FLORIDA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

Affiliate of the American Association of Medical Assistants

Date: October 15, 2017

To: Executive Council Members
Physician Liaison

From: Judith M. Seymour, CMA (AAMA)
FSMA Delegate Report

It was an honor to represent FSMA at the AAMA HOD held on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati Ohio.

This Delegate did attend the HOD Delegate/Alternate Orientation held on Saturday, October 7, 2017. The orientation was conducted by Debby Houston, CMA (AAMA) CPC, Speaker of the House and Karen Minchella, CMA (AAMA), PhD, Vice Speaker of the House.

The a-b-c's of Parliamentary Procedure was reviewed. This included how members get their say by presenting, seconding, debating and voting on motions. The types of motions were reviewed and questions relating to motions were also discussed. Methods of voting on a motion including voice, roll call, show of hands, ballot and general consent were reviewed.

The topic of Proxy Voting was a very hot item. This discussion required the involvement of Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA) the HOD Parliamentarian who did need to refer to Robert's Rules as well as the AAMA Bylaws for direction. A Proxy Vote can be given to a member of a state society if their Delegate/Alternate is unable to continue to serve at the HOD (illness). The Proxy Vote Card requires the signature of the State President, President-Elect or Vice President to be valid. If a hand count is deemed necessary, the member does need to hold up the Proxy Card for their vote to be valid.

On Sunday, October 8, 2017 the HOD was called to order at 8:00am by Debby Houston, CMA (AAMA) CPC, Speaker of the House. The Speaker gave opening reflections which was followed by the Presentation of Colors, presented by the Hamilton County Police Association Honor Guard. Carol Clapp, CMA (AAMA) lead the members with the Pledge of Allegiance and Tom Guilford masterfully sang our National Anthem.

The Agenda of the HOD was approved. Introductions of the Trustees, Officers, Past Presidents and AAMA Staff was postponed until the afternoon session as to allow time for Don Balasa, JD, MBA, AAMA Chief Executive Officer and House Legal Counsel and Jenny Spegel, representative from MAERB, to speak with the members with regards to sponsorship.

Ms. Spegel serves MAERB as a CAAHEP Commissioner. Her slide presentation defined what CAAHEP is and what CAAHEP Accreditation does. Ms. Spegel then proceeded to define MAERB (Medical Assistant Education Review Board). MAERB provides information to CAAHEP to accredit educational programs in medical assisting. MAERB works under CAAHEP's name. All of MAERB's recommendations to CAAHEP are independent recommendations and CAAHEP is the official accrediting agency. AAMA is MAERB's sponsoring organization with CAAHEP. MAERB is looking to involve additional sponsors.

This item was discussed at the HOD last year which prompted the BOT of AAMA to undertake a preliminary study to gather evidence of how well the content outlines of the 5 medical assisting exams accredited by NCCA cover the content of the MAERB Core Curriculum of the 2015 Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Medical Assisting of CAAHEP. The study did reveal a rough consensus that 2 out of the 5 NCCA-accredited medical assisting exams have significant deficiencies regarding coverage of the MAERB Core Curriculum.

2 of the subject-matter experts were present at the House and did present their findings. The first subject-matter expert (SME) was Kara Bauer, RN, BSN. She is a compliance analysis and a clinical educator. I her analysis of 4 of the exams, she only found 1 that more closely aligned with the core curriculum (Exam #2). One exam was deficient in billing and coding (Exam 4) and 2 exams needed many revisions to meet the core curriculum (Exams 1 & 3).

The second SME was Kim Wise, CMM, CVC, HTCM-PP. She is a Physician Practice Administrator and Regulatory Compliance Office. Exam #2 she stated coved all core curriculum except for ethics. Exam #1 focused on phlebotomy. The content outline did not mirror the content of core curriculum. Exam #3 covered all except nutrition and ethics. Exam #4 covered all content areas.

When you compare the two SME's analysis Exam #2 was rated first. Exam #4 was rated second. Exam #3 was rated third and exam #1 was rated fourth.

Don Balasa, JD, MBA then presented that there is good partnership between AAMA, MAERB & CAAHEP along with excellent communication. Mr. Balasa serves on the Public Policy Committee in his role as AAMA Commissioner to CAAHEP. Due to the policies of CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation) and CAAHEP, MAERB does have the authority to add sponsors without undue influence by AAMA. AAMA is concerned that there is evidence that 2 of the 5 NCCA-accredited examinations do fall below the core curriculum. Mr. Balasa stated that the AAMA BOT is in dialogue with MAERB with regards to the timing of their decision process regarding sponsorship until more information about the exams has been obtained.

The report of the Credential Chair was read by Joyce Garabay, CMA (AAMA). Possible voting power was 151. Registered voting power was 141 with 8 proxies. The total voting power was 149. The majority was 75 and 2/3 vote was 100.

The Orientation of Delegates, Adoption of House Rules, Appointment of Reference Committees and Tellers was presented by Karen Minchella, CMA (AAMA) PhD, Vice Speaker of the House.
Julie Flaatten, CMA (AAMA) RN, EMT, AAMA President gave her supplemental report.
Linda Allensby, CMA (AAMA) CPC gave the supplemental report on behalf of the CB.
Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA) gave the supplemental report of the CEB.
Paula Purdy, CMA (AAMA) presented the report of the Nominating Committee.
Debby Houston, CMA (AAMA) CPC, Speaker of the House called for nominations from the floor. Trustee nominated from the floor included Claire Houghton, CMA (AAMA) WA and Frank Fovata JR, CMA (AAMA) NH. Nominated from the floor for the Nomination Committee was Betty Jones, CMA (AAMA) NC; Debra White, CMA (AAMA) SC; Kathy Puckett, CMA (AAMA) OR; Dawn Jordan, CMA (AAMA) MA; Jane Rogers, CMA (AAMA) AL; Karen Nichols, CMA (AAMA) VA; Cheryl Bouscher, CMA (AAMA) MI; Sherry Bogar, CMA (AAMA) TX.

The HOD was recessed and the candidates were presented.

This delegate was present for the Reports Committee and Bylaws Committee meetings.

The HOD was called to order at 6:30PM by Debby Houston, CMA (AAMA) CPC, Speaker of the House.

Introductions of the Trustees, Officers, Past Presidents and AAMA Staff followed.

The Credentials Chair reported possible voting power was 151 with 139 registered voters and 10 proxies which brought the total voting power to 149. Majority vote was 75 with 2/3 vote being 100.

Electronic voting then took place in the House.

Eulogies were presented by the following members to their peers who have passed away this year:
Rebecca Walker, CMA (AAMA) Eulogized Joan Michel NC
Joyce Hardy, CMA (AAMA) Eulogized Crystal Coleman, VA
Judy Harland, CMA (AAMA) Eulogized Laura Lockhart-Haynes OH
Don Balasa, JD, MBA Eulogized David Knight AAMA Staff

Teller Report was as follows:
Sue Hawes, CMA (AAMA) elected Vice President with 131 votes, 17 abstaining votes
Patty Licurs, CMA (AAMA) elected Secretary-Treasurer with 140 votes and 8 abstaining votes
Mary Gambrell, CMA (AAMA) elected Trustee with 122 votes and 14 abstaining votes
Virginia Tomas, CMA (AAMA) elected Trustee with 100 votes and 14 abstaining votes
Frank Fovata, JR CMA (AAMA) elected Trustee with 80 votes and 14 abstaining votes

Elected to Nominating Committee was as follows:

Betty Jones, CMA (AAMA
Sherry Bogars, CMA (AAMA)
Jane Rogers, CMA (AAMA)
Cheryl Bouscher, CMA (AAMA)

Life Membership was presented by President Julie Flaatten, CMA (AAMA) RN, EMT to Joyce Nikamo, CMA (AAMA) CA.

The Reports of the Reference Committees followed:
Reports: Accept and file all reports as amended. The delegate was very happy that this committee did recommend that the reports of the BOT for state conferences be more detailed.
Bylaws: Bylaw Amendment 17-01 passed with 128 majority votes.
Article VI: Membership, Section 2, Qualification
Proposed wording
F. Student Member
1. Shall be enrolled in a medical assisting program
2. May choose a 2-year membership term or a 1-year student membership term
A. After a 2-year membership term, the member is then eligible for only either associate membership or active membership (if the member meets the active membership requirements)
B. After a 1-year student membership term, the member is eligible for a second year of student membership as long as the member renews during the members 1 year's student membership term. After a second year of student membership, the member is then eligible only for either associate membership or active membership (if the member meets the active membership requirements)
C. No member is eligible for more than a total of 2 consecutive years of student membership.

There was no unfinished business nor was there new business to be presented to the HOD.

Good and Welfare Statements were read. Marsha Benedict, CMA-A (AAMA) FSMA Delegate did read a statement to the HOD on behalf of FSMA announcing the formation of the David Knight Memorial Fund which will gift to 3 members yearly a check for $100.00 each for use towards education/registration fees. Marsha also thanked the states that came forward to aid FSMA post Hurricane Irma.

The HOD was then adjourned by Debby Houston, CMA (AAMA) CPC, Speaker of the House

For the record, this Delegate was approached by a member and was told that several states were abstaining on their votes with the hopes of getting a message through to the current AAMA Board of how dissatisfied they were with the performance or nonperformance of the board this year. This delegate did make the members of FSMA aware of this conversation. The voting power of FSMA agreed that this was not the proper channel to demonstrate dissatisfaction. WE voted!