



**ROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 10, 2016  
Newington Town Hall**

**Members Attending:** Melissa Russell, Darlene Burrell, Karen Cheyney, Fred DeCaro, Lou Decilio, Pete Gostin, Sue Larsen, Anne-Marie Mastroianni, Kevin McCauley, Chris Prue, Suzanne Woodward, Mike Wyman

**Ex-Officio Member Attending:** Tony Esposito

**Non-Members Attending:** Linda Cultrera

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

I. **Minutes from last meeting:** (February 11, 2016)

Pete Gostin moved to accept / Lou Decilio seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

Note: Financial Report attachment to Minutes amended to reflect January 31, 2016 balance.

II. **Treasurer's Report:**

Pete Gostin reported that checkbook had a starting balance of \$60,340.76 and with income of \$725.00 and expenses of \$155.00, left us a current balance of \$60,910.76.

Judi Beaudreau Fund (Savings) balance: \$845.55.

Expenses breakdown discussed and clarified.

Motion made and accepted to approve Treasurer's Report.

**Note: See attached March 10 Financial Report**

III. **County Reports:**

- **Fairfield:** Fred D. reported meeting held with Sue Larsen as guest speaker. Legislative matters were discussed. SOTS seminar at Aqua Turf, conference and COG monitor positions also discussed.
- **Hartford:** Darlene B. reported that meeting held this week. Very good attendance. Information shared that LHS now has all the new memory cards on hand that have been

produced out of the SOTS funding. No other details available about when or how they will be distributed, but assumption is that we'll receive for Presidential Primary.

- **Litchfield:** No Report
- **Middlesex:** Karen C. reported meeting held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and much the same as Fairfield, with Sue Larsen as guest.
- **New Haven:** No Report
- **New London:** No Report
- **Tolland:** Mike W. reported that a joint meeting with Windham County is scheduled March 16<sup>th</sup> with Ted Bromley and crew previewing ENR, stressing that it will not be like what will be rolled out for the training sessions.
- **Windham:** No Report

#### IV. Committee Reports:

- **Conference:** Chris Prue reported initial registrations are going well, 105 to be exact, including vendors. To date, 92 registered for Wednesday, 99 for Thursday & 88 for Friday. 44 towns out of the 169 have confirmed at least one attending. Some vendors who have confirmed: Adkins, OPA, McCoy Technology (IT for hire and offers classes on Microsoft products, etc.), Voter Checklist, Batteries Plus (who has locations in Hamden & Manchester – Hamden will represent at spring conference & Manchester at fall conference). Also new this year is Inclusion Solutions. To check live up to date for those who have registered: [registration.rovac.org/namelist.php](http://registration.rovac.org/namelist.php) Awards Luncheon, in lieu of a banquet, will expand beyond just Service Awards. Categories will also include: Civic Outreach, Hardest Working Newbie, Best Mentor and Best Team (of Registrars). Please email Melissa Russell and/or Chris Prue with nominations. Lesley Mara excited about possibility of speaking at luncheon and teaching on Friday of the conference. Also, Tim DeCarlo credited with initiating and confirming a Federal speaker, Director Matt Boehmer, of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (under the Department of Defense), specifically working with veterans and active military. He's scheduled to speak during and after lunch on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. He will also be attending the Town Clerks' conference. This year's President's gift will be water bottles. Agenda will be finalized soon. Discussion on general class subjects ensued. Contracts signed and payments made for fall conference this year and spring of next.
- **Education:** Tied in with Conference Committee report.
- **Technology:** Darlene B. shared that there was discussion at the Hartford County meeting from 2 members on the TC that shared a meeting scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> in Glastonbury

with Ted Bromley to get information on new technology items. IVS system and GEM software difficulties discussion ensued.

- **Handbook:** Darlene B. handed out helpful hints sheets for a support tool with CVRS in guiding you through process found in Handbook.
- **Legislative:** Sue Larsen reported ROVAC Day confirmed for March 30, 2016 from 1PM – 3PM and will be a repeat of last year’s ice cream social. Flyer has been forwarded to county chairs and should be shared. Looking for strong attendance from registrars.  
Key items discussed:  
Short session to conclude May 4, so committees will finish their work earlier than normal. GAE Committee scheduled to complete their work by March 23, public hearings being conducted on Mondays and Fridays.  
Committee members split up bills to write testimony on each that concerns ROVAC. Better position this year, as opposed to last. No “formal” SOTS bill presented to date. Only basic wording of an “Act concerning auto voter registration through DMV.” Initial sentiment from legislators is that this is poor timing to add any additional responsibilities to DMV. Melissa testified, as did DMV Commissioner. DMV is not in a position to qualify and/or estimate total costs to implement at this time.  
EDR bill is another big bill to watch for modifications.  
Training bill – Melissa testified. Clarification of hours of continuing education needed. Discussion ensued.  
Next meeting to be held in conjunction with ROVAC Day on March 30.
- **Ways & Means:** Lou DeCilio reported meeting held and another scheduled next week. ROVAC gifts being eliminated and will concentrate on baskets and 50/50 only moving forward. Brief discussion ensued.

#### **V. Old Business:**

A. Master Contact Lists – Kevin M. shared status update and hard copy of current list. Still awaiting responses from a few counties and collecting start dates still lagging. One file with 3 tabs: Alpha by Name, Town and County. Mike W. thought that format should be adopted by all county chairs to be uniform. Kevin M. suggests that we have list available for conference check-in, where the individual registrars can fill in their start dates if we don’t have them.

B. Website Update – Darlene asked that as the website is prepared for new launch that consideration be made for listing training dates for trainers, so they won’t have to constantly be sending email updates.

#### **VI. New Business:**

A. Budget Committee Report/Proposal – Sue Larsen handed out budget report proposals and shared that county chairs and Conference Committee input considered and incorporated into budget. Chris P. negotiating skills reflects a conference budget savings of

\$8500. Fred D. recommended that Budget Committee consider including a \$5 increase in dues per year to generate revenue buffer. Discussion ensued.

B. Audit Committee Report – Melissa R. handed out audit reports and thanked Sue L. for helping get the process started and completed. Committee to meet again on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Pete G. motioned to accept audit report as presented and Lou D. seconded. All in favor with Sue Larsen abstaining.

C. COG Monitors – Fred D. requested discussion on monitor contracts. He reported that in his district COG voted to protest position. Metro COG consensus was also negative. COGs seem to be in opposition to position attached to them. Discussion ensued.

D. SOTS Training Day – From confusion in email correspondence from state, Darlene B. asked to clarify if seminar was cancelled and the answer is no, it is still going forward for March 28<sup>th</sup> at Aqua Turf, 9AM with check-in beginning at 8AM. No details of program shared to date.

E. DOJ Letter – Darlene B. asked to clarify referenda equipment mandates and discussion ensued about using paper ballots. They are allowed, but there are guidelines for what can be used, so they must be a ballot facsimile (look like a ballot).

F. Online Voter Registration Outage – Fred D. asked to discuss what happened to those who tried to register online while system was down March 7 & 8. Were they lost or get transferred to the non-DMV side? Did they get a notice while attempting to register? Speculation was they were pushed to the mail-in side. Fred D. will check into this to get more information, so we can understand how to help or process if this happens again.

G. Online Voter Registration – Shutdown dates. Currently 14 days, but legislation in the works to change to 7. Clarification needed on definitive time when online registration is no longer valid.

H. High School Registration Drives – Pete G. discussed that his town seeing decline in HS registrations and Lou D. shared that his office schedules HS drives for graduation rehearsals and has found great success rate. He incorporates a 20 minute Q & A session. Mock elections also discussed as a way to generate interest.

I. Off Status for Felony – Mike W. discussed how felons that are placed in “Off” status are never purged. No 90 day restriction placed on them if restored as new voter. When we receive Felon “Release” report, we should remove the “Felon” status, where they will now eventually be purged if no activity.

J. ERIC Reports – Still trying to clean up format and make more user-friendly. We all need to comply with regulations.

VII. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Sue L. and seconded by Mike W. at 11:43 AM.

Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin McCauley  
Secretary