



Florida Society of Medical Assistants, Inc.

April 24, 2026

General Assembly Minutes

Holiday Inn, Orlando, Lake Buena Vista

72nd Annual Meeting of the Florida Society of Medical Assistants

Nancy Peterhansen, CMA (AAMA) Speaker of the General Assembly, called meeting to order at 4:05pm.

National Guard Presented and National Anthem sung.

President, Jeanette Tyler, CMA(AAMA) gave welcome to all the 73rd Annual Meeting of the Florida Society of Medical Assistants.

Marsha Benedict, CMA-C (AAMA) gave benediction.

The Executive Council of FSMA, 2025-2026 introduced by Nancy Peterhansen, CMA(AAMA):

President: Jeanette Tyler, CMA (AAMA)

Vice President: Christina Sears, CMA (AAMA)

Secretary: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)

Treasurer: Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA)

Speaker of the General Assembly: Nancy Peterhansen, CMA (AAMA)

Vice Speaker of General Assembly: Linda Vitzhum, CMA (AAMA)

Immediate Past President: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)

Budget & Finance Chair, Marketing/Outreach Chair, Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C, (AAMA)

Meeting Coordinator Chair, Marsha Benedict, CMA-A, (AAMA)

Bylaws Chair: Linda Vitzhum, CMA (AAMA)

Membership Chair: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)

Education Chair: Linda Vitzhum, CMA (AAMA)

A thank you was given to the officers for their time and commitment to FSMA for 2025-2026.

Introduction of FSMA Past Presidents in attendance:

1983-1984, 1992

Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA)

2001-2002, 2014-2015, 2021-2023

Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)

2008-2009

Mary Morris, CMA (AAMA)

2012-2013, 2019-2021	Marsha Benedict, CMA-A (AAMA)
2017-2018	Maria Wiegelmann, CMA (AAMA)
2024-2026	Jeanette Tyler, CMA (AAMA)
2011	Betty Springer, CMA(AAMA)

Nancy Peterhansen, CMA (AAMA) introduced chairs for the General Assembly:

Parliamentarian: Marsha Benedict, CMA-A (AAMA)
Credentials Chair: Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA)
Committee Member: Joyce Baldwin CMA (AAMA)
Reference Comm. Chair: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)
Committee Member: Mary Morris, CMA (AAMA)
Committee Member Karen Andreoli, RMA
Minutes Chair: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)
Teller Chair: Monica Case, CMA (AAMA), AAMA Representative
Timekeeper: Karten Andreoli, RMA
Sargeant of Arms: Charles Cleary, CMA (AAMA)

Pages and Tellers for the General Assembly: Eastern Florida State College Students

The General Assembly Chair thanked members for stepping forward and obtaining speakers. A special thank you was given to Casandra Pinnell, CMA (AAMA), for her help with this very important part of our organization.

Speaker of the General Assembly called on the Credentials Chair, Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA) to call roll.

of eligible voting members: **23**
Majority vote **12**

of eligible voting members 2/3 vote: **NO BYLAW CHANGES MADE NO 2/3 VOTE NECESSARY**

Roll call: Quorum is present.

Karen Andreolo, RMA, entertained a motion to accept the General Assembly Packet as printed. Seconded by Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA). Motion approved and carried.

Linda Vitzhum, CMA (AAMA) made a motion to accept the Official Education Agenda as printed. Seconded by Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA). Motion was carried to accept the Official Education Agenda as posted on the FSMA Website.

Motion was carried to accept the Official Education Agenda as posted on the FSMA Website.

On behalf of FSMA a special thank you to Marsha Benedict, CMA-A (AAMA) who worked

hard and put this meeting together.

Linda Vitzhum CMA (AAMA) read the Orientation of the General Assembly. (This information was provided to members on the FSMA website prior to the meeting).

General Assembly rules were read. Motion Was made by Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA) to accept the General Assembly Rules as read. Motion seconded by Marsha Benedict, CMA-A (AAMA). Motion was carried to accept the General Assembly Rules as read.

Selection of the Tellers:

Chair of Tellers: Monica Case, CMA (AAMA)

Report on the Nominating Chair:

Chair: Christina Sears, CMA (AAMA) read nominations and called for nominations from the floor. There being no nominations from the floor the ballot stands as is.

Proposed Ballot:

President: Christine Sears, CMA (AAMA)

Vice President: Linda Vitzhum, CMA(AAMA)

Secretary: Mary Moirris, CMA (AAMA)

Treasurer: Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C, (AAMA)

Speaker of General Assembly: Nancy Peterhansen, CMA (AAMA)

Vice Speaker: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)

Proposed Delegates for AAMA Conference 2026 are:

Christina Sears, CMA (AAMA)

Linda Vitzthum, CMA (AAMA)

Marsha Benedict, CMA (AAMA)

Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA)

Candidates were introduced and gave a 2-minute speech.

20-minute break was taken.

The Speaker asked voting members to use the ballot printed from the packet as their sample ballot and add any nominations from the floor to this ballot. There were no questions asked.

Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA) was asked to read the Reference Committee report dated April 24, 2026. The Speaker of the General Assembly was asked if there was any discussion regarding the Reference Committee report. Hearing none, the Speaker of the General Assembly called for a vote regarding the Reference Committee's recommendations to accept the reports of the Executive Council Officers and Committee Chairs to be accepted as printed in the General Assembly packet. The recommendations were accepted by the voting members.

The Chair of the Tellers, Monica Case, CMA (AAMA) announced 23 votes were counted for Officer and 23 votes were counted for Delegate.

Results of Voting:

Office of President, Christina Sears, CMA, (AAMA)

Office of Vice President: Linda Vitzhum, CMA (AAMA)

Office of Secretary: Mary Morris, CMA, (AAMA)

Office of Treasurer: Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C, (AAMA)

Office of Speaker of the General Assembly: Nancy Peterhansen, CMA (AAMA)

Office of Vice Speaker of General Assembly: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)

Results of Voting Delegates: Marsha Benedict, CMA-A (AAMA) 1st Delegate. All others were a 3-way tie which required another vote.

1st Delegate: Marsha Benedict, CMA-A (AAMA)

2nd Delegate: Christina Sears, CMA, (AAMA)

3rd Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C, (AAMA)

4th Linda Vitzhum, CMA (AAMA)

The Speaker of the General Assembly led a round of applause for the newly elected officers and delegates. The Speaker of the General Assembly asked what the pleasure of the General Assembly was regarding the ballots. Jeanette Tyler, CMA (AAMA) moved the ballots to be destroyed. Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA) seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion was carried.

With the completion of the General Assembly business, the Speaker of the General Assembly discharged the head teller and her committee from any further commitment to the General Assembly and thanked them for their time and service. The Speaker of the General Assembly reminded the voting members that even though the business of the FSMA General Assembly is finished today, the voting members continue to serve for one year until the next General Assembly convenes in 2027. If there were to be any emergency business, the voting members would be contacted. The voting members present were asked to update the newly elected Speaker of the General Assembly for any changes in contact information.

Nancy Peterhansen, CMA (AAMA) announced the installation of the newly elected officers will take place during the Awards Luncheon on Saturday 4/25/26.

New Business:

Education Chair Linda Vitzhum, CMA (AAMA) is heading up a pilot project for Book Club for CUEs. Only 10 can do it 1 time. Book will be Zero Harm,

Nancy Peterhansen, CMA (AAMA) Speaker of General Assembly Thanked all who assisted her for the General Assembly.

President Jeanette Tyler, CMA (AAMA) recognized educators and all their hard work with future Medical Assistants. A special Thank you to Patty Rock, LPN and all her years of bringing students to the General Assembly and FSMA meetings,

Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA) recognized the students in attendance and all professionals.

Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA) recognized President Jeanette Tyler, CMA (AAMA) and extended how appreciative we are of all her hard work and dedication.

Monica Case, CMA (AAMA) AAMA Representative thanked the students who helped during the General Assembly and with counting ballots.

The 73rd Annual General Assembly Florida Society of Medical Assistants was adjourned by the Speaker of the General Assembly at 5:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA) – Secretary FSMA