

## Meeting Minutes: Mortuary Science Ad-Hoc

Date: February 20, 2018 1:00 pm -3:00 pm  
Minutes prepared by: Brandon Sheirich  
Location: PERA, 60 Empire Drive, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN 55103

### Attendance

- **Members:** Joe Sellwood, Michael Lubrant, Robert Archbold, Carrie McGhee, Robert L. Ryan
- **Guests:** Tim Koch, Michael Matthews
- **MDH Staff:** Susan Winkelmann, Catherine Lloyd, Laurie Studer, Marguerite Slonine, Carlena Weiland, Erika Fulgern, Brandon Sheirich, Molly Crawford

### Convene and Introductions

- Introductions were made

### Announcements

- **Mortuary Science Staff Update** - Lloyd introduced Damchik-Dykes as the new assistant manager for the Mortuary Science section. Lloyd also announced a vacancy for the Mortuary Science Section's credentialer position.
- **Ad Hoc Committee Member Update** – Lloyd announced Archbold as a new member of the Ad Hoc Committee.
- **Ad Hoc Committee Calendar Year 2018 Schedule** – Sheirich informed the Committee about upcoming meeting dates for the 2018 calendar year.
- **Office of Vital Records – MR and C Update** - Crawford updated the Committee on MR and C and the move to using Amazon resources. Papercut's successes and progress was also made known to the Committee.
- **2018 Legislative Session** - Winkelmann presented an overview of the upcoming legislative session. Winkelmann said that the cremator operator legislation will not be presented this session while housekeeping language will be introduced to clean up existing statutory language.

## Business

- **Crematory Operating Training Bill Update** – Sellwood reviewed the crematory operating training bill aimed at amending House File (H.F.) 2015. The Minnesota Funeral Directors Association will introduce the bill during the legislative session. Koch asked why licensed people were left out of the language of the bill and a discussion regarding the costs to licensed individuals if they were included into the bill.
- **MDH Policy Bill** – Lloyd reviewed with the Committee, the Department of Health’s Policy bill which will be introduced at the legislative session. Lloyd stated the intention of the bill is to clean up language regarding the release of cremated remains.

Lloyd suggested that the Committee to work on creating language that would cover implanted medical devices for introduction to legislation. Questions regarding responsibility for removing the devices, inviting experts to talk about what language should be included, and providing educational courses for both students and as continuing education for currently licensed professionals.

- **University of Minnesota Update** – Lubrant presented the embalming and cremation preliminary data trends through 2017. Lubrant also summarized how Wisconsin handles internships and the language used in legislation to establish internships for that state’s mortuary science field.
- **E-Licensing** – Lloyd presented the progress of the E-Licensing project, stating the impact to the Mortuary Science Section would be a more robust and developed licensing system utilized by credentialing, investigations and inspections.
- **Red Lake**– Crawford presented the difficulties funeral homes and crematories encounter while performing their work on the Red Lake Reservation.

## Next Meeting

Date: April 17, 2018

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