

**MINUTES OF THE
PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS
AND TRAINING BOARD
LETA
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
February 12, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Adrian Martinez
Joe Cianni
Roger Hutchinson via Teams
Travis Stefonowicz
Dave Stromberg
Frank Eberle
Lyn James via Teams
Steve Armstrong via Teams
Matt Odermann via Teams

MEMBERS ABSENT

LEGAL COUNSEL

Lori Mickelson via Teams

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Pat Helfrich	Executive Secretary
Jessica Linder	Administrative Officer

GUESTS

Erik Dietrich	Parks and Recreation
Matt Hanson	Dickinson PD

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Joe Cianni called the meeting to order at 11:02 A.M.
Secretary Helfrich took the roll. All members present either in person or via Teams.

OLD BUSINESS

Secretary Helfrich, Member Martinez and Legal Counsel Mickelson gave update on the contract for Anthology. Contract has been modified and agreed by all parties. POST will pay directly to Anthology the agreed amount of approximately \$32000 which is locked for 6 years. Training on Anthology is scheduled for March 17 for everyone.

Plaques for former POST members. The agreed price has been set for no more than \$200 per plaque. Member Stromberg volunteered to create the engraving for the plaques.

TPO committee update. Member Martinez stated that the first meeting did cover a lot, however it was decided that the committee members would go through the TPO's and make their proposed changes and at the next TPO meeting in March they would share their proposed changes with the committee members and finish the TPO's for POST Board approval at the May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Secretary Helfrich asked if any members were going to attend the IADLEST conference in 2025. 7 members were interested in attending 2 had to check their calendar to confirm.

Motion by member Stromberg to send 7 members to the conference. Seconded by member Stefonowicz. All in favor, motion carried.

Secretary Helfrich brought up the Adverse Actions that are pending and the amount that are coming in and those that are in the process of being reported to POST. Secretary Helfrich advised that as adverse actions go, we will be processing 2024 adverse actions in 2025 and may not get to 2025's. Secretary Helfrich also advised the board that a few of the actions should be heard by a special meeting as the charges are severe and a suspension of their license should be made until the outcome of the charges. Secretary Helfrich suggested that the board could authorize Secretary Helfrich and Legal Counsel Mickelson to write up a stipulation that they agree to a revocation and waive a hearing or deny and request a hearing. This may alleviate the number of hearings. Secretary Helfrich advised the board of 4 adverse actions that are post-conviction. Alexander Carlson, Benjamin Myrum, Patrick Lemer, Mason Valek and was seeking the boards advise on proceeding with the actions. Board acted on the case against Carlson.

Motion by member Martinez to have Legal Counsel Mickelson investigate the legality of the POST board's ability to act post-conviction and pre conviction. Seconded by member Stefonowicz. All in favor, motion carried.

FUNDING REQUESTS

Matt Hanson from Dickinson PD came before the board to request funding for the NDPOA conference in August 2025 being held in Dickinson. Requesting \$15000.

Motion by member Odermann to approve the payment of \$15000 for the conference. Seconded by member Stefonowicz. All in favor, motion carried.

Lt. Martinez from LETA requested funding for a leadership course. Requesting \$45700. The request would be for the remainder of the training funds and the rest to be paid from the POST board funds. Balance after approving NDPOA is \$19590.

Motion by member James and seconded by member Hutchinson. 3 yes and 5 no votes. Motion denied.

ADVERSE LICENSE ACTIONS

Chairman Cianni requested the board to look at the case against Alexander Carlson. Carlson plead guilty to 2 counts for possession of certain materials prohibited.

Motion by member Martinez that Alexander Carlson violated the code of conduct section 109-02-05-01 subsection c. Seconded by member Hutchinson. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by member Martinez to start adverse action in accordance with NDCC 12-63-12. Seconded by member Hutchinson. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by member Stromberg to revoke Carlson's peace officer's license. Seconded by member Stefonowicz. All in favor, motion carried.

MEETING MINUTES

Discussion on the minutes of the November 13, 2024, meeting. Member Stefonowicz found a spelling error and member Stromberg stated that the voting on the adverse action on McCulley was wrong, that Stromberg and Stefonowicz had voted no.

Motion by member Martinez to accept the corrected changes to the minutes of the meeting. seconded by member Eberle. All in favor, motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF LICENSES

Secretary Helfrich provided a report of initial licenses from November 13, 2024, to February 6, 2025, for a total of 37.

Motion by member Stromberg to ratify the report of initial licenses. Seconded by member Martinez. All in favor, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

No questions were asked on the financial reports submitted to the board.

ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

Member Stromberg asked about a disciplinary guide that could be used for adverse actions. This could be used by the Secretary as a guide for actions on a peace officer's license that would need to be addressed quickly and as a guide for actions that the board has done in the past to keep a consistent action outcome instead of relying on the secretary to look up previous cases. A committee to create a matrix was created with members Stromberg, Eberly, and Stefonowicz.

Chairman Cianni updated the board on bill 2165. Chairman Cianni stated it was voted on and passed.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Cianni adjourned the meeting at 12:53 P.M.