

Ad-Hoc Meeting Minutes

MORTUARY SCIENCE

November 9, 2017; 1:00pm.-3:00pm.

Public Employee's Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA)

60 Empire Drive, St. Paul, MN 55103

IN ATTENTANCE

Members:

Carrie McGhee
Joe Sellwood
Robert L. Ryan
Michael Lubrant
Mark R. Ballard
Jody Bystrom

Guests:

Paul Maher
Dana Makepeace
Ashley Czaplewski
Cheryl Kulvich
Michael Matthews

MDH Staff:

Susan Winkelmann
Catherine Lloyd
Laurie Studer
Marguerite Slonine
Carlena Weiland
Erika Fulgern
Brandon Sheirich
Maria Schaff
Scott Fried

1. Convene and Introductions

Introductions were made.

2. Announcements

- a. Staffing Update: MDH staff member Brandon Sheirich has been assigned to provide administrative support to the Mortuary Science Ad Hoc Committee.
- b. Ad-Hoc Committee Vacancy: There is one vacancy on the Mortuary Science Ad Hoc Committee. The Department is seeking a licensee/establishment owner for

MORTUARY SCIENCE AD HOC COMMITTEE MINUTES

appointment to the Mortuary Science Ad Hoc Committee. Interested individual may contact Brandon Sheirich for an application.

- c. MDH Office of Vital Records provided an update on the Minnesota Registration & Certification System (MR&C).

3. Guest Speaker – Angela McArthur, Director, Anatomy Bequest Program, U of M

McArthur gave a presentation to the Ad-Hoc Committee on battery operated medical devices in postmortem settings.

4. Old Business

- a. Side-By-Side Comparison of Bill. MDH staff, Minnesota Funeral Directors Association and Ad Hoc Committee discussed the two bills that were introduced during the 2017 legislative session on crematory operating training. The discussions centered around the process and ideas on how to reconcile the two bills or come to a consensus on the appropriate level of regulation for crematory operators and the potential budgetary impact. Bills included:
 - i. MFDA SF1665/HF1025 (2017). Defines Cremator Operator and establishes qualifications. [SF1665-HF1025 \(2017\)](#).
 - ii. MDH HF1839, Sec. 8-16. Establishes training requirements for cremator operators, clarifies requirements for authorization of cremation by persons having right to control the disposition of decedent, includes a provision to refuse delivery of a body with an implanted mechanical or radioactive device, and requires a release of cremated remains form. [HF1839 \(2017\)](#)
- b. Committee members and interested parties discussed a number of issues/concerns that needed resolution:
 - Need for Bloodborne pathogen training (MFDA bill)
 - Need to determine whether the MFDA bill creates a barrier to entering the occupation
 - Knowledge/experience with other licensing jurisdictions
 - Need to know how professional associations, educational institutions and manufacturers establish cremator operating training
 - Impact of implantable medical devices (particularly when the licensee or cremator operator is unaware of implanted medical devices prior to cremation)
- c. Action Plan for December 12, 2017 meeting: MDH to obtain data from the Cremation Association of North American (CANA), National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA), International Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association (ICCF); manufacturing and/or educational institutions.

MORTUARY SCIENCE AD HOC COMMITTEE MINUTES

5. **New Business.**

- a. University of Minnesota Mortuary Science Program Update – Tabled until December 12, 2017.
 - i. Summary of Wisconsin Fall Conference
 - ii. DMACC Program – Internships
Ballard wants to follow up with Catherine about the internship/staffing.
 - iii. Student Survey

Agenda of December: Follow-up Crematory Operator training programs, U of M Update

Next Meeting
Thursday, December 12, 2017

Minnesota Department of Health
PO Box 64882
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882
651-201-3829
health.mortsci@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us

08/24/2017

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3829. Printed on recycled paper.