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

**BOARD OF MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS
SPECIAL MEETING**

Board Meeting Minutes from
Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.
921 NE 23rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405-239-7141
And via videoconference at
1115 W. 17th St., Tulsa, OK 74107
918-295-3400

In conformity with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, advance notice of this meeting was transmitted to the Oklahoma Secretary of State on December 3, 2018 at 2:38 PM 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 23rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK and on the front door of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Eastern Division, 1115 W. 17th, Tulsa.

Members present: Mr. Glen Huff, Mr. Ricky Adams, Dr. Steve Vogel, Mr. Rocky McElvany, Mr. Chris Ferguson and Dr. Eric Pfeifer.

Members present via videoconference: Dr. Doug Stewart.

Members absent: Dr. Roy Zhang and Dr. Robert Allen.

Others Present: Kari Learned (OCME), Lori Shively (OCME), Jeremy Benavides (OCME), John Crittenden (OAG) and Tyler Talley (eCapitol). Via video conference; Dr. Josh Lanter (OCME) and Amy Elliott (OCME).

Mr. Huff called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

Mr. McElvany motioned to adopt the minutes as written from the April 4, 2019, meeting. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Roll was called, Mr. Adams and Dr. Vogel abstained, and all others were in favor.

Update from the Chief Medical Examiner – Dr. Eric Pfeifer

● Financial snapshot -

~ Within the last physical year we've had 3 months that were in the red. This is minimal compared to what we are still able to put away with the present appropriations. The permit income continues to be robust and growing roughly 3-4% per year. We are spending less than we are bringing in and our carryover this month is \$138K. Our appropriations increased approximately \$7M this year; from \$11M to \$17.9M.

- Priority projects –

~ The overarching priority continues to be regaining accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). House bill 2758 created a mechanism by which the Tulsa building can be funded. It takes \$5.5M from our present increase in appropriations, adds \$4.5M from our revolving fund and \$20M from Oklahoma State University (OSU) Dean's GME program transition payments. This will permit groundbreaking for the new building in spring or early summer of 2020. Construction would be complete in approximately 18 months. Once the new Tulsa practice is built, we could possibly be reaccredited by 2022 or 2023.

- Staff update –

~ The improvement in appropriations also covers the market adjustments for the forensic pathologists and will add two incremental positions. We have received approval from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) for an additional fellow position. During the 2019-2020 academic year we will not have any fellows, however, 2020-2021 we will have 2 fellows joining us.

Two new forensic pathologists will join the Oklahoma City practice this summer. Dr. Asma Sharif begins July 29th and Dr. Leonardo (Leo) Roquero starts August 12th.

Update from Chief Administrative Officer – Mrs. Amy Elliott

- Legislative update –

~ House bill 1014 was approved and signed by the Governor and goes into effect November 1, 2019. The bill authorizes Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations (OSBI) access the Department of Public Safety's (DPS) computerized fingerprint database for the purpose of identifying a person who is deceased, missing or endangered.

- Oklahoma City office update –

~ As Dr. Pfeifer mentioned, we have two new forensic pathologists joining the Oklahoma City practice. Dr. Sharif starts July 29th and Dr. Roquero begins August 12th.

~ The week of June 24 the Radox equipment will be installed in both the Oklahoma City and Tulsa practices. This allows for whole blood and urine testing in the autopsy laboratory. We are working in partnership with the Department of Health, Department of Mental Health and Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs and will share the results obtained through testing.

~ As of today 100% of our eligible investigators have their achieved their American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI) certification. This is quite an accomplishment for our investigators.

- 2018 Annual report –

~ We currently have 47 open cases for 2018. Once the cases are complete we will be able to finalize the 2018 annual report.

Nomination, discussion and possible election of Board Chairman.

~ Mr. Huff said it has been an honor to serve as Board Chairman and wouldn't mind continuing if he had the opportunity. He also asked if anyone else would be interested in holding the position. He then opened the floor for nominations and discussion. Dr. Stewart mentioned that in the past an elected Board chairman or vice chairman would typically serve 2 consecutive terms. Mr. McElvany agreed with Dr. Stewart that this has been past practice. Dr. Stewart then nominated Mr. Huff as Board Chairman. Mr. Huff asked if there were any other nominations. With no other nominations, Mr. Huff requested a 2nd to the motion. Mr. Adams seconded the motion, roll was called and all were in favor.

Nomination, discussion and possible election of Board Chairman.

~ Mr. Ferguson motioned to nominate Mr. Adams as vice chairman. Mr. Huff seconded the motion, roll was called and all were in favor.

Mr. McElvany motioned to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Vogel seconded the motion. Roll was called, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 2:14 pm.