



**ROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11, 2016
Newington Town Hall**

Members Attending: Melissa Russell, Pete Gostin, Sue Larsen, Darlene Burrell, Karen Cheyney, Tim DeCarlo, Anne-Marie Mastroianni, Mike Wyman, Lou Decilio, Suzanne Woodward, Kevin McCauley

Ex-Officio Member Attending: Tony Esposito

Non-Members Attending: Linda Cultrera, Laura Wolfe

Meeting was called to order by President Melissa Russell at 10:00 am

I. **Minutes from last meeting:** (January 14, 2016)

Anne-Marie Mastroianni moved to accept / Pete Gostin seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

II. **Treasurer's Report:**

Pete Gostin reported that checkbook had a starting balance of \$58,138.63 and with income of \$2,770.00 and expenses of \$567.87, left us a current balance of \$60,340.76.

Judi Beaudreau Fund (Savings) balance: \$845.48.

Expenses breakdown discussed and clarified.

Discussion of IRS filing ensued.

Sullivan & LeShane credit is being processed and should be reflected in next month's report.

Motion made and accepted to approve Treasurer's Report.

Note: See attached PDF of Financial Report

III. **County Reports:**

- **Fairfield:** No Report

- **Hartford:** Darlene Burrell reported that no meeting in past month, but received inquiries from members about "Monitor" qualifications and job description for those interested. SOTS not consulting with ROVAC on qualification/interview process. Reported that salary for position will be \$8,500.

- **Litchfield:** Anne-Marie Mastroianni reported no meeting
- **Middlesex:** Karen Cheyney reported next meeting on March 3rd.
- **New Haven:** Tim DeCarlo reported meeting held on February 10 in West Haven. Much information shared in very long meeting. 3-4 new registrars and deputies attended. New Haven and Seymour have new registrars. Ryan from LHS warned of tight time schedules for tab maintenance. Be sure to book early. Joint meeting scheduled for March 15th with NH County Town Clerk's Assoc.
- **New London:** No Report
- **Tolland:** Mike Wyman reported meeting held and all 13 towns were represented. Andover is new. 4 brand new registrars and Julie Victoria of Andover sworn in as registrar day after the meeting. Discussed DOJ letter, canvass, legislative talking points & dues. Also consensus was that county is not enamored with doing baskets for conference and may decide on an alternative contribution.
- **Windham:** Suzanne Woodward reported that a meeting was held and mirrored Tolland County's meeting content, including baskets. Windham and Tolland will hold joint meeting in March at Willington Library and will have SOTS cover ENR on Election Day. Very good interest from both counties.

IV. Committee Reports:

- **Conference:** Melissa reported for Chris that the committee has not yet met and they are still finalizing speakers and the program schedules, especially for Friday, in lieu of SOTS absence. Online registration for conference almost ready to post.
- **Education:** Tied in with Conference report.
- **Technology:** No Report
- **Handbook:** Darlene reported that change in duplicate voter letter needs to be updated. Be aware of need to further clarify labor law on 16 - 17 year olds working at polls and the maximum of (6) hours on school day and (8) hours on non-school day. Discussion ensued.
- **Legislative:** Sue Larsen reported that Tim DeCarlo and Melissa Russell shared what was discussed at the meeting with SOTS. Agenda was presented, which is mixed with legislative ideas to be worked out with SOTS. SOTS did not present any legislation they are moving forward with. Melissa discussed SOTS no longer attending conferences and will attend Certification meeting to discuss the hours toward maintaining certification. There may be legislation proposed to clarify 10 hours vs. 8 hours.

The Legislative Committee also had very productive meeting with Sen. Cassano. Solutions to issues were provided and he appreciated working these problems out in a proactive manner. A joint meeting with SOTS, town clerks and us will be happening soon.

ROVAC Day at the capitol will be March 30th from 3 -5 pm and we'll serve ice cream similar to last year.

The committee discussed getting more members involved during the public hearing portion of the session and also about the members being more pro-active at the county meetings.

GAE Committee has been meeting and several of our proposals are concepts that have come out of our committee.

Bill tracking will be implemented like last year.

SOTS had a press release about a mandatory registration system through DMV and we'll continue to monitor. Discussion ensued.

- **Ways & Means:** Lou DeCilio reported that a meeting is scheduled for February 16th.

V. Old Business:

A. Website – Melissa explained website almost done, but we are in need of a volunteer or volunteers to meet with our webmaster, Aaron, in order to finalize and get up and running. Discussion ensued and Tim DeCarlo, Anne-Marie & Sue Larsen volunteered to handle what will be needed.

VI. New Business:

A. DOJ Complaint – Melissa recommended registrars provide information to town attorneys and move on with business at hand. Discussion ensued. IVS placements also discussed.

B. Denise Merrill New Legislative Plan (DMV Automatic Registration) – Melissa opened discussion on SOTS press conference announcing DMV automatic registration and its seamless integration with CVRS. Supposed to generate 400,000 new voters to rolls. Many issues to consider. Discussion ensued and consensus to wait to react until receive solid information from SOTS.

C. Mandatory Certification – Tony Esposito asked for discussion on legal merits. Discussion ensued.

D. CVRS Conflicts – Mike Wyman made aware the issue with CVRS conflicts of privilege dates in processing voters. D to R or vice-versa. Discussion ensued on how to work around issue. SOTS is aware of conflicts in CVRS and is being worked on.

E. Presidential Year Election Concerns for New Registrars – Tim DeCarlo discussed the need for ROVAC to organize a refresher/training day, otherwise the many new registrars in this presidential year will be overwhelmed. This would be designed to lessen the anxiety and allow for smoother Election Day processes. Suggest a day at capitol and/or a class to train and refresh those who haven't been through a presidential or have only experienced one.

Consensus that a July date would be optimal time frame and that the Education Committee be included in any organizing efforts.

Anne-Marie motioned to investigate the possibility to organize a class, working with Education Committee. Karen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Certification Committee Update – Anne-Marie shared that there is an RFP going out for additional instructors in order to expand available dates and times of modules. It has become apparent that to accommodate the overwhelming numbers of registrars attending, we need more class dates available.

Discussion ensued.

G. Legislator Communications – Darlene shared that some of the Hartford County registrars are actively communicating with their respective legislators about SOTS decision to withdraw from conference participation. Clarification that Statute does not require SOTS to attend/be part of our conference. Discussion ensued.

Registrars need to be careful in order to share accurate information with legislators to avoid confusion.

H. Certification History – Tony shared the origins of the current certification process.

Discussion ensued.

VII. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Mike Wyman and seconded by Darlene Burrell at 11:23 AM.

Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin McCauley
Secretary