Midwestern Criminal Justice Association  
General Business Meeting  
September 25, 2015  
Prepared by: Kimberly D. Dodson

Officers’ Attendance: Recent Past President George Burruss, President Victoria Simpson-Beck, 1st Vice-President Joseph Ferrandino, 2nd Vice-President Jennifer Peck, 2nd Vice-President-elect Jason Spraitz, Secretary Kimberly Dodson, Treasurer Jeffrey Bumgarner, Journal of Crime & Justice Assistant Managing Editor Maude Beaudry-Cyr, Region 3 Trustee Joseph Schafer, and ACJS President Brandon Applegate.

Vicky called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

Old Business

Kim provided the MCJA members with copies of the minutes from the previous General Business meeting for September 26, 2014. The minutes were approved without revision.

Treasurer’s Report

Jeff presented the treasurer’s report. He noted that he had eliminated the Bremer account and MCJA is under U.S. Bank now. He also stated that the Edward Jones accounts were in limbo and that we needed to decide what to do with this money. He suggested that we could move it to CDs or invest it. He stated that our financial picture looks good and that we’ve saved more than we’ve spent.

Jeff stated we have a good reciprocal relationship with Taylor & Francis and that we have received royalties from JC&J. He also indicated we have good sponsorship numbers and that we are now using Square for membership renewal and conference preregistration.

Jeff also discussed the 501 (C)(3) status. He indicated he filed the 1023EZ form for non-profit organizations. In 1989, there was an error in our paperwork that stated MCJA was a “for profit” organization. It was corrected in 1991 as “non-profit” – it appeared to be a typo – because we were never a “for profit” organization. However, another application has been submitted and he will be notified.

ACJS Report

Brandon Applegate, President ACJS presented the ACJS report. He discussed that the conference would be held a little later than usual next year (i.e., the last week of March and first week of April). He discussed the theme of the conference and encouraged members to participate in the conference. He indicated there would be a lot of opportunities to participate in various activities including police ride alongs, prison tours, court house tours, marijuana grow operations, and sports security. He stated there will lots of things to do at ACJS in Denver and that he looked forward to seeing us there.
Journal of Crime & Justice Report

Maude presented the JC&J report because Michael Leiber was not in attendance. She stated that the journal had 54 submissions not including special issues. The average turnaround time for decisions was 20 days and 58 weeks to publication.

JC&J will be sending out solicitations for special issues. The journal is looking for critical essays on selected special topics. In 2016, there will be four issues (March, June, September, and December).


Tom Castellano Award

Vicky presented the Tom Castellano Award to Melissa Burek.

Past President Recognition

George Burruss and Joe Ferrandino presented Vicky with an appreciation award for her service as President of MMCJA.

Student Paper Competition

Vicky presented the student paper awards:

- Alicia Jurek, Sam Houston State University was the winner of the graduate student paper award. Her paper was entitled, “Police Agency Response to Human Trafficking.”

- Michaela Otto, University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh was the winner of the undergraduate paper award. Her paper was entitled, “Women in Law Enforcement: An Examination of Female Interest in Policing.”

- Vicky awarded certificates of participation to the remaining students who submitted paper entries for the student paper competition.

Elections and Transitions

Vicky congratulated the incoming officers:

- Jason Spraitz – 2nd Vice-President,
- Kimberly Dodson – Secretary, and
- Jeffrey Bumgarner – Treasurer.
Transitions

Vicky noted the following transitions:

- Joseph Ferrandino, President,
- Jennifer Peck, 1st Vice-President, and
- Victoria Beck, Past President.

General Announcements

Vicky discussed some of the “growing pains” we have experienced as a result of trying to streamline things through our new webpage. Kim discussed some of the site problems as a result of Weebly (our server) doing down for a couple of days.

Vicky noted August 1, 2016 would be the new deadline for abstract submissions. This would allow for the release and publication of the preliminary program by August 15, 2016. She told the membership that we were working on having an online submission portal up and running for next year. She also let the membership know that we would be sending several email reminders about conference deadlines.

Vicky asked if there was any new business. The membership discussed the following items:

- Do not overlap panel session with the Career Fair.
- Develop a protocol for posting position announcements.
- Develop a protocol for using the MCJA listserv (the members noted that they did not want to receive spam emails).
- Send out a survey to members about improvements to MCJA and committee service.

March Elections

Vicky suggested that we stagger the terms of the secretary and treasurer or increase term length. The hope is to make the transition between new officers easier and so that we are not replacing officers all at the same time.

New Conference Hotel

Vicky announced there was a new hotel contract with the Garden Hilton Inn for the 2016 conference. She stated the rate would be $199.00 per night. She stated they will not lock the rate annually but they will give us a 2-year contract with an anticipated rate increase of three percent per year.

Awards and Committee Assignments

Vicky encouraged individuals to nominate a deserving MCJA member for the Tom Castellano Award.
She also asked for members to consider serving on standing committees as outlined in the MCJA By-Laws. She encouraged anyone who was willing to serve to email her directly at: beckv@uwoh.edu prior ACJS or speak with a Board member prior to ACJS.

New Business

Vicky made a call for new business. No new business was brought forth.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.