

Minutes from GJAOC Meeting May 7, 2026 - Meeting held via Zoom

**Call to Order at 1:06 PM**

**Roll Call**

**Members present in person:** Lynn Bonas, Chris Evans, Ken Blake, Lisa Winter, Greg Tettemer

**Members present via Zoom:** Karen Kindsche, Lynette Fujitani, Lynn Fenton, Chris Pounds, Terri Elders, Doug Gillen (Recording Secretary)

**Ex-Officio present via Zoom:** John Moohr

**Guests present via Zoom:** Joe Barrett

**Approval of Minutes of April 2nd Board Meeting.**

Greg made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes, which was seconded by Terri. Minutes were approved by consensus

**Membership Report – Greg Tettemer**

Greg reported that there have been no changes in membership. He suggested that we contact the next seated Grand Jury earlier in the year so he can obtain contact information. There was discussion about providing lunch for the current Grand Jury, so they need to be contacted and see if this is possible given the time constraints that they are working under right now. It was noted that membership in GJAOC for them will be free for the first year as well as then first luncheon.

Chris P. stated that he will check with Judy, the Foreperson, to see if their timeline and schedule is workable for having lunch brought in. It was noted that this panel has only published two reports to date, and there was additional information that they have had 11 indictments and that the District Attorney has been using the Grand Jury more this past year. Karen commented that it is not as though this panel does not know about the Association and what we do.

**Treasurer's Report – Ken Blake**

Ken provided financial documents from the previous four months for review. He noted normal activity and stated that the credit card machine had been returned. Terri moved to accept his report.

**Programs Report - Chris Evans**

Chris reported that Gaddi Vasquez will be the speaker at the June 4<sup>th</sup> luncheon. Terri will introduce him and the menu will be sent out shortly.

## **Committee Reports**

### **A. Measure M OC Go – Bill Underwood**

John Moohr reported in place of Bill and used notes that Bill had provided earlier.

1. The GJAOC M2 Panel is conducting interviews this week for TOC applicants for the Measure M2 Taxpayer Oversight Committee.

GJAOC & OCGJ members currently and for the past 2 years are, of course, not eligible. But GJAOC members are eligible for this GJAOC M2 TOC applicant screening panel.

2. We received applicants this year:

(Numbers and district information deleted by Bill's request)

3. The 2 active alternative panel members that we added to replace Patti Whitman, who was unable to serve, are Virginia Zlacket and Lynette Fujitani. They have joined Chris Evans, Peter Hersh, Bette Flick & Bill Underwood.

### **B. Recognition Committee - Terri Elders**

Terri stated that the committee has not met, but in her review of past Grand Jury reports, she was struck by a recent report from the 2024-25 panel on Hate Crimes in Orange County. She has identified eight service NGO's and NPO's that have stepped up in this area where the County has not.

She noted that minority populations are growing in Orange County after reading a recent L.A. Times article, and that the word "diversity" has, for some, become a bad word and how that has an impact on minority populations.

There were past reports on fires, but these did not seem to fit with this committee on how to proceed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A.CGJA/ B. Bylaws discussion – These two topics were comingled**

Greg reported that this subject is still a work in progress. There are questions as to how joining CGJA would impact the Association By-Laws and our most recent revision has not been sent to CGJA for their input.

It was noted that Association By-Laws need to reviewed and revised as needed annually. Lynn Fenton and Joe Barrett will undertake this task. If changes are made, they could be posted on the website in August and approved at the September luncheon.

It was also noted that minutes are missing from key luncheon meetings where votes have been taken to approve revised By-Laws. This will need to be addressed if and when these documents are presented to members at any upcoming luncheons for approval.

John raised the question as to what benefit does the Association gain by becoming a member of CGJA. Greg responded that there is no benefit for the Association, but there is benefit for smaller Grand Juries when larger entities are part of that organization. There is strength in numbers, and if there are legal issues that impact the work of the Grand Juries. Plus, there is collaboration between the counties on how to improve their reports and have an impact.

There are questions that if we should join CGJA and the Association at some point dissolve, where would our financial assets go. This would need to be addressed in the By-Laws should the Association want to make this decision.

Lynn noted that there are still questions about insurance coverage for the Board, and asked Doug to contact an insurance agency that might specialize in covering us for D&O exposures.

Greg reported that CGJA is compiling a database of report summaries in the form of Excel spreadsheets. He has completed one for the 2024-2025 panel. Ultimately, this would be a compilation of reports from around the state where a brief synopsis would include the problem, the investigation, and recommendations, or something relevant like the summary at the beginning of each report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Terri commented that she and Betty Frick will be at a American Association of University Women luncheon on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>, and that Doug will bring along the OLLI presentation on what the Grand Jury is and does.

Chris P. stated that the League of Women Voters has asked for a brief presentation in October, and he would like a woman to be part of this presentation.

He also noted that members of the Association will be working with people from the Court at the O.C. Fair between August 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and that there is still a need for some volunteers for the afternoon and evening on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**The meeting was adjourned at 1:55.**