Bob Budgake. All Members voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Budgake, Secretary, FSIO