

**MINUTES OF THE
PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS
AND TRAINING BOARD
LETA
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
May 13, 2026**

MEMBERS' PRESENT

Evan Savageau
Joe Cianni
Roger Hutchinson via Teams
Travis Stefonowicz via Teams
Dave Stromberg
Lyn James via Teams
Steve Armstrong
Amy Suda

MEMBERS ABSENT

LEGAL COUNSEL

Jeremy Ensrud

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Pat Helfrich	Executive Secretary
Jessica Linder	Administrative Officer

GUESTS SPEAKING TO BOARD

Erik Dietrich	ND Parks and Recreation
Chief Frank Senn	Beulah PD
Chief Roland Desjarlais	Dunseith PD
Dylan Nygaard	Dunseith PD
Sheriff Cory Lee	Stark County Sheriff Office
Chief Jason Ziegler	Mandan PD

Other listeners joined via Teams

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Joe Cianni called the meeting to order at 11:01 A.M.
Secretary Helfrich took the roll

NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter to the Board from Chris Redmann attorney. Letter was quarantined by outlook before last meeting which is when it was sent for.
2. Brittney Holcomb request to be ND POST approved as a psychological provider. No appearance via Teams or in person.
3. Lt. Savageau presented to the board about an update to the use of force and creating a PowerPoint as a study guide in Black Board prior to taking the test. Board okayed update.
4. Executive Secretary Helfrich presented the Board with a contract from Anthology. The contract was to get all learners transcript into a chronological order combing the old and new together.

Motion made by Member Armstrong to approve the contract and fee, seconded by Member Stromberg. All in favor, motion passed.

WAIVER REQUEST

- 1.) Three Affiliated Tribes requesting a firearms waiver for Joseph Beaufort. Beaufort is currently not licensed with ND POST.

Motion by Member Armstrong to deny the waiver as Beaufort is not currently licensed with ND POST, seconded by Member Stromberg. Lyn James was not online during the vote. All others in favor, motion passed.

- 2.) Three Affiliated Tribes requesting a firearms waiver for John Whirlwind Soldier. Whirlwind Soldier is currently not licensed with the ND POST.

Motion by Member Armstrong to deny the waiver as Whirlwind Soldier is not currently licensed with ND POST, seconded by Member Suda. All in favor, motion passed.

- 3.) Stark Co SO Sheriff Lee in to request a waiver for Trevor Schagunn to attend the fall basic academy. Sheriff Lee stated they hired 2 deputies for court security, and they are sending one to the summer basic and requested Schagunn to attend the fall basic to alleviate deputies to cover.

Motion by Member Stefonowicz to approve the waiver, seconded by Member Stromberg. All in favor motion passed.

- 4.) Erik Dietrich from ND Parks and Recreation requested waivers for Shana Geiger and Michelle Cunningham to attend the fall basic and not the summer basic. Erik stated that the summer is the busy time for the parks department and Shana and Michelle are at separate parks, however the manpower is necessary during the summer months due to it being their busy season.

Motion to approve waivers for Geiger and Cunningham made by Member Suda, seconded by Member Armstrong. All in favor, motion passed.

- 5.) Chief Roland Desjarlais and Dylan Nygaard appeared before the board requesting a waiver for a limited license for Nygaard. Nygaard was denied at a previous meeting as there is a 5-year waiting period for a class A misdemeanor he received in TN approximately 4 years ago. Nygaard was granted a waiver by CJIS and has CJIS access as he's working for corrections currently.

Motion made by Member Armstrong to approve the waiver for a limited license, seconded by Member Suda. Member Hutchinson voted no, all others in favor, motion passed.

- 6.) Dan Korsmo from Cass Co SO appeared via Teams before the board requesting a waiver for Bryce Ressler to attend the summer reciprocity basic as he missed the spring basic due to National Guard responsibilities. Executive Secretary Helfrich advised that the request came after the February meeting and before the May meeting could meet, causing Ressler's limited license to cancel due to the inability to attend the next available basic.

Motion by Member Stromberg to have Cass reapply for Ressler's limited license and to waive the fees and to keep the current psychological and physical tests, seconded by member Armstrong. All in favor, motion passed.

TRAINING FUND REQUESTS

1. Lt. Savageau advised the board that due to not enough registration for the Staff and Command training, the class has been cancelled. The \$100,000 requested will be returned for funding to other agencies.

2. Chiefs Frank Senn and Jason Ziegler appeared before the board requesting funding for the ND Police Chiefs conference being held in Watford City. Funding request is for \$7500.

Motion made by Member Armstrong to approve the \$7500 funding request, seconded by Member Stromberg. All in favor, motion passed.

3. Kyle Johnson from West Fargo PD appeared before the board requesting funding for K9 Defense Bite Building & Decoy Effects. Funding request is for \$6500.

Motion made by Member James to approve the \$6500 funding request, seconded by Member Savageau. All in favor, motion passed.

4. Jerrod Wagner from Fargo PD appeared by Teams before the board requesting funding for Snipercraft Basic Police Sniper. Funding request is for \$3990.

Motion made by Member Hutchinson to approve the \$3990 funding request, seconded by Member Armstrong. All in favor, motion passed.

5. Jason Sundheim from Minot PD appeared by Teams before the board requesting funding for the NDPOA conference. Funding request is for \$15000.

Motion made by Member Armstrong to approve the \$15000 funding request, seconded by Member James. All in favor, motion passed.

6. Jamestown PD Jason Prochnow did not appear in person or via Teams for his funding request for a De-Escalation course.

Motion by Member Stromberg to table this until the August 5th meeting, seconded by Member Suda. All in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Secretary Helfrich advised the Board no oral comments were presented for the administrative hearing in April and the 10-day waiting period expired on written comments. Next step is to send to the Attorney General's office for review and approval.

Discussion on when the fees will be enforced on the administrative rules' changes. Rules will go into effect January 1, 2027.

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the last meeting were not presented and will be presented at the August meeting for November 2025 and February, May 2026 meetings.

RATIFICATION OF LICENSES

Limited licenses and reserve licenses were presented to the board for ratification. 41 initial and no reserve licenses.

Motion from member Armstrong made a motion to ratify the licenses, seconded by member Savageau. All in favor, motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial report overview. Executive Secretary Helfrich advised total for Checking, Mutual fund and third-party sweep are \$476952.36

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sara Kyte appeared via Teams to voice her concerns to the POST board.

ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Cianni adjourned the meeting at 2:16 PM