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**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**  
**BOARD OF MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS**  
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**SPECIAL MEETING**

Board Meeting Minutes from  
Thursday December 5, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.  
921 N.E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 and  
Via videoconference at 1627 Southwest Blvd., Tulsa, OK 74117

*In conformity with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, advance notice of this meeting was transmitted to the Oklahoma Secretary of State on November 6, 2024, at 11:13 A.M. and public notice of this meeting, together with the agenda, was posted in prominent public view on the front door of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 921 NE 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK and 1627 Southwest Blvd., Tulsa, OK 74117.*

Members present in Oklahoma City: Mr. Tyler Stiles, Mr. Roger McIver, Ms. Angela Marsee, Dr. Michael Magguilli.

Members present in Tulsa: Dr. Jason Beaman and Dr. Eric Harp

Members absent: Mr. Keith Reed and Dr. Eric Pfeifer, Representative of the Oklahoma State Medical Association (OSMA)

Others Present: Dr. Josh Lanter (OCME), Madalynn Martin (OAG), Kari Learned (OCME), Lori Shively (OCME).

Dr. Harp called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

Dr. Beaman motioned to adopt the minutes as written from the August 8, 2024, meeting. Mr. Stiles seconded the motion. Roll was called, and all others were in favor.

- Nomination, discussion, and possible election of the Board of Medicolegal Investigations, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Board Chairman. Mrs. Marsee motioned to nominate Mr. Stiles as Board Chairman. Dr. Beaman seconded the motion. Roll was called, Mr. Stiles abstained, all others were in favor.

- Nomination, discussion, and possible election of the Office of the Board of Medicolegal Investigations, Chief Medical Examiner Board Vice Chairman. Dr. Beaman motioned to nominate Dr. Harp as Vice-Chairman. Mrs. Marsee seconded the motion. Roll was called; all were in favor.

- Agency update from Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Joshua Lanter  
~ Dr. Lanter presented the agency update to the Board.

• As of August 1, 2024, we have the personnel to meet the standards for accreditation. One obstacle facing us was ensuring we meet the case turnaround time performance standards. (90% of cases being closed within 90 days). As of today, we are at 91% of cases completed within 90 days. The eventual goal is to have 90% of cases completed within 60 days. This data is being tracked weekly.

Turnaround time for toxicology reports is currently 96% being completed within 90 days.

- Fellowship -

The fellowship program is currently training 2 forensic fellows who are doing exceptionally well. The program has 2 fellows placed for the next academic year. The candidates who are interested in our program are top quality. We believe the interest in our program is due to our personnel and the training environment. Another thing that puts us in the spotlight is our social media presence. This enables us to communicate with the younger generation who we want to attract to forensics.

We participate in the National Residency Matching Program (Match). We list our top candidates, and they list their top program. The automated results from this process will determine who becomes part of our program.

- Administration -

Administration is continuing with various projects. Budget request hearings with the House and Senate will be scheduled soon.

We are close to finalizing the selection for the new case management system (CMS). This will replace the Access system the agency has used since 2020.

- Anthropology -

The new anthropologist, Tim Goche will start with the agency in January. He will office in Tulsa and work closely with Angela Berg.

- Autopsy Services -

The Lodox equipment which performs full body x-rays are coming to their end of life. The decision will need to be made whether they are replaced at an approximate cost of \$500K each or refurbished the existing equipment.

- Investigations -

Dr Pfeifer mentioned during the August meeting that the agency is applying for a grant to enhance the 2-way radios the investigators use. The total cost could be \$140K for new radios and if awarded, the grant should cover half of the expense. We hope to know this month or next if the grant is approved. Scene response time is averaging 1 hour, 23 minutes for the entire state. This is the time it takes an investigator to arrive on scene from the time they are notified of a death.

Cremation and transport out of state permit turn-around time is averaging 9 hours, 45 minutes. Our minimum goal is 2 business days which we are well under.

- Toxicology laboratory -

A 4<sup>th</sup> toxicologist is needed to meet the case completion goal. This would greatly assist in achieving the 60 day turn-around for case completion. The lab needs more equipment, space, and additional personnel to get us to that goal.

- Legislation -

FY25 we were awarded \$300K in additional appropriations. With the addition of the new pathologists the request for FY26 will be \$2.5M. We hope to receive the increase in administrative rules which will add approximately \$1MM.

- Priority projects -

The number one priority for OCME continues to be the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) re-accreditation. We anticipate applying for a site visit during the first quarter of 2025.

- Financial -

Dr. Lanter reviewed the financial profit and loss data. We're currently in the red but drawing from the agency's available cash. As of November's statement, the carryover balance is \$6.5M. October expenses were higher; the reason for this is payment was made for the maintenance contracts for the CT scanners.

- Discussion and possible action regarding 2025 meeting dates for the Board of Medicolegal Investigations, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Mrs. Marsee motioned to adopt the following 2025 meeting dates. February 13<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup>, August 14<sup>th</sup>, and November 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Stiles seconded the motion. Roll was called and all were in favor.

- Discussion and possible action to adopt the permanent rule changes to OAC 445:10-1-11 Fees for Forensic Science and Laboratory services [AMENDED].

Notice of rule making intent was published on September 16, 2024. The public comment period ran for 30 days. There was a public hearing on October 22, 2024. No public comments were received, and no one showed up to the public hearing.

Mrs. Marsee motioned to adopt the proposed rule changes. Dr. Beaman seconded the motion. Roll was called and all were in favor.

Dr. Beaman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Magguilli seconded the motion. Roll was called and were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.