

**SAN FRANCISCO**  
 **MUNICIPAL ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION** 

**MINUTES**  
Executive Board Meeting

Friday, January 25, 2008  
12:30 p.m.  
Flower Market Cafe

Present:

Tom Owen (CA), President  
Elliot Beckelman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Daro Inouye (PD), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Linda Colfax (PD), Treasurer  
Jerry Coleman (DA), Secretary  
Doug Welch (PD), PD Rep.  
Michon Martin (DA), DA Rep.  
Sean Connolly (CA), City Atty. Rep

Absent:

Frank Brass (CA), At Large Rep

[NEW FEATURE: Underscoring below reflects action item for a board member to accomplish before next meeting.]

**Call to Order:** President Owen called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and the minutes of the 11-29-07 meeting was approved by unanimous (8-0) vote, subject to the most recent version of the Secretary's minutes replacing the earlier version which had been attached to the agenda.

**President's Report:** President Owen had no specific matters to report other than in other agenda items' discussion.

**Treasurer's Report:** Linda Colfax confirmed our balance of \$539,228.09 from the last audit. [There was no discussion following up on last meeting's issue of missing information from former treasurer Fuetsch, and results of VP Inouye's and At Large Rep Brass' efforts to close that gap at a lunch with Fuetsch.]

**Executive Board Announcements:** Secretary Coleman raised the 1<sup>st</sup> DCA case of SF v. Local 39 (2007) 151 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 938 as a way for both the new board members to meet MAA attorney Jim Lassart, as a way to discuss Lassart's

strategic take on that case, vis-à-vis our next contract bargaining. It was agreed by all to have Jim come to an upcoming board meeting. VP Inouye was tasked to call Jim and set up such a meeting in the next month.

**Imperative Calendar:** Nothing was covered on this item,

**Update on Retirement Issues:** Secretary Coleman summarized attorney Ron Yank's report to the MAA and its Retirement Committee. VP Inouye warned that we would now have to deal with the new controller, Ben Rosenfield, given former controller Ed Harrington's reassignment. Coleman raised the issue that attorney Yank's bill was \$1115 over the budgeted \$5000. VP Beckelman moved, and DA Rep Martin seconded the motion to pay the overage. President Owen noted he was in favor, but chastised all involved board members for not seeking prior board approval, or at least providing notice of the over-billing issue upon first learning that the \$5000 threshold had been achieved. Vote: 7-1 in favor of paying the bill, with only City Atty Rep. Connolly opposed.

In other retirement news, President Owen reported that the Board of Supervisors was considering two proposals, mostly concerning our health pension, but partly impacting basic retirement benefits. The Mayor's version affects new hires only, and has slightly higher benefits, but only if one stays beyond age 60. The Labor/Peskin version applies to existing employees, also has a cap at age 65 (2.6%), and has an upped %age cap of 80%. Only one, possibly blended or compromise, proposal will come out of the Board for a vote by the citizens.

**Proposal to change dues rate:** President Owen raised the issue that we had long ago agreed to halve our payroll deduction dues rate from .50 to .25 for the first 2 years of our contract, then raise it in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year to amass sufficient funds for the contract negotiations. However, now that our treasury was over ½ million full, we all agreed to defer the issue of raising the dues rate back to .50 until the call of the chair.

**Proposal to Hire Business Agent:** President Owen asked us all if anyone had suggestions for such a hire, as noted at last meeting. Both City Atty. Rep. Connolly and VP Beckelman had names, and would speak to those people to see if interested, and then discuss them further at our next meeting. Discussion seemed to favor hiring such a person only part-time.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.

- Jerry Coleman, Secretary, MAA