



Colorado Coroners Association

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 20, 2022 ~ 1:00 p.m.

Call Meeting To Order – 1:07 p.m.

Legislative Report – Steve Balcerovich, Kathy Oatis (**Handout**)
Session started January 12, finish May 11. This is an election year.
3rd year of COVID. 1/3 of Senate Staff and Senators have COVID

Major issues – spending stimulus, collective bargaining for elected offices, protecting abortion rights, wildfire management and response

CCA issues – 2 bills One with employment status and pay issues Senate Bill 65 and one for the Mental Health Legislation

Randy Keller and Rob Glassmire to contact Category 2 Counties and notify them before CCI opposes the Bill.
Full time pay will be greater than current pay. Commissioners need to be supportive or at least neutral.

Fremont
Summit
Eagle
Routt
Pitkin
LaPlata

Categories 3 and 4 aren't as urgent because those will need commissioner support.

Randy Keller - Worker's Comp denial for COVID

Worker's Comp claims in the line of duty – Randy has called the State Worker's Compensation Board on behalf of Sandy Graeff. What grounds are they using to deny claim? Sandy Graeff needs to utilize the dispute process.

Randy Keller and Brenda Bock will continue to work with and for Sandy Graeff on this

Coroner Mental Health Legislation

Colorado Funeral Directors Association wants to jump in on this, too. We aren't against them being involved, but they would use up all of the death certificate dollars.

Funeral Home Legislation – Bill sponsored by Dillon Roberts and Soper
Will allow inspections of funeral homes

Eliminating Elected County Coroners – Representative Roberts has been jaded by Lake County. They need to be shown the counties that work. Steve and Kathy are working on this. Nothing will be done about it this year.

Secretary's Report – Brian Cotter (**Handout**)

Review Minutes from Oct 5, 2021

Brian Cotter motion to approve as presented. Victor Yahn second. Motion accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Victor Yahn (**Handout**)

New accounting group is working fine.

Randy Keller motion to accept report as presented. Second by Matt Reid. Motion accepted unanimously.

Major Coroner Issues – Randy Keller (ongoing)

Breakdown of Autopsy/Pathology/Toxicology costs:

Regarding marijuana testing breakdown for required testing for everyone 25 and under.

All counties need to get in touch with the county that performs their autopsies, and what the toxicology costs are so that reimbursement can be achieved.

CCA will send an email to our members regarding costs and reimbursement.

Kayla Dougherty, Teller County Coroner, resigned as of December 31.

Steve Tomsy has been appointed. There are questions about Coroners being Funeral Home owners.

Former Deputy is going to run for the position.

Boulder County Emergency Response – Randy Keller

Boulder County Fire – Randy was in contact with Emma Hall when fire broke out. Reached out for Coroner support. The response from CCA was outstanding! 3 refrigeration vehicles; body bags and gloves were plentiful; El Paso county offered staff and vehicles. Let's applaud the CCA – everyone – who volunteered to assist. Emma was very thankful that she was prepared for a mass casualty event. Within 8 hours, CCA was ready to assist. We are going to keep track of resources that were offered, should we need them in the future.

Dues Update – jen vien

New Business –

EDR Concerns – Brian Cotter – Would like the powers that be at CCSTB to consult with Coroner's and try to get some of the "kinks" that coroners experience worked out. CCA will have CDPHE at the New Coroner Institute, so document issues that need to be worked out.

NPATCH Letter (**Handout**) Leah Derkson is wanting Nurse Practitioners to be able to sign death certificates. Dr. Russell – likes the idea of NP's being able to sign. They can cover for the doctors who are sometimes impossible to locate. Matt Reid - If they can prescribe drugs, they should be able to sign death certificates. Should the CCA Board

endorse this or sit back and see what happens? Some Board Members would recommend CCA does not endorse it. Right now, we wait for legislation. "We are interested in knowing more about how you go about doing this. How are you going to train nurses to complete DCs. "

Our response at this time should be:

CCA cannot support an idea that we do not have enough information about to make a decision about where we stand. We need more information on your organization. How do you propose to get the training done to sign death certificates? Please give us more information so we can make an educated decision.

Certification –jen vien
163 Active Certified Investigators

Coroner Assist Team – Randy Keller

Education – Randy Keller and Matt Reid

Matt announced that Joe Kenda would be one of our presenters. He has some others lined up. Randy Keller wants the agenda for June completed by February 15.

2022 location selections – jen

- June 8, 9, 10 – Sheraton Denver West
- October 5, 6, 7 – DoubleTree Grand Junction
- **2023 – JUNE**
Marriott - \$189/night ++
OCTOBER
DoubleTree Greeley - \$139/night ++

Many suggestions on Evaluations to have shorter days. Suggest starting on Tuesday and going through Friday.

More days would include higher costs in hotel rooms and higher costs in food and beverage, which will affect what CCA charges for registrations. Randy Keller will address this at Conference and Training, and we will get information in the newsletter.

Online is picking up, so we need to make sure the hotel is ready. Jen needs to speak with Randy about the Sheraton.

CCSTB – Randy Keller

Board Meeting this morning. Short meeting. Only 2 Coroners haven't turned in their CE's. CCA is working on the New Coroner Institute location and date. This can be attributed to the online training CCA is providing.

Peer Review – Rob Glassmire. Have only had one complaint this year, but a few that have trickled over from last year. Resolutions have been provided fairly quickly. Randy Keller was contacted by Colleen Hollenbeck (Ouray) regarding a suicide in her county. Family was upset due to insurance issues, and Randy has agreed to review the case for her. Her concern is keeping the manner of death true, but also providing the family with the closure they need.

Marketing & Promotions – Matt Reid

Supplies need to be ordered again this year. Vonnie Valdez motion to give Matt Reid permission to order supplies, clothing not to exceed \$10,000. Lance Boren second. Motion accepted unanimously.

Matt has contacted Spyderco which is a Colorado Company.
We need new tablecloths.

Public Relations – Randy Keller

Website – jen vien
CCA website moving along
CCSTB site up and running

Update on previous Executive Session – Randy Keller
No longer an issue at this time.

Next Board Meeting – Randy Keller
Thursday, April 21, 2022 ~ 1:00 p.m. ZOOM meeting?

Proposed Schedule –
Thursday, April 21, 2022
Tuesday, June 7, 2022
October 4, 2022

Adjourn: 2:29 p.m.