Meeting Minutes for the
Forensic Science Institute of Ohio

A Meeting of the FSIO was called to order at 10:00am, on September 8, 2022, at the Ohio Fire Academy, 8895 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio. President Mark Hiatt (Central Ohio Regional Crime Lab-Newark) presided over the meeting.

Attending in person or via MS teams – Erin Reed (DPS), Mike Trimpe (Hamilton Co), Heather Sheskey (OSHP), Brandon Werry (OSHP), Chad Wissinger (Ohio Fire Marshal), Angela Farrington (Columbus PD), Karen Kwek (BCI&I), James Smith (BCI&I), Rebecca Barlag (Ohio University), Brooke Ehlers (Miami Valley Regional), Harmeet Kaur (Cuyahoga County), LeAnne Suchanek (Lake County), Michele Foster (Canton-Stark), Dan Baker (Franklin Co) and Nasir Butt (Cuyahoga Co). Bob Budgake (Canton-Stark-retired) was represented by proxy. A quorum was present. Thirteen (13) of the eighteen (18) eligible voters were present.

First motion to approve meeting minutes of 06/09/22 given by Mike Trimpe; second motion given by Chad Wissinger. All present accepted the meeting minutes.

Chad Wissinger discussed the Treasurer’s report which is detailed on the checking account financial activity report dated 09/06/2022.

Old Business:

- Jeff Lynn was not present at the meeting to discuss the State funding for BGSU’s DNA Analysis lab and learning center.
- Ohio Trace Examiner’s Meeting – Mike Trimpe stated it went well. He wanted to meet regularly to discuss pertinent topics, such as sharing work for accreditation purposes. Mike will be giving a presentation at the ASCLD meeting to encourage continuation with the discipline of trace evidence.
- Ethics Training Course – was presented on Microsoft Teams by Mike Trimpe. It did not get recorded entirely on Teams. Eighty-nine (89) people participated. Mike stated he was willing to make the presentation again for those not able to attend.

New Business:

- Membership applications – Bob Budgake was not present at the meeting and not available for review.
- Courtroom testimony training – Heather Sheskey introduced the topic of training, by reaching out to FSIO members previously via email, inquiring what they were doing for testimony training and if any of their staff needed training in testimony. Erin Reed had responded that she was giving a presentation at the MAFS meeting but was willing to adjust it for a local audience in Ohio. Brandon Werry stated he would send an official email next week. Training would be at OPOTA on
October 25 and 27. The morning is for training and the afternoon for mock trials. He was trying to assign the same disciplines together, so trainees would only need to be present on one of two days. Brandon stated the approximate cost of Subway lunches for trainees and asked for an approximate head count from the attendees. Angela Farrington gave the first motion for FSIO to approve $500 for lunch; Mike Trimpe gave the second motion. The motion was accepted by all present. It was estimated from the current responses that at least 20 analysts of varying disciplines would be attending. Training would be free for attendees. Erin Reed discussed the training. Different prosecutors from different counties would be assisting with presentations for the morning session. Brandon will send out an email to FSIO to obtain attendee registration replies for training.

- No additional future training proposed.
- No miscellaneous new business.

The next Meeting of the FSIO, which will be the Annual Meeting, was proposed by Chad Wissinger, to be held at 10 am, Thursday, December 8, 2022, at the Ohio Fire Academy, 8895 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio, with the option of attending via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am. Chad Wissinger gave the first motion to close the meeting; Brandon Werry gave the second motion. The motion was accepted by all present.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather B. Sheskey (OSHP)