

**MINUTES OF THE  
PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS  
AND TRAINING BOARD  
QUALITY INN  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA  
FEBRUARY 7, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jesse Jahner  
Adrian Martinez  
Joe Cianni  
Steve Armstrong via Teams  
Erik Dietrich  
Lyn James  
Roger Hutchinson  
Travis Stefonowicz

**GUESTS**

Cory Lee  
Dustin Dewbre  
Jenna Clawson Huibregtse  
Evan Savageau  
Tony Soupier  
Jason Kraft  
Ben Wiebolt  
EJ Parks via Teams

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Pat Helfrich  
Jessica Linder

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Matt Odermann

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

Lori Mickelson  
Megan Carmichael

Chairman Joe Cianni called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Pat Helfrich took the roll. All members were present. It should be noted that Steve Armstrong appeared through the Teams platform. There were other individuals present as guests online through the Teams platform or call in.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Executive Secretary Helfrich notified board the Rootes findings of facts and stipulation was signed.

Executive Secretary Helfrich advised the board of the Fitness for duty Evaluation: Disclosure and Consent is on the POST website.

Executive Secretary Helfrich advised the board that there would be approximately 5 adverse license actions for the May meeting, and there were 11 declinations.

Executive Secretary Helfrich advised the board that there will be 6 members going to the IADLEST conference.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **FUNDING REQUESTS**

#### **Request**

NDHP Sgt. Clawson-Huibregtse made a request for \$9900 for Shotgun Armorer Course.

#### **Motion**

Jesse Jahner made a motion to approve \$9900 and seconded by Lyn James. All in favor, motion passed.

#### **Request**

NDHP Sgt. Clawson-Huibregtse made a request for \$9900 for the Less Letha Launcher Armorer Course.

#### **Motion**

Jesse Jahner made a motion to approve \$4500 and seconded by Roger Hutchinson. All in favor, motion passed.

#### **Request**

Minot PD Dave Goodman made a request for \$5700 for K9 marker training and E-collar for patrol dogs.

#### **Discussion**

After board discussion the request was tabled until May board meeting.

**Request**

Erik Dietrich from Parks and Recreation made a request for \$9900 for Street Survival course.

**Motion**

Lyn James made a motion to approve \$9900 and seconded by Roger Hutchinson. All in favor motion passed. Erik Dietrich abstained from voting

**Request**

Sheriff Cory Lee from the Stark County Sheriff's Office made a request for \$10000 to have Lt. Col. Dave Grossman speak at Sheriff's conference.

**Motion**

Erik Dietrich made a motion to approve \$5000 and seconded by Adrian Martinez. All in favor motion passed.

**WAIVER REQUESTS**

DOCR Tony Soupier requested waiver for new hire Ali to attend the June basic academy and not the February one due to religious beliefs that would cause a hardship on both the DOCR and Ali.

**Motion**

Adrian Martinez made a motion to approve the waiver and seconded by Erik Dietrich. All in favor, motion passed.

Jason Kraft from Ward County SO requested a waiver for a new hire. The new hire was charged with a DUI and was within the 3-year period of not being licensable. Russel was present and answered questions from the board.

**Motion**

Motion to grant limited license by Roger Hutchinson and seconded by Adrian Martinez. All in favor, motion passed.

Roger Hutchinson Renville County SO requested a waiver for Deputy Dewbre to attend the basic academy in June instead of February. Renville has lost too many deputies where there would be a hardship as they already have a new hire in the February basic.

**Motion**

Motion made by Jesse Jahner to grant the waiver and seconded by Adrian Martinez. All in favor, motion passed. Roger Hutchinson abstained from voting.

## **PSYCHOLOGICAL PROVIDER**

Dr. Knowlton requesting to be a psychological provider for POST. This was tabled for May. Executive Secretary Helfrich will be notifying Dr. Knowlton of the May meeting.

## **POST Board Hearing- Benjamin Wiebolt 24-002**

Travis Benson for Grand Forks PD and Benjamin Wiebolt appeared to the POST Board. Benjamin Wiebolt waived his rights to the Board (audio recorded verbal waiver)

Wiebolt violated 109-02-05-01(4)(c) of the POST Board Administrative Code by committing a criminal offense. Wiebolt was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of taking and tagging the wrong species of deer in Nebraska Case 23-773-35 on October 12, 2023. This is a class II violation state statute 37-447 punishable by up to 6 months in jail and/or up to a \$1000 fine. Wiebolt paid the fine and did not have to appear in court.

Wiebolt answered the questions from the POST Board.

### **Motion**

Jesse Jahner made the motion that Benjamin Wiebolt violated 109-02-05-01(4) (c) of the administrative rules and was seconded by Roger Hutchinson. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Motion**

Motion made by Jesse Jahner to begin adverse license action, seconded by Adrian Martinez. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Motion**

Motion made by Jesse Jahner for 30 day probation from when offense was adjudicated. (December 13, 2023) seconded by Lyn James. All in favor, motion passed.

## **POST Credit Hours for Officers Deployed**

Bismarck Police Department had 2 officers deployed and are seeking 60 POST credit hours be given them.

### **Motion**

Motion made by Erik Dietrich that there is still plenty of time to obtain the necessary hours and that if there is an issue, they could request a waiver at the end of the year when their license expires seconded by Lyn James. All in favor, motion passed.

## **Reserve Officer Training Course**

Sheriff Jesse Jahner from Cass County SO requested their Reserve Officer Training Course to be approved. The curriculum was previously given to the Board.

**Motion**

Motion made by Travis Stefonowicz to approve the course, seconded by Adrian Martinez. All in favor, motion passed. Jesse Jahner abstained from voting.

**Meeting Minutes**

Minutes were reviewed from the November 8, 2023, regular meeting.

**Motion**

Chairman Joe Cianni asked if there were any additions or corrections. Hearing none, the Chairman stated the minutes stand approved as distributed.

**Board Approval for Ratification of Licenses**

Executive Secretary Pat Helfrich advised the board of the limited licenses issued from November 8, 2023 to February 2024.

**Motion**

Jesse Jahner made a motion to ratify the licenses that had been issued by the POST Board Office. Adrian Martinez seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Executive Secretary Helfrich previously sent the financial statements and for discussion.

No discussion, financial statements approved as distributed.

At 2:13 PM Jesse Jahner made motion to adjourn. Roger Hutchinson seconded the motion. All in favor, meeting adjourned.