

AAMA 63rd Annual Conference Delegate Report
September 13-16, 2019
Greensboro, NC

Five of the seven Minnesota Society of Medical Assistant delegates arrived in Greensboro, North Carolina on Thursday, September 12th. Dawn Verdon (President) and Lisa Sailor (President Elect) did not arrive until Friday, September 13th at midnight due to a flight delay.

The 2019 House of Delegates (HOD) from Minnesota were Dawn Verdon (President), Lisa Sailor (President-Elect), Maria Carlson, Denise Schmitz and Jessica Smith. Mellissa Jensen was the alternate. The gallery had another Minnesota member who is very interested in representing Minnesota in the near future, Tammy Simmon. Hennepin Ramsey Chapter paid for Tammy to join the 2019 delegates and it was fun to get to know her while she learned about how Nationals work.

Friday September 13th, a full day of CEU seminars started at 8 AM and ended with a fun game of Knowledge Bowl at 6 PM. The “Welcome and Awards Celebration” followed shortly thereafter. Minnesota won 2 (two) awards this year:

1. Greatest percentage increase of member CMAs (AAMA)
2. Greatest percentage increase of student membership recruitment

Denise Schmitz accepted the awards on behalf of the state of MN as Dawn Verdon and Lisa Sailor had an unexpected six (6) hour layover in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Saturday, September 14th started bright and early with seminars at 8 AM and lasted until 8 PM. The House of Delegates (HOD), including Tammy, attended the Orientation of Committees at 10:30-12:30 PM. From this orientation, many of us separated and went to scheduled seminars to obtain Continuing Education Units (CEU). Many of us went to the State

leaders meeting where we came back with some valuable information and are looking forward to bringing it back to the state of Minnesota. Jessica Smith and Lisa Sailor spoke to several states about communication through social media. Both Jessica and Lisa are excited to bring forward the information obtained about social media communications.

The state of MN delegates, along with other AAMA members from Minnesota met at the hotel restaurant for dinner around 8:00 PM.

Sunday September 15th the House of Delegates (HOD) convened starting at 8 AM.

- Possible Voting 124
 - Registered 117
 - Proxy Votes 7
 - Total Voting Power 124
- Majority vote 63
 - Two-thirds vote 83

Many states were not seated on time of the HOD: Due to this, a number had to be recounted:

- Possible Voting 149
 - Registered 142
 - Proxy Votes 7
 - Total Voting Power 149
- Majority vote 75
 - Two-thirds vote 100

Proposed bylaws of the following:

- 19-01 Article IX-Nominations and Elections, Section 1. Nominations
- 19-02 Article IX-Nominations and Elections, Section 1. Nominations
- 19-03 Article IX-Nominations and Elections, Section 1. Nominations
- 19-04 Article X-Officers and Trustees: Term of office, vacancy in office, removal from office, Section 1. Term of office

were discussed at length for future approval or denial.

Donald Balasa held a lengthy discussion on the future of Medical Assistants. Discussion was on CMA testing, programs, and wages. The question was brought up: “Does the cost of the program match the cost of what the hourly wage of a medical assistant graduate? He discussed three items:

1. Alignment – Aligning knowledge, skills and professional attributes
2. Positioning
3. Differentiation

He also discussed adding IV starts/therapy to the CMA scope of practice. A program director from FL spoke on the above topic as well.

The HOD was adjourned around 10:22 AM and to reconvene at 1:30 PM at the Reference Committee.

Approximately 130 members attended the Reference Committee started at 1:30 PM. The three (3) year pilot program that was implemented in August of 2019 by the AAMA enabling medical assistants who did not graduate from an ABHES or CAAHEP accredited program to sit for the CMA (AAMA) certification exam was discussed at length. There was a lot of input on both sides of the issue, but it appears that the AAMA is not going to change their mind. This was

very frustrating, particularly to educators in attendance. We were not notified of this program until September of 2019 by the AAMA.

The Reference Committee was adjourned around 4:45 PM.

The House of Delegates second session reconvened at 6:30 PM with most of the Minnesota Society of Medical Assistants Delegates wearing our Minnesota shirts. This was discussed and agreed upon at the pre-national meeting in August that delegates would wear a Minnesota Home shirt. Due to some issues, the HOD did not convene until 6:51 PM.

- Possible Voting 149
 - Registered 142
 - Proxy Votes 7
 - Total Voting Power 149
- Majority vote 75
 - Two-thirds vote 100

Bylaws Amendments that were approved:

- 19-01 Article IX-Nominations and Elections, Section 1. Nominations
- 19-02 Article IX-Nominations and Elections, Section 1. Nominations
- 19-03 Article IX-Nominations and Elections, Section 1. Nominations

Bylaws Amendments that were withdrawn and will re-evaluate for the 2020 HOD:

- 19-04 Article X-Officers and Trustees: Term of office, vacancy in office, removal from office, Section 1. Term of office

Voting for open offices were completed with 140 members casting their votes along with 9 proxy votes.

These bylaws are at the National level and not the State level so no changes need to be made to the State bylaws at this time.

Vice President:

Patty Licurs, CMA (AAMA)	89**
Karen Minchella CMA (AAMA)	59
Abstain	1

Secretary Treasurer:

Virginia Thomas, CMA (AAMA)	128**
Abstain	19

Trustee

Shelly Gingrich, CMA (AAMA)	128**
Rebecca Surat, CMA (AAMA)	115**
Franky Flavata, CMA (AAMA)	86**
Abstain	20

Nominating Committee

Paula Purdy, CMA (AAMA)	109**
Jamie Seelig, CMA (AAMA)	99**
Stephanie Dotson, CMA (AAMA)	81**
Natasha Geno, CMA (AAMA)	77**
Dawn Alter, CMA (AAMA)	74
Kellie Humma, CMA (AAMA)	69
Dawn Jordan, CMA (AAMA)	54

The HOD ran smoothly through the early evening hours and was dismissed at 7:56 PM.

The Presidents' Luncheon was on Monday, September 16th with a great chicken dinner. Dawn Verdon represented MN in the Presidents' walk and received her recognition as MN State President. The delegates ate a hasty meal so they had time to catch their flights home.

Respectfully Submitted and Collaborated,

Lisa Sailor, MS, CMA (AAMA)

President-Elect

Dawn L. Verdon, MS, CMA (AAMA), AHI

President