

# Shasta County Grand Jurors' Association

## Board Meeting Minutes (September 30, 2020)

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**Location:** Fratelli's New York Pizza, 1774 California Street, Redding, California

**Date:** September 30, 2020

- I. Call to Order** President Craig Perry called the Special Board Meeting of the Shasta County Grand Jurors' Association (SCGJA) to order at 1:15 p.m. The seven Board members in attendance included officers and directors Alice Bell, Joyce Bianchini, Marsha Caranci, Ray Frisbie, Karen Jahr, Jeanne Jelke, and Craig Perry. Current 2019–2020 Grand Jury Foreperson Rick Buchner was also present.
- II. Approval of Minutes** Due to computer difficulties that Secretary Joyce Bianchini is experiencing, minutes from the September 16 Special Board Meeting were tabled until the next SCGJA meeting.
- III. Treasurer's Report** Ray reported that the SCGJA treasury had a balance of \$1,009.93 as of Sept. 16. Craig paid 54.95 for a \$50 gift card for Ty Bos, leaving a balance of \$954.98. Ray is filing IRS and Franchise Tax Board papers and he is also working on the charitable trust forms.

The Board discussed how to best collect SCGJA dues since we don't know when our next general meeting will be held. Several in attendance paid dues to Ray during the meeting. It was also decided that Joyce would remind members about the annual dues (\$20) when she emails them minutes of today's meeting. They could mail a check for \$20 to Ray—300080 Fern Hill Drive, Whitmore, 96096—or pay when we meet again. In addition, she will remind Introductory Members that SCGJA welcomes them as actively participating members. As recent grand jurors, their perspective of how to best support recruitment and training of the new grand jurors is valued.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **A. CGJA/Superior Court Liaison (Karen Jahr / Marsha Caranci)**

Karen reported that statewide CGJA trainings are in full swing. New juror trainings are being held as grand juries are impaneled, plus report writing trainings have begun for those juries at that stage of their terms. The majority of these trainings have been remote trainings, and Zoom is working well. In addition, four have been “in-person” trainings. The annual CGJA meeting will be held, via Zoom, on October 26, featuring guest speaker Dick Spotswood.

Impanelment is set for Thursday, October 29, at 9:00 a.m. in the Jury Assembly Room. Seven (7) of the current Grand Jury have agreed to holdover. All chapter members are encouraged to attend the Impanelment and the social immediately following.

##### **B. Recruitment/Advertising (Craig Perry)**

The second round of recruitment was successful. Craig reported that banners are down, and he will meet with Ty to give him the \$50 gift certificate.

##### **C. Screening Committee (Joyce Bianchini)**

Joyce thanked Ray, Jeanne Jelke, and Craig for their work and flexibility with this year's unusual and extended screening process of 25 applications: 13 applications from Round 1 and 12 from Round 2.

Interviews also required an extended timeline. Of the 13 applicants in the first round, 3 dropped out before the interview. Of the 10 interviewed, one excellent applicant had to drop after the interview. Another excellent applicant who lives in Cottonwood discovered, at the interview, that his address was in the Tehama Co. portion of the town. Shortly after the interviews, another candidate died. Thus, the court has a total of seven (7) applicants for the 2020–2021 pool of Grand Jury candidates

Interviews for the second round of 12 applicants have been set for Oct. 14 and 15. The Court added a question for the interviews to address the need for remote meetings: *Do you have experience with remote meetings, such as Zoom or GoMeeting? Do you have the hardware available at home to help you work remotely?* A discussion ensued about the importance of computer/tech knowledge required of a juror. The Grand Jury Room has one computer that a juror could utilize during the day. What is the county's responsibility to provide the needed training, resources, and hardware? Could the County possibly provide laptops to the jurors who do not have adequate computers at home, checking them out when the term begins and getting them back at the end?

#### **D. Impanelment/Orientation (Marsha/Karen)**

At our last meeting, Craig and Marsha had agreed to look into where and how the newly impaneled 2020–2021 jurors could meet for Orientation and a possible luncheon. Fortunately, after meeting at the newly renovated IOOF building in the Promenade with Blake Fischer of Viva Downtown!, they found suitable spot. Viva Downtown owns and operates the refurbished facility, which has two large meeting rooms and a kitchen facility.

Marsha reviewed the Impanelment Schedule with the Board, so that specifics could be discussed. The results are as follows for **Thursday, October 29:**

- **9:00–10:00** Impanelment **Jury Assembly Room**
- **10:15–11:00** Meet and Greet **IOOF Building** Coffee & cookies for new jurors & alternates, SCGJA, out-going jurors
- **11:00–Noon** Team Building **IOOF** 2020–2021 GJ and alternates only
- **Noon–1:00** Lunch **IOOF** Jurors bring their own brown bag lunch
- **1:00–4:00** Orientation. **IOOF**

Marsha moved and Karen seconded that SCGJA pay for the coffee, water, and treats; motion passed.

Rick agreed to check Court Administration about getting 29 parking passes for new 2020–2021 jurors, alternates, and trainers.

#### **Fri., Oct. 30:**

- 9:00–11:00 Plenary meeting of GJ, possibly at IOOF will include Grand Jurors getting a tour the Grand Jury Room and receive keys.  
(Social distancing and other specifics need to be worked out.)

#### **Nov. 4 and Nov. 5** Orientations **IOOF**

- Coffee/water/snacks provided by SCGJA
- Jeanne will arrange with downtown businesses, perhaps Downtown Java sandwiches one day and Mary's Pizza Shack the other, to serve lunch for the two days. Jurors paying for their own lunches.

**V. New Business**

**A. Grand Jury Foreperson Report (Will Arthur)**

Seven current jurors have agreed to hold-over, but Pro Tem Will Arthur decided not to holdover due to travel plans.

**B. Adjournment 3:00 p.m.** No future meeting date for SCGJA was set.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Joyce Bianchini, Secretary Shasta County Grand Jurors' Association*