

Western States Hostage Negotiators' Association
Board Meeting Minutes
05/25/10

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by President Devon Schrum

Roll

Present

President	Devon Schrum	District 2	Beth Larson
Vice President East	Tim Moses	District 3	Dani Griswold
Vice President Events	Brian Prevett	District 5	Tim Bennett
Secretary/Treasurer	Matt Onderbeke	District 6	Stacy Lucca
		District 7/8	Brandy Arnoux
Host Agency Representative	Scott Yenne		

Absent

Vice President West	Bill Waltz	District 1	Glen R. Roggenbuck
Director of Communications.	Bruce Wind	District 4	Robert Bianchi
		District 9	Shari Gulliver

Approval Past Minutes

Onderbeke presented past minutes.

Bennett moved to accept the minutes, Prevett second, passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Financial Report

Onderbeke presented the WSHNA Financial Report for the 4 months ended 04/30/10. Each board member was provided with a copy of the financial report also.

Total Revenue	\$44,753.28	Retained Earnings (2009)	\$20,356.99
Cash in Bank	\$49,136.18	<u>Current Year Income</u>	<u>\$39,600.40</u>
Certificate of Deposit	\$9,295.10	<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$59,957.39</u>
Prepaid Newsletter	\$1,526.11		
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$59,957.39</u>		

Bennett moved to accept the Treasurer's report Prevett second, passed unanimously.

Old Business

Conference Update:

Griswold and Yenne presented a written summary of accounting and for the conference, a copy of which will be retained by the secretary/treasurer and be available for review if requested. There are still bills outstanding as well as some additional income expected.

296 people registered for the conference
Registrations and cash from sponsors totaled \$38,665.00
Grant money secured is approximately \$22,000.00
Expenditures are approximately \$20,331.89 (if the treasurer's fat fingers finally worked the adding machine correctly)
Estimated profit of \$25,000 +.
Raffle proceeds were still being accounted for, but it appears they will be in the neighborhood of \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00
Money donation to the Mary Bridge Tree House will be approximately \$2,000.00 to \$2,500, plus donations of money and goods from the public as a result of the Tacoma Teams efforts on the part of WSHNA.

The entire board recognized the great results of the Tacoma Team's effort in financing this conference and donations to an incredibly worthy charity. It was also noted that if it had not been for the grants many, if not most of the people registered for the conference would not have been able to attend due to budgets at all the agencies. Tacoma has set a very high bar for future conferences, (good luck Brian.)

Griswold pointed out the Gift Basket competition was a great success and money maker. There were some incredible packages offered.
Due to the success with grant funding, Griswold strongly recommended WSHNA research hiring a grant writer. (see new business/2011 conference/Prevett)
Griswold found that there are many signers still on the WSHNA accounts from previous conferences. **Onderbeke will work on getting those names removed as soon as possible.**
Yenne and Griswold will work with the accountant and remain on accounts until the final 2010 conference bill and receipts are handled.

Bylaw Changes/Board Elections:

New Bylaws and Elections were held at the general membership meeting held 05/24/10. See general membership meeting minutes.

New Business

2011 Conference:

Prevett presented an update for the 2011 WSHNA conference.
Conference Dates are 06/05/11 to 06/08/11, and will be held at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno. Prevett described an impressive facility with many on site activities and services.
At this point it appears there will be zero facilities costs for WSHNA, and there is likely some sponsorship money coming in to cover some costs. There will be morning continental type service.
The conference facilities offer great flexibility as far as room sizes and availability. It appears the conference will have general presentations in the morning with break-outs in the afternoons for more focused smaller presentations.
Lodging will be \$69.00/night for standard rooms and \$89.00/night deluxe. Prevett points out that the "standard" rooms will exceed expectations.

There was discussion of the use of a charter bus to transport WSHNA members to the conference site from the Puget Sound Region down through Oregon. The board is interested in this idea.

More information will be release on the WSHNA website as it becomes available.

Prevett agreed with Griswold, WSHNA should look into hiring a grant writer. **Prevett will look into this option further and bring more information back to the board.**

He is also looking for ideas for presenters and believes many WSHNA members have the expertise to make some of the presentations.

Prevett suggested a board meeting at the resort in September for the board to see the facility. **Board members did not believe most would be able to make this trip and there was no motion to bring it to a vote.**

NCNA/WSHNA Leadership/Training:

Brian Prevett strongly believes that WSHNA can take a strong leadership role in establishing Crisis/Hostage Negotiator Standards, and establish training standards and curriculum and should establish a “train the trainer” program. He said WSHNA is clearly established in NCNA as a leading organization, and believes the state training commissions would accept WSHNA developed standards and instructor programs.

NCNA currently has guidelines, but standards, and Prevett believes our specialty needs to move states toward negotiator training standards, continuing education, and possibly “certification standards.”

Board members generally agreed with Prevett. **More investigation and discussion need to occur, and at this time no motions appeared to be needed or were brought to the board.**

WSHNA Support for Federal Rules Change:

Onderbeke brought a proposal to the board for the board to provide a letter supporting a change in the federal rules which do not allow the use of cell phone disruptors during crisis/hostage/law enforcement incidents.

This current rule removes an important tool from use by law enforcement which would increase the safety of the public, victims, law enforcement and subjects. The use of disruptors can specifically aid in the negotiation process, as well as preventing a suspect from calling in assistance, gaining intelligence, or warning other suspects of operations, to name just a few advantages of the tool.

Onderbeke has talked to Kevin Otto of ETGI who is working with Senator Lieberman on this rule change. Otto expressed a strong desire to have a letter from WSHNA supporting this.

Prevett said he had already authored a letter from WSHNA and sent it to Otto. No one recalled the letter. **Prevett said he will try to find a copy and forward a copy to Schrum and one to the Secretary for addition to the WSHNA files.**

CPA Expectations:

Onderbeke asked for input on the draft letter to accountants describing the scope of services WSHNA desires from its accountant.

The board approved of the draft and unanimously passed approval to move forward.

Draft Board Meeting Schedule:

President Schrum discussed the need to develop a schedule of board meetings into the future. The proposal met with support from board members.

Schrum will move ahead with scheduling and forward the schedule to board members.

Open Discussion

WSHNA Laptop Maintenance:

Griswold and Yenne advised the board that the WSHNA laptop has been struggling with id photos and some other work. The computer has been in service for some time and the board discussed the need to update or replace the computer.

Onderbeke motioned that \$1000.00 be authorized for replacement or updating the WSHNA laptop. This can be handled by Tacoma or Salem.

Schrum second. Passed unanimously.

Tacoma Team Appreciation:

Griswold pointed out the financial benefit WSHNA is likely to see from the hard work of the Tacoma team. Griswold suggested WSHNA cover expenses for the 8 members of the Tacoma Team to attend the 2011 conference, in recognition of this success.

Onderbeke motioned to authorize the expenditure, seconded by Schrum.

Motion put to vote and passed.

Adjournment

Having complete board business, and the board having difficulty focusing on business, Schrum moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Bennett, passed by the board.