

MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS (MAPA)

Spring Board Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2020

Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia, MO

Meeting called to order at 7:42 p.m. by MAPA President, Carol Johnson. Four members of the executive board were present along with 7 other public administrators. Carol thanked everyone for all that they do for our Association, especially with the struggles that have resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, the 2020 convention has been streamlined to only include public administrators. Region 5, led by Rhonda Noe, worked tirelessly to make the necessary changes. **Credentials** for the 2020 convention (as reported by Rhonda Noe) include 90 registered public administrators. Public administrators with health issues were exempted from in-person attendance.

Rhonda Noe of Region 5 provided a **convention report**, highlighting the changes that will occur this year as part of the modified conference experience. Each public administrator will remain in the same seat for the entire conference. Meals will be plated or served pre-prepared. A videographer has been secured to record all training sessions so that plans can be made for virtual training of the public administrators who were unable to attend in person. The group discussed possible ways to deliver this virtual training, and agreed that the delivery format will ultimately be left to the MAPA executive committee and MAPA training committee. Rhonda noted that the hotel staff has been phenomenal to work with. The MAPA convention is the first large gathering that the hotel has hosted since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Rhonda asked that each regional vice-president deliver the complimentary backpacks and materials to those in his/her region that were unable to attend in person.

MAPA Secretary Danielle Boggs reported that the **minutes** from the November 2019 board meeting are on the MAPA website for review. Amanda Huffman made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Theresa Lupardus seconded the motion. Minutes approved as written.

Treasurer's report (see attached) was given by Cher Caudel. MAPA's total assets are \$113,772.76. Cher reported that the payment to Simply Strategy has been made, as well as the December installment to The Penman Group. All of the CD's have been moved to Commerce Bank in accordance with the vote at the November 2019 board meeting. Amanda Huffman made a motion to approve the report as written; Lisa Reitzel seconded the motion. Report approved. Carol Johnson reminded Cher to forward her records to the audit committee for review.

Carol Johnson recognized the five **new public administrators**: Vicky Fish of Gentry County, Colby Baker of Linn County, Tonya Garvin of McDonald County, Joy Williams of Newton County, and Janice Martin of Lawrence County.

Retiring public administrators will be recognized at Wednesday's lunch following the announcement of the Public Administrator of the Year. Twenty-four individuals are listed, with a combined 221 years of experience! Nine of those retiring only served one term. Nine public administrator races will be opposed in the 2020 primary election, and six will be opposed in the 2020 general election. Putnam County has no one on the ballot and will be filled via appointment.

President's Report: Carol Johnson reported that she has really enjoyed working with everyone. She believes that MAPA has gained multiple relationships with agency partners in our state. MAPA has made its presence more apparent with MAC, DMH, MO P&A, SDM Consortium, and DHSS. Carol encouraged anyone who is able, to attend the SDM Consortium. She noted that the Standards of Practice Task Force has compiled a great support tool for MAPA members. Carol stated that the MAPA Legislative Committee worked hard to get a "salary bill" on the radar; Carol and Cher both testified at a Senate hearing in February, but the process was later derailed (for now) by the COVID-19 response. The Simply Strategy Guardianship study was completed. Carol presented MAPA's presentation, "Public Administrators: The Most Important Job Nobody Knows About—Until They Need Us," to the DHSS Adult Protective Services quarterly training twice in Jefferson City; the Mental Health Coalition's emergency room enhancement quarterly meeting in Jefferson City; MACDDS (with Amanda Huffman and Kaycee Nail) in Columbia; Real Voices Real Choices conference (with Steve Farmer, Karen Digh-Allen, and Cher Caudel) at Lake of the Ozarks; the 30th Circuit Court Juvenile Office quarterly meeting in Buffalo; and the MA4 Conference in Branson. Carol attended the National Guardianship Association's annual conference in Lexington, Kentucky, which was a great time! She noted that Angie Casavecchia is the only public administrator to currently have the National Master Guardian distinction, and that Karen Digh-Allen is scheduled to take the NMG test next week. Finally, Carol reported that she attended the meetings of regions 2, 4, 5, and 9.

Vice-President's Report: Amanda Huffman reported that she attended the meetings of Regions 1, 6, and 7 and a lobby day. Amanda manned a booth at the MACDDS convention and participated in an SDM "training." She has worked with the NAMI Federation and participated in a phone conference with our lobbyist and DMH regarding the COVID-19 response plan.

Old business: The group discussed the Web-ex process and concluded that it is more difficult to work with than the free Zoom platform. Karen Digh-Allen made a motion to not renew MAPA's Web-ex subscription. Cher Caudel seconded the motion; motion carried. The group discussed the importance of MAPA's positive presence among agencies and organizations that work with our individuals or with similar causes. Karen Digh-Allen made a motion to spend up to \$5,000 per year for booths and/or sponsorships at conferences and/or events that support individuals, causes, and ideals that are important to MAPA as a whole, to be determined by the MAPA executive board. Cher Caudel seconded this motion; motion carried.

New business: By-law updates will be introduced at the general meeting tomorrow and be voted upon at Friday's meeting. The election of officers will be completed on Wednesday, and the new officers will be sworn in on Friday. The Standards of Practice Manual will be presented for adoption by members. The group briefly discussed the video training of the conference and what

types of future use this may have (e.g., new public administrator training?). Carol mentioned that The Penman Group has asked MAPA if we would donate to their PAC. After discussion, the group does not feel comfortable agreeing to a PAC donation at this time, because there are varied political opinions within our organization and many unknowns about the causes that the PAC might support.

Richard Lee made a motion to adjourn; Lisa Rietzel seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Boggs, MAPA Secretary

Webster County Public Administrator

