

# Ad-Hoc Meeting Minutes

## MORTUARY SCIENCE

December 12, 2017; 1:00pm.-3:00pm.

Hiway Federal Credit Union

840 Westminster St., St. Paul, MN 55103

## IN ATTENTANCE

### Members

Joe Sellwood  
Alexa Goetsch  
Michael Lubrant  
Mark Arnold  
Jody Bystrom  
Peter Lind  
Carrie McGhee

### Guests

Robert Archbold  
Tim Koch  
Dana Makepeace  
Angela McArthur  
Scott Benson  
Paul Maher  
Michael Matthews

### MDH Staff

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

## Convene and Introductions

- Introductions were made.

## Announcements

- **Ad-Hoc Committee Vacancy** - There is one vacancy on the Mortuary Science Ad Hoc Committee. The Department is seeking a licensee/establishment owner for appointment to the Mortuary Science Ad Hoc Committee. Interested individual may contact Brandon Sheirich for an application. A Committee member suggested to open up the positions of the Ad-hoc Committee to other professions within the Mortuary Science field.
- **Health Occupations Program (HOP)/Mortuary Science Staff Update** – Assistant Manager/Supervisor – Lloyd notified the Committee that the position is filled and that the new assistant manager will attend the next Ad-Hoc Committee meeting.
- **Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Office of Vital Records (OVR) provided an update on the Minnesota Registration & Certification System (MR&C)** – Schaff stated to the Committee that Medical Certifiers have been filing death records with OVR to a rate of 99.8%. Schaff also provided an update on the progress of the Paper Cut project and improvements to the MR&C.

## Old Business

- **Occupational Regulation – Policy** - Lloyd spoke on the subject of the language used in legislation going into the 2018 legislative year regarding private, certifying organizations. Lloyd focused on the idea of adding recognized certification organizations into legislation.
- **MDH Staff Review of Crematory Operator Training Programs** – Weiland went through a review she conducted of four organizations that administer crematory operator training programs that are listed below. Weiland emphasized the aspects of each organization that closely aligned with the regulations Lloyd spoke about previously in the meeting. Individual handouts of Weiland’s review, of each crematory operator training program, are available upon request.
  - Cremation Association of North America (CANA)
  - National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA)
  - International Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association (ICCFA)
  - Matthews Environmental Solutions

The four organizations listed are private entities and the discussion focused on the possibility of adding private organizations into the regulatory language. The Committee discussed looking at what other states do when adding private organizations to their regulatory laws. There was also an emphasis on the regulatory language and the difficulties those regulations will encounter when fluctuations in the field occur.
- **Moving Ahead: Action Plan for February Meeting** – Winkelmann provided the Committee with an overview of the upcoming 2018 Legislative Session.

## New Business

- **University of Minnesota Mortuary Science Program Update** – McArthur fielded questions related to her presentation at the November meeting regarding battery operated implanted medical devices. McArthur also went into detail about training and educating morticians on removing devices that are radioactive or otherwise. McArthur pointed out that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has relevant information available about the safe handling of remains that have received medical interventions using radioactive implants or other therapies.

LuBrant provided the Committee with a general overview of the current status of the University of Minnesota's Mortuary Science Program. LuBrant spoke about the faculty, student body and the challenges facing the Program as changes arise in the Mortuary Science field.

Next Meeting  
April 17, 2018

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