Missouri Coroners and
Medical Examiners Association

Missouri Coroners and Medical Examiners Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2026

Meeting Called to Order: 6:06 pm
Meeting Format: Virtual
Presiding Officer: President Willie Harlow
Quorum: Established

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
   - President Willie called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
   - The minutes from the September 27, 2026, Board of Directors meeting were presented for approval.
   - A correction was requested to reflect the attendance of Lee, Troop H Director, who arrived late to the September meeting.
   - Motion: James Harrison moved to approve the September 27 meeting minutes with the attendance correction.
   - Second: Lee.
   - Vote: Motion carried with no opposition recorded.

3. Officer Reports

President's Report
- The president reported overwhelmingly positive feedback from the Fall 2026 Conference, particularly regarding the quality of educational programming provided through the International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME).
- The president also noted increased member engagement, including suggestions for improving association services and supporting coroners throughout Missouri.

Vice President's Report
- Vice President Michael Taylor echoed the positive conference feedback, describing the educational programming as among the strongest he had experienced during his tenure.
- He also acknowledged increased participation by association members in Board of Directors meetings and expressed support for continuing the partnership with IACME.

Secretary's Report
- Secretary Megan reported no additional business.

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Treasurer's Report

- The September 2026 financial report and Fall Conference expense summary were presented.
- Financial highlights included:
  - September 30, 2026, checking account balance: $213,958.16.
  - Updated checking account balance reported at the meeting: $129,372.75.
  - September state reimbursement received: $119,000.57, subject to confirmation against the written report.
  - Combined Fall Conference expenditures for Margaritaville Lake Resort and IACME: $151,026.45.
  - Payments to Margaritaville Lake Resort and IACME were completed.
  - Preparation for the first fourth-quarter state reimbursement was underway.
- The written Treasurer's Report was distributed to board members by email prior to the meeting.
- Motion: Treasurer Calvin moved to accept the Treasurer's Report.
- Second: James Harrison.
- Vote: Motion carried with no opposition recorded.

4. Old Business

Professional Standards Policy

- The board revisited the proposed Professional Standards Policy, previously distributed for review.
- Discussion focused on establishing clear timelines for complaints, written notifications and the handling of complaints involving deputy coroners.
- The following amendments were proposed:
  - Section 7, Complaint Submission and Initial Screening: Complaints should be submitted within 30 days of the conduct at issue or the complainant's discovery of the conduct, absent good cause for delay.
  - Section 8, Notice to Respondent: Written notice should be provided within 30 days.
  - Section 8, Deputy Coroner Notification: When a complaint involves a deputy coroner, the elected coroner of that county will also be notified.
- The board discussed the distinction between notifying an elected coroner and involving that individual in the investigation. Members generally agreed that notification was appropriate, while further participation would depend on the circumstances and applicable policy provisions.
- Motion: James Harrison moved to approve the Professional Standards Policy with the amendments to Sections 7 and 8 as discussed.
- Second: Lee.
- Vote: Motion carried with no opposition recorded.

5. New Business

Spring 2027 Conference Planning

- An update was provided regarding the Spring 2027 Conference.
- The conference will take place March 29-April 1, 2027, at Margaritaville Lake Resort in Osage Beach, Missouri.

- Monday, March 29: Arrival and preparation.
- Tuesday, March 30-Thursday, April 1: Conference programming and training.
- The revised schedule accommodates Easter Sunday, March 28.
- MCMEA will again partner with IACME to provide educational programming.
- A larger ballroom has been secured to accommodate additional exhibitors and create opportunities to expand vendor participation and sponsorships.
- The board also discussed reinstating the traditional spring conference banquet, consistent with an earlier decision. Wednesday, March 31, was identified as a potential banquet date.
- Members discussed forming a planning committee and obtaining assistance from conference partners with banquet coordination, sponsorships and exhibitor engagement.
- No new formal motion was recorded regarding the conference arrangements.

6. Open Discussion and Announcements

Deputy Coroner Training Requirements

- A member requested clarification regarding newly hired deputy coroners who have not completed the required training.
- Members discussed the distinction between hiring an individual in a training capacity and formally appointing that individual as a deputy coroner. It was explained that an individual may potentially work in an investigator-in-training capacity under appropriate county arrangements but cannot independently perform deputy coroner duties until statutory training requirements are satisfied.
- No formal action was taken.
- Additional Training Opportunity
- Craig reported ongoing discussions with Valor regarding a potential no-cost pre-death investigation training opportunity for coroners and law enforcement personnel.
- The proposed training may take place in Cape Girardeau, depending on attendance and facility availability.
- Additional information will be shared once dates and arrangements are confirmed.

2027 Association Budget

- The board discussed developing a proposed 2027 operating budget before the beginning of the new calendar year.
- Emily was asked to coordinate with the association's accountant to prepare a preliminary budget for possible presentation at the December 2026 board meeting.
- No formal vote was recorded.

7. Motion to Enter Closed Session

- A motion was made and seconded to conclude the open session and enter closed session.
- Vote: Motion carried with no opposition recorded.
- Non-board participants were thanked for their attendance and asked to leave the virtual meeting before the closed session began.