

Meeting Minutes for the Forensic Science Institute of Ohio

Prior to the FSIO Meeting, Chris Vogelpohl, NIBIN Supervisor, Cincinnati PD, gave a presentation and answered questions. Chris discussed the use of the Brass Magic software, developed by ATF, which is showing promising results. This software is currently only being used in Cincinnati. He also shared that they are providing free NIBIN training. This training is three and a half days long.

A Meeting of the FSIO was called to order at 10:25 am, on September 9, 2021, at the Hamilton County Coroner's Office, first floor conference room, 4477 Carver Woods Drive, Blue Ash, Ohio 45242. President Rebecca Barlag (Ohio Univ.) presided over the meeting.

The following Members and guests were present: Casey Agosti (BCI Bowling Green), Bob Budgake (Canton-Stark - Retired), Bill Dean (Hamilton Co. - Retired), Jen Duvall (BCI London), Michele Foster (Canton-Stark), Diane Gehres (BCI London), Mark Hiatt (Newark), Laura Kimble (Hamilton Co.), Karen Kwek (BCI-London), Mark Losko (BCI London), Heather Sheskey (OSHP), Mike Trimpe (Hamilton Co.), Doug Wimsatt (Hamilton Co.) and Chad Wissinger (State Fire Marshal). Tony Tambasco (Mansfield) was represented by proxy. A quorum was NOT present. Nine of the eighteen eligible voters were present or represented, therefore no business of the Institute was conducted.

Chad Wissinger gave the Treasurers' report. He disclosed the FSIO has a checking, PayPal and saving's account balance of \$26,743, and a Tong Award's Fund balance of \$40,757. Chad confirmed that the concern raised by Jim Smith (BCI London) at our last meeting, regarding the \$3 monthly minimum balance fee being charged to the Tong Awards Fund was justified. The bank said they will reimburse these charges.

Bob Budgake, on behalf of Jeff Lynn (Bowling Green State U.), reported on two planned courses re: pharmacophores and difficult latent print decisions. Jon Sprague presented the pharmacophore class virtually to BCI chemists only. Jeff indicated the virtual format did not work well for this offering. Jeff recommended that this class could be offered live at the next Ohio drug chemist's meeting. The Establishing & Implementing Latent Print Suitability Criteria course is being offered on-line, by Evolve Forensics, October 18-22, 2021. The cost is \$550. Bob stated he sent the flyer out to the membership. If anyone is in need to have this resent, please contact him.

Doug Wimsatt reported that the Edwards' vacuum rough pump maintenance course is scheduled for October 22nd, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, at the Hamilton County Crime Lab. For registration or any question, contact Doug at Doug.wimsatt@hamilton-co.org or 513-946-8758. Until October 1st, registration will be restricted to Ohio personnel. After this date, they will open registration to other states.

President Barlag advised that they will not know until October, the status of their three year multi-million-dollar NIJ grant to provide continuing education to current and future practitioners and other criminal justice stakeholders. Regardless of the outcome of this grant,

Rebecca intends to develop a center of forensic sciences at their campus for the same stated purpose.

New Business:

Chad Wissinger requested that the proposal, to organize an Ohio digital examiners meeting, be removed from the agenda. Chad indicated that this group has plenty of alternatives to meet and communicate with each other.

Mark Hiatt requested that the Membership consider sponsoring another court room testimony class for new hires. Rebecca Barlag stressed that they are very interested in hosting such an event, though she would prefer waiting until their October grant notification, before committing. Mike Trimpe graciously offered to share their in-house program with anyone interested.

*The next Meeting of the FSIO, which will be our Annual Meeting, will be 10 am, Thursday, December 9, 2021, at the **Ohio Fire Academy**, 8895 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,

*Robert E. Budgake
Secretary, FSIO*