Meeting Minutes for the Forensic Science Institute of Ohio

A Meeting of the FSIO was called to order at 10:03 am, on September 13, 2018 at the Ohio Fire Academy, Room 2303, 8895 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio. President Nasir Butt (Cuyahoga Co.) presided over the meeting.

The following Members and guests were present: Bob Budgake (Canton-Stark Retired), David Cogan (Toledo), Angela Farrington (Columbus), Michele Foster (Canton-Stark), Steve Greene (BCI Retired), Karen Kwek (BCI London), Kevin Lattyak (Hamilton Co.), Kaitlyn Porter (Toledo), Tony Tambasco (Mansfield), Mike Trimpe (Hamilton Co.), Heather Sheskey (OSHP), Jami StClair (Columbus Retired), Anthony Stender (Ohio U.) and Chad Wissinger (State Fire Marshal). A quorum was present. Twelve of the nineteen eligible voters were present.

Secretary Budgake presented the minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting. The minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion, Bob Budgake; Second, Mike Trimpe. All Members voted in the affirmative.

Chad Wissinger offered the Treasurer’s report. He disclosed that the FSIO has a checking account balance of $22,750, a savings account balance of $5,001 and a Tong Award’s Fund balance of $35,444.

Old Business:

Michael Trimpe (Hamilton Co.) previously indicated the willingness to organize a gunshot residue distance determination course. Mike revealed many labs have ceased or suspended doing this analysis, because of accreditation standards requiring an uncertainty of measurement calculation for this procedure. President Butt asked Mike to query the membership, to ascertain if there is still interest in such an offering.

Chad Wissinger previously proposed an ISO 17025:2017 transition course. The Membership tabled this proposal due to lack of interest of those present.

Chad Wissinger discussed a four day Ron Smith course entitled, Finding Latent Print Evidence with Chemistry and Light. The Fire Marshal’s Office is willing to host this event. The unsubsidized tuition per student will be $600, with a minimum fifteen attendees needed. Chad volunteered to query the membership, to see if there is sufficient interest in this offering to move forward.

Bob Budgake, on behalf of Jeff Lynn (BGSU), announced that Introductory Expert Witness Testimony Training will be held at Ohio BCI, located on the Bowling Green State University campus, November 7-8, 2018. This offering had a lot of interest and is already closed to new registrations. Bob indicated that Jeff is willing to repeat this offering in the future. Bob disclosed Jeff’s interest in hosting our spring 2019 FSIO
meeting, on the BGSU campus, so that they can show off their newly renovated forensic science education area.

Angela Farrington reported Columbus hosted an Ohio firearms examiner’s meeting in August. They had 26 attendees for the morning session and 20 remained for the afternoon workshop. Kevin Lattyak, who attended, thought it was an exceptional meeting. He was impressed with the presentation by Chris Monturo (Miami Valley) regarding manufacturers & toolmarks. Kevin expressed that this could be a worthy FSIO offering to consider in the future.

New Business:

Bob Budgake presented the Emeritus Membership application of Linda Erdei, who recently retired from Lake County after 18 years as Director, 26 years total. Motion to accept, Bob Budgake; Second, Michele Foster. All Members voted in the affirmative. The Membership wished Linda well. Bob advised that the Founding Member status of Ken Betz (Miami Valley) will be converted to Emeritus. Ken has not attended a FSIO meeting in a year, therefore triggering this change of status.

Mike Trimpe gleefully volunteered to organize an Ohio drug chemist’s meeting for the spring of 2019. Angela Farrington offered the Columbus PD training facility as a possible location. Motion to provide lunch and anticipated lecturer’s travel expenses; Second, Heather Sheskey. All Members voted in the affirmative. The Membership instructed Mike to come back to the group, with an estimate of the total cost, so the Membership can authorize.

Nasir Butt delightedly revealed the Board appointed him to represent the FSIO on the Ohio Attorney General’s Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System Advisory Committee. He stated their first meeting was August 27th. The intent of the AG is to give victims the ability to track the status of their sexual assault kit, as it makes its way through the criminal justice system. Nasir recommended this proposed tracking does not reveal the examination results. He asked the membership to e-mail him nbutt@cuyahogacounty.us regarding any suggestions or concerns about this endeavor. Nasir noted that Idaho has such a system up and running and Michigan & Washington are in the process of implementing. Tony Tambasco questioned if the minutes to this meeting were available for review. Karen Kwek stated that she would look into this matter.

The next meeting of the FSIO, which is our Annual Meeting, is scheduled for 10 am, Thursday, December 13, 2018, 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 10:47am. Motion, Bob Budgake; Second, Michele Foster. All Members voted in the affirmative.
Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Budgake, Secretary, FSIO