

Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Association, USCG

Annual Meeting, held at the Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Herndon, VA April 16 - 18, 2015

Executive Committee Meeting Sessions

The Executive Committee meeting convened at 1135, 16 April 2015

Donation Committee Report: CWO Bill Mattoon presented a report from the Donation Committee. The Donation Committee was tasked with recommending a policy for accepting artifacts and items that may be donated to the Association. The Committee recommends that their recommendations be accepted to create policy for accepting donations to the Association. The Committee recommended the following:

Collection goals should span the entire experience of the Warrant Officers from initial authorization and including all phases of the current Coast Guard organization.

Represent the life, craft, trades, occupations, literature, and business of the Warrant Officer Corps in the Coast Guard. Represent the customs, culture and life of all groups who have contributed to the history of the warrant.

Items donated to the CWOA for a specific purpose should be stated in the donation document received from the donor, and accession number assigned to the item(s) with final disposition being provided to the donor, with appropriate disposition recorded in the Association records.

Items and collections donated too the CWOA for financial preservation of the Association or its programs should be stated in the documentation of the donated items with appropriate disposition recorded in the Association records.

Acceptance of donated objects and collections should be coordinated with Board of Directors. Assistance from the Coast Guard Historian and the Coast Guard Academy Museum should be sought, the current home of the Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Indoctrination Course, if not feasibly convenient to display or house objects or collections at the CWOA office.

CWO Nick Durrant motioned to accept the report as written and CWO Bob Lewis seconded it. A discussion began in which CWO Bill Giessman said the report is guidance not policy. He recommended that a standing committee be established to deal with donations as they come up. CWO James Pulse made a motion to lay the question which passed.

The Executive Membership meeting recessed at 1145, 16 April 2015

The Executive Committee meeting convened at 1135, 16 April 2015

Agenda Item 2: CWO Ric Waechter recommended that the Executive Committee discuss the possibility of allowing Board of Directors, that are active duty, retired or reserves chief warrant officer and warrant officers living in the Washington-Baltimore area, to hold the offices of president and vice president, and that further allow active duty, retired or reserves that are stationed or live in any area, to hold the offices of secretary and treasurer.

CWO Bill Mattoon moved to pass agenda item 2 to the current bylaws committee for their recommendation by the end of the 2015 annual meeting. CWO Ric Waechter seconded. Motion carried.

By Laws Committee Topic 8: Regarding the nomination of Association officer CWO Ric Waechter moves Article IV, Section 3.b. to Add the words “at least” to the last sentence of article IV, Section 3.b. The new wording of the last sentence would read “The ballot shall consist of at least two candidates for each office.” The motion carries.

The Executive Membership meeting recessed at 1645, 16 April 2015

The Executive Committee meeting convened at 1021, 17 April 2015

Agenda Item 3 Advertising Policy: CWO James Pulse moves that the following grammatical errors be corrected in the Discussion paragraph:

1. First sentence reads “The CWOA Association...” change to read “The CWO Association...”
2. Second sentence reads “The CWO Board of Directors...” change to read: “The CWOA Board of Directors...”.

Further, that the CWOA BOD provide recommendations to ensure the effectiveness of the policy in protecting the Association bran and if a list of acceptable advertisements has been created.”

The motion was seconded by LT Adam Smude. CWO Barry Lane mentions correct writing style should be utilized to spell out CWOA then identify it in parenthesis. Nick Durrant moves to lay the questions on the table until it can be properly amended. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 4 Location of the CWOA National Office: The Executive Director, CWO Carol Setteducato recommends to move the Barge from James Creek Marina to JBAB Capital Cove Marina. She moves to “Authorize the expenditure of \$5000.00 to cover the insurance \$300.00, Inspection \$400.00, 5 hours of towing \$3650.00 and the upgrading to 50 amp service \$3000.00, to have the Barge relocated to JBAB Capital Cove Marina. This will also cover incidentals need for packing, movers, etc. \$350.00” Motion was seconded.

Lengthy discussion followed on the reasons to move the barge and what is the benefit of moving. WO Bob Lewis reminds the room the purpose of the barge is an association office not a entertainment facility. CWO Bob Lewis moved to call the question. Properly seconded. Motion was voted on and resulted in a draw. Motion to call the question moved to roll call vote which did not carry. Motion was placed back on the table for discussion.

CWO Bill Mattoon mentions that the cost should come out of the building fund. CWO Wayne Zuehls calls the question which was properly seconded. Motion to call the question carries and the motion to move the barge passed.

CWO Bill Mattoon moves to take the funds to move the barge from the Association Building Fund. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

Agenda Item 3 Advertising Policy: CWO Laura Freeman moves to amend the original motion to spell out Chief Warrant and Warrant Officer Association, USCG (CWOA) in all references in the advertising policy of the CWOA. Motion was seconded and carried.

The original motion as amended “the following grammatical errors be corrected in the Discussion paragraph:

1. First sentence reads “The CWOA Association...” change to read “The Chief Warrant and Warrant Officer Association, USCG (CWOA)”
2. Second sentence reads “The CWO Board of Directors...” change to read: “The CWOA Board of Directors...”.

Further, that the CWOA BOD provide recommendations to ensure the effectiveness of the policy in protecting the Association bran and if a list of acceptable advertisements has been created.

The motion carried.

The Executive Membership meeting recessed at 1115, 17 April 2015

The Executive Membership meeting reconvened at 1340, 17 April 2015

Agenda Item 5 Death Gratuity Benefit Fund Creation: CWO James Pulse moves “that a restrictive fund be created for the Death Gratuity Benefit and that funds in the amount of \$8.45 per life member, \$8,45 per distinguished member and \$8.45 per regular member be transferred to the fund on 1 July 2015 and again on 1 July 2016. Such transfers should not exceed \$28,000.00 per each year. Further, that any death gratuity benefit payouts shall be transferred out of the account at the end of each month to reimburse the Association for such payments. Further, that the Permanent Finance Committee shall monitor the fund to ensure it maintains a minimum balance of \$28,000 and does not exceed the maximum estimated required funding of the benefit in remaining fiscal years. “CWO Bill Giessman seconds.

CWO Pulse explained that he looked at lots of models when developing this plan. He further explained how the maximum is related to how much would be required to pay out for every member. CWO Bob Lewis stated this does nothing other than hold money in a different account and does not increase funds.

CWO Ric Waechter pointed out he has received numerous letters from retired members opposed to canceling the death gratuity benefit.

CWO Bob Lewis moves the motion be amended by deleting the last sentence. CWO Brent Light seconds.

CWO Bill Mattoon offered that the money is in the budget and that by creating a fund you are creating a reserve. CWO Pulse explained how the fund would grow based on balance carry overs every year.

CWO Waechter moves to call the question and it is properly seconded. Motion carries.

Vote to amend the original motion does not carry.

CWO Lewis moves to amend the motion to replace \$8.45 with \$8.53 in each place. CWO Pulse seconds. There was no discussion and the motion to amend passed.

CWO Durrant moves to amend the motion to add “Further that the PFC shall monitor the fund to ensure it does not exceed the maximum estimated required funding of the benefit in remaining fiscal years. “ CWO Bowman seconds. There was no discussion and the motion to amend carried.

CWO Iozzino moves to call the question on the amended motion. The motion was seconded and carried.

The amended motion “that a restrictive fund be created for the Death Gratuity Benefit and that funds in the amount of \$8.53 per life member, \$8,53 per distinguished member and \$8.45 per regular member be transferred to the fund on 1 July 2015 and again on 1 July 2016. Such transfers should not exceed \$28,000.00 per each year. Further, that any death gratuity benefit payouts shall be transferred out of the account at the end of each month to reimburse the Association for such payments. Further, that the Permanent Finance Committee shall monitor the fund to ensure it maintains a minimum balance of \$28,000 and does not exceed the maximum estimated required funding of the benefit in remaining fiscal years. Further that the PFC shall monitor the fund to ensure it does not exceed the maximum estimated required funding of the benefit in remaining fiscal years. “

By Laws Committee Topic 10: CWO Joe Howard presents an amended By Laws Committee report removing the original topic 10 and replacing with a recommendation to amend Article IV Section 2.d. CWO Bill Mattoon moves Moves to Amend Art IV section 2.d by adding the following; In the absence of two candidates for secretary or treasurer from the Washington-Baltimore area, the office vacancy may be opened to any regular member with the continental United States. The motion was second and carried.

Budget Proposal: CWO Bill Reetz presented the proposed budget. He explained an additional column was added to show the budget if the annual meeting was moved to New Orleans could be disregarded as the BOD had decided to have the meeting in DC. CWO Reetz moved to accept the budget as proposed.

A lengthy discussion evolved regarding historical spending amounts. CWO Ric Waechter stated the PFC understands the membership wants a balanced budget but the PFC is simply dealing with the financial requirements voted on by the Executive Committee and the General Membership. CWO Reetz moved to call the question and it was seconded by CWO Giessman. Motion carries and the motion to accept the budget passes.

Annual Meeting Expenditure: CWO James Pulse moves to approve the expenditure for the 2016 Annual meeting in the Metro Washington, D.C. area not to exceed \$35,305. Motion was seconded. CWO Beddow moves to amend the motion to reflect individual line items for the annual meeting as follows:

1-A Hotel Costs – Sleeping rooms, hospitality suite, meeting room costs – 10,998.00

1-B Travel for Chapter Reps - \$12,867.00

1-C Meals \$9170

1-D Other – printing, podium, etc \$70

1-E Reception \$1200

1G for a total of \$34,305

Motion is seconded. There was no discussion and the motion to amend carried.

There was no further discussion on the amended motion and the motion carried.

Salaries For Association Officers: CWO Bill Reetz moves to authorized the expenditure to expend no more than \$3,000 to pay the salaries of the BOD. Motion was seconded.

CWO Reetz moves to amend the motion to reflect \$500 per officer. The motion to amend was seconded and carried. The motion as amended carried.

CWOA Budget: CWO Ed Miner moves to direct the PFC to develop a zero based budget for the 2016-2017 year. Motion was seconded. CWO Waechter says direction must be provided as to what the PFC should cut to reach this budget.

CWO Pulse moves to refer the motion to a committee that will be tasked with researching new avenues of income for the association and possible expense items to eliminate. Motion is seconded.

CWO Lewis relates that the motion to refer to a committee will just delay any result. The motion does not carry.

CWO Zuehls moves to amend the motion to read request the PFC produce the budget to within 3% of the historical income & expense report of actual and anticipated changes. The motion is seconded and carries.

Donation Committee: CWO Mattoon moves the Executive Committee create the CWOA Donations Policy as per the committee recommendations. The motion was seconded and carried.

PFC Report: CWO Waechter moves the PFC Report as amended be accepted. Motion is seconded and carried.

By Laws Committee Report: CWO Mattoon moves we accept bylaws committee recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4. Motion was seconded.

CWO Lewis moves for Article 7.2.d last sentence to read ...Has been received by the Executive Committee. Motion to amend was seconded.

There was no further discussion and recommendations 123 as written and 4 as amended were carried.

The Executive Membership meeting recessed at 1705, 17 April 2015

The Executive Membership meeting reconvened at 0950, 18 April 2015

By Laws Committee Report Topic 7 Dues Increase: CWO Joe Howard states the intent to simply get the topic on the floor for the Executive Committee.

CWO Durrant stated his chapter agrees a dues increase is not a bad thing.

CWO Reetz points out that every time the association has raised dues we have lost members. CWO Reetz also mentioned that we do have more members now than ever.

CWO Waechter pointed out the ballot has to go to the entire general membership for vote and that maybe we should look at the dues every five years.

CWO Jeremy Williams stated an increase in dues could fix issues but we need to tell the membership where the money is going.

CWO Reetz moves that we increase the dues by \$2.00 per month dedicating \$1 a month going to the Death Gratuity Fund and \$1 going to the general fund. Motion was seconded.

CWO Waechter moves to amend the motion to state the remaining \$6 goes into the general fund. Motion was seconded and carried.

The amended motion "to increase the dues by \$2 per month dedicating \$1 a month going to DG fund and the remaining \$6 going to general fund" carried.

By Laws Committee Topic 9 Biography and Goals of Candidates: CWO Joe Howard stated the membership needs more information on potential candidates for Association officer positions. CWO Nick Durrant commented that this could scare of potential candidates. A lengthy discussion ensued with no motion being made.

The Executive Membership meeting adjourned at 1030, 18 April 2015

**CWO4 Brent Light
Secretary**