

**OCPOA  
General Membership Meeting  
December 5, 2008**

President Switzer called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Minutes**

Gary Yates made a motion by to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2008 meeting. Michael Creamer seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as submitted

**Treasurer's Report presented by Vince Polito**

Kelly Miller made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Michael Creamer seconded the motion. The Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted.

**Interstate Compact**

President Switzer introduced Debra Hearn, ODRC Compact Administrator. An additional analyst has been added to Interstate Compact to address the increase in workload. A new caseload distribution sheet was distributed including contact information. Twenty-two states are not currently uploading into the new database. All information should be loaded in ICOTS soon. Please make sure probation department contacts log into ICOT so that information can be sent to them. Some logins were wiped out and may need to be reentered. There may be additional training sessions offered on ICOT. Debra Hearn can be contacted at 614-728-1529. Debra will attend OCPOA meetings next year to provide updates and answer questions.

**Report on Training**

President Switzer reported that the grant training yesterday was very well received and gave a great deal of information on grant writing.

**2009 Meeting Dates**

2009 meeting date cards were distributed.

The meeting dates for 2009 are as follows:

February 13, 2009, May 7 and 8, 2009, August 14, 2009, December 10 and 11, 2009.

**Board Meeting Report**

President Switzer will set up a conference call for the Board of Trustees to vote on Cheryl Taylor's contract and the 2009 Budget.

**Law enforcement retirement for Probation Officers**

Several OCPOA representatives met with representative from a lobbying firm that provided information on how to go about introducing legislation to include probation officers in law enforcement retirement. The OCPOA representatives were advised it may be difficult at this time to acquire approval for this issue.

The lobbying firm indicated they could research the issue and develop draft language to include in the bill if requested by OCPOA, for a fee. They advised that OCPOA should first contact PERS, as agreement from PERS would be required for this to pass.

Years ago representatives from OCPOA (Gary Yates, Vince Polito and Merel Pickenpaugh met with PERS and were informed that PERS would probably oppose it due to the fact that probation officers are not OPOTA certified. However, there have been others classes of employment added to the legislation since that time.

The fee for the lobbying firm would be \$2,500 to \$5,000 per month to address this issue other issues related to probation. It would require a two year commitment with the firm. However, unless there is support from PERS it probably will not go forward. The lobbyists were optimistic but could not provide any guarantees. The issue will be tabled at this time but will continue to be reviewed.

## **2008 Annual Probation Survey.**

President Switzer announced that Probation Departments should have received the annual federal probation survey. Please complete the survey and return it as soon as possible so that Ohio's numbers are represented in the statistics.

## **Committee Reports by Juli Tice**

### **Membership Committee**

Juli Tice reported that Kristen Plieninger is looking into a database to manage the OCPOA membership list.

### **Training committee**

Juli Tice reported that a chair is needed for the Training Committee. Please forward any ideas for the May and December training to Juli Tice or Kim Switzer.

### **Line Officers Training**

Juli Tice indicated that a kick-off meeting to begin planning the 2009 Line Officers Training will be held in January. An e-mail will be sent out once a date is set. A sign up list was distributed to participate in planning the training. The Line Officers Training is scheduled for June 25 and 26, 2009.

### **CCA Committee**

The CCA Director's meeting will be held at 1:00 pm following the OCPOA meeting. CCA issues will be addressed at that time.

### **Sex Offender Task Force Committee**

Cheryl Gerwig represents OCPOA on the Sex Offender Task Force Committee. Cheryl reported that an initial meeting was held on November 18, 2008. The committee was informed that DRC is attempting to iron out issues and train staff on the new sex offender program standards and conducting agency visits. The next meeting will be held in January 2009.

The Committee's responsibility is to review and approve or disprove certification of programs to provide sex offender treatment to offenders under parole supervision.

DRC will visit agencies that request to become certified to provide sex offender treatment

### **Supreme Court's Court Personal Education Committee**

Juli Tice reported that a virtual committee meeting was held over the computer with the Supreme Court to assist with coordination of training.

The Supreme Court has provided a great deal of training for probation. They are still looking for ideas for training. Please notify Juli Tice or Kory Halter Kochera with training ideas.

The dates for the next new probation officer training are as follows:

July 14-16, 2009 – Classroom training

Aug 24-28, 2009 - Defensive Tactics

October 5-7, 2009 – Classroom training

October 19-23, 2009 - Firearms training

A review may be conducted concerning the firearms portion of the training as there are not many participating in this portion of the training. As a result of discussion, members indicated they would like to continue to have the firearms training available. It may become an option to open up the firearms training to probation officers other than just those attending the other sections of the training.

### **Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Mentally Ill in the Courts (ACMIC)**

Gayle Dittmer report on a computer site available through the Ohio Pharmacy Board which gives probation officers access to look up the prescriptions probationers have received to assist in determining if they are abusing medications. The system is called Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS). Efforts will be made to set up training on this subject for OCPOA.

At the Reentry Subcommittee of ACMIC there has been discussion of revising the state Jail Standards. The Office of Criminal Justice Services is working with ODRC, Bureau of Adult Detention to attempt to determine which standards are most useful and which may be eliminated.

### **APPA**

Gary Yates reported that, as a result of the branding initiative, a logo has been created to represent probation. An e-mail went out to members with new branding information from APPA.

Press kits will come out soon introducing the initiative. APPA is suggesting the logo be added to probation department's letterhead.

The APPA Winter Conference will be held February 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Myrtle Beach.

The Summer APPA Conference will be held in Anaheim, California in August 2009.

### **Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC)**

Gayle Dittmer reported that OJACC has been following HB130 closely. The basic legislation reduces barriers of reentry for offenders. However, there have been attempts by legislators and others to add other issues to this bill such as the bail bondsmen's efforts to eliminate 10% bonds in Ohio.

### **Legislative Report – Michael Creamer**

A full report will be distributed to members.

The Ohio Legislative Leadership for 2009 link will be distributed next week.

If you have questions on legislation please contact Michael Creamer.

### **OCPOA Board Elections**

President Switzer explained that members in good standing may nominate a member in good standing for board positions. Only Members or their identified proxy may vote.

President Switzer thanked the board, especially Juli Tice, for their assistance through her term as President.

President Switzer reviewed board accomplishments during her term as president:

- Improving communications with members including adding a hospitality suite
- Revised Website
- 2009 Line Officers training made \$30,000 in profit
- CCA Subcommittee agenda items are disseminated to CCA Directors in advance of meetings
- Revised the Code of Regulations
- Training was reduced to two sessions per year so that more time and money can be put into offering quality trainings
- Book of statues for Probation was created and printed with assistance from the Supreme Court
- Expansion of training for probation officers through Supreme Court

President Switzer Recognized the OCPOA Board members.

Juli Tice presented to President Switzer a plaque on behalf of the OCPOA membership recognizing her service as president.

### **Slate of Officer**

President Switzer introduced the slate of officers for 2009 and 2010:

Immediate Past President – Kimberly Switzer

President Automatic Seccession – Juli Tice

Vice President – Kelly Miller

Secretary – Gayle Dittmer

Treasurer – Michael Smith

Trustees representing Common Pleas Probation – Gary Yates and Melissa Litteral

Trustees representing Municipal Probation - Kimberly Nossaman and Bobby Robbins

Trustees representing Juvenile Probation – Deanne Whalen and David Williams

Trustee representing CCA Programs – Bruce Gibson

President Switzer called for nominations from the floor.

Jeremy Radcliff nominated Kory Halter Kochera for Common Pleas Court Representative.

Members and proxies were asked to complete the ballots and return them to Joni Bretz for a count.

President Switzer presented to Kris Nufer a plaque in recognition of his retirement from ODRC, BCS

President Switzer asked Linda Janes to provide an update on ODRC.

Linda Janes asked that OCPOA appoint a representative to the Interstate Compact Committee. Vince Polito was the representative for OCPOA, but has since retired.

Linda Janes indicated that ODRC has not yet heard if there will be definite cuts to the budget. Ohio is asking for federal assistance which could reduce the need for further cuts. Up to this point, community corrections has been held harmless in budget cuts. However, there is no guarantee this can continue if there is another round of cuts.

Linda Janes reported that meetings have begun with courts concerning county agreements for supervision services and they are going well. ODRC is attempting to standardize supervision services based on best practices. A schedule for meetings with the remaining courts will go out in January.

### **Results from Board voting**

President Switzer announced the new OCPOA Board for 2009 and 2010

President – Juli Tice

Vice President – Kelly Miller

Secretary – Gayle Dittmer

Treasurer – Michael Smith

Immediate Past President – Kimberly Switzer

Trustees Representing Common Pleas - Gary Yates and Melissa Litteral

Trustees representing Municipal Probation - Kimberly Nossaman and Bobby Robbins

Trustees representing Juvenile Probation – Deanne Whalen and David Williams

Trustee representing CCA Programs – Bruce Gibson

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gayle Dittmer, OCPOA Secretary

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