Southwest Regional Meeting

Ontario, California

July 20 – 22, 2018

 President Report and Committee Report

The Southwest Regional Meeting (SWR) was held in Ontario, California at the Ayres Suites Hotel. The stay at the hotel was very pleasant, and they were very accommodating to our needs for all four days.

The meeting started on Friday, afternoon at 2:00 pm. There were 9 SWR states present; Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and first time attendee’s Hawaii. Also in attendance was the state of Michigan making a total of 10 states at the meeting!

The California Society of Medical Assistants (CSMA), officers were introduced;

Vice President- Nancy Lizon, CMA (AAMA)

Secretary- Virginia Marquette, CMA (AAMA)

Treasurer and IPP- Joyce Nakano, CMA (AAMA)

Advisor- Kathy Ham, CMA (AAMA)

There were 31 people that attended the first day of the meeting. The agenda was reviewed and it was announced that there were times set aside for discussions on the recent letter regarding from the AAMA regarding MAERB and the 2018 proposed bylaws from AAMA.

A cake from Joyce Nakano, CMA (AAMA), was presented to welcome first time SWR attendee’s Dorothy Mack, CMA (AAMA) and Lynn Hamada, CMA (AAMA), of Hawaii.

On Saturday the meeting started early at 8:00 a.m. This morning the members found a canvas bag on their chair as a welcome to California.

The SWR meeting was called to order. At this time the members were ready to talk about the recent MAERB sponsorship changes and the lack of communication with the AAMA members. The changes were discovered by a by members looking at the other organizations websites. This was discussed for a long time and it was agreed that we cannot change what has happened. The group decided to write a letter from all SWR Presidents voicing our disappointment in MAERB for not notifying us. The letter will be drawn up on Sunday morning with a committee of 12 people 9 of which are the state president plus other members in the room. The letter would be presented at the end of Sunday’s section.

The meeting was adjourned.

Sunday morning started bright and early. Our speaker was K. Minchella, CMA (AAMA), Ph.D. “Information Security Reporting Security Incidents”. The subject was a big eye-opener for the members on how easily your information can be taken and used against you.

Meeting for SWR was called back to order and the MAERB letter was read aloud to the members. Some changes were made and the group agreed to review with their state executive committee’s and to send in any additional changes. When the letter is finally approved it will be signed by all the State Presidents that represented SWR.

The meeting was adjourned and all were wished a safe trip home and everyone looked forward to seeing each other at the AAMA National Convention in Utah.

Thank you to all of the people that helped to make this meeting a remembrance for all that attended.

Susan Ojeda CMA (AAMA)

SWR Committee Chair

CSMA President

Kathy Ham, CMA (AAMA),

Virginia Marquette, CMA (AAMA)

Joyce Nakano, CMA (AAMA).