



**BOARD OF COURT REPORTING  
500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243  
615-741-1831**

**Board Meeting Minutes for June 16, 2016  
First Floor Conference Room 1-B  
Davy Crockett Tower**

The Tennessee Board of Court Reporting met on June 16, 2016 in the first floor conference room of Davy Crockett Tower in Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Mansfield called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. and the following business was transacted:

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ken Mansfield, John Rambo, Ken Gibson.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT BY PHONE:** Briton Collins.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Earl Houston, Terri Beckham.

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nikole Avers, Cody Kemmer, Ashley Thomas.

**ROLL CALL/NOTICE OF MEETING**

Mr. Mansfield called the meeting to order once a quorum was reached. Roll was called and Director Avers read notice of the meeting into the record, as follows: "Notice of the June 16, 2016 meeting of the Court Reporter's Board was posted to the Court Reporter's Board website on June 3, 2016 as revised."

**AGENDA**

Mr. Gibson motioned to adopt the agenda as written. This was seconded by Judge Rambo. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Collins made a motion to adopt the minutes from the November 20, 2015 meeting as written. Mr. Gibson seconded. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Avers reviewed the board's expenditures and projected budget. She noted that June's revenue was anticipated to be higher than average on account of renewal fees from court reporters whose licenses expire in June. Mr. Mansfield asked if a detailed list of all expenditures was available, but Director Avers only had access to her staff's salary information.

Next she apprised the board of the recently completed legislative sessions, specifically the passage of SB 2469 HB 2201, or the "Right to Earn a Living Act." This new law creates requirements that subject regulatory agencies to an annual review of all licensure procedures.

Lastly she presented the board with the matter of their standing invitation to the National Verbatim Reporters Associations' annual National Alliance of State Associations. This year's NASA meeting is scheduled to take place in Greenville, South Carolina on July 21. Jimmie Jane McConnell had been granted approval to attend, but her term as a board member recently ended.

Mr. Mansfield opened a discussion over who to send in Ms. McConnell's place, but ultimately concluded it may not be viable considering that the board currently lacked a member with NVRA membership. Mr. Collins suggested that the discussion be tabled pending a new appointment from Governor Haslam.

### **LEGAL REPORT**

Ashley Thomas, the board's legal counsel, informed the board that there were currently no open complaints for the board to consider. Mr. Collins inquired about one of the complaints from the board's previous meeting and Ms. Thomas informed him that a consent order for it had been signed in February.

### **RULE-MAKING**

The Board then moved into a rule-making session to consider possible changes to definitions and restructuring the current rules to avoid redundancy. Mr. Mansfield led an open discussion of the most pressing issues related to licensing, recognizing that no votes could be held that day as changes would exceed the bounds of the current session. Mr. Collins felt that the Board should avoid involving itself in regulating third-party contracts, such as those a licensee might enter with an insurance vendor. Judge Rambo suggested additional rules relating to continuing education that would limit credit to courses specific to court reporting. Mr. Gibson offered a suggestion to provide additional guidelines for court reporters seeking continuing education. Mr. Mansfield ultimately tabled the discussion so that a rule-making process could begin to consider changes to the rules as a whole.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Director Avers informed the Board about the new online licensing system, CORE, which she hoped would go live for the profession in December.

The Board then held a new election of officers, with Mr. Mansfield re-elected as chair, Mr. Collins as vice-chair, and Mr. Gibson as secretary.

There being no other new business, Mr. Mansfield concluded the meeting at 10:43 am.