



# WILEAG Governing Board Meeting Minutes

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The virtual meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order at 0902 hours by President Mark Ferguson.

Present: Ferguson, Rosch, Christopherson, Peterson, Stojkovic, Balistrieri, Pederson, Palmer, Grill, Nasci, Nimmer, Zilavy, Kopp, Reyes, Braun, and Hingiss.

Others: Katie Wrightsman, Steve Wagner, Phil Noche, Colette Jaeger, Danielle Patton, and Lara Vendola-Messer.

The minutes from the January 11, 2021 meeting were sent in advance of the meeting. ***After review, the meeting minutes of the January 11, 2021 were approved on a unanimous voice vote following a motion by Stojkovic, seconded by Peterson.***

## **Standing and Ad-hoc Committee Reports**

- **Training Committee** – The WILEAG training curriculum was discussed as a separate agenda item during the meeting.
- **Process Committee** – The Process Committee has one final meeting scheduled with the intent of having the standards finalized for presentation/approval during the next Board meeting on March 22, 2021. Additionally, Ferguson received a procedural inquiry regarding Standard 12.1.3 *Lethal Weapons Training and Qualification*. An agency questioned the process that needed to be followed should an officer fail to meet the minimum qualifying standards with their issued duty weapon. The Board affirmed the requirements enumerated in 12.1.3.4 that an officer must demonstrate proficiency "*prior to resuming official duties*".
- **Outreach Committee** – Rosch advised that the annual Chief's Conference was a success and WILEAG's outreach efforts resulted in the recruitment of several agencies interested in accreditation.
- **Large Agency Committee** –Nothing to report

## **OFFICER'S REPORTS**

- **President's Report** – Welcome to New Berlin Police Chief Jeff Hingiss who has been appointed to the Board as the representative of the Police Executive Group (PEG).
- **Vice President's Report** – Vacant
- **Secretary's Report** – Nothing to report
- **Treasurer's Report** – Rosch provided and reviewed the financial reports that he compiled with Board members. He reported a current balance of \$86,577.10. No concerns were expressed by the Executive Board who had reviewed the detailed report in advance of today's meeting. Rosch commented that the large increase in revenue is associated with the fees received from the Use of Force Credentialing Program. The ending balance is inflated because assessor payments have yet to be made and won't be occurring until the end of March. Following discussion and review, ***a motion was made by Kopp, seconded by Stojkovic and passed on a unanimous voice vote to accept the Financial Reports.***

**Staff Report**- Wrightsman reviewed the report she provided to the Board in advance of today's meeting. She has been spending a lot of time managing the Use of Force Credentialing Program and during peak times was receiving over 150 emails per day regarding it. Currently, 337 agencies have submitted their Use of Force polices for review and she is waiting for 22 agencies to make needed repairs. This month marks the one-year anniversary for Wrightsman serving as WILEAG's Executive Director. The Board was unanimous in the opinion that she has been doing a stellar job.

## **Old and Unfinished Business**

**Update on Use of Force Credentialing Program** – Ferguson advised that the weekly Zoom meetings with the COPS office have moved to a bi-weekly format. The original January 31<sup>st</sup> submission deadline has also been retracted. This will essentially allow agencies to seek Use of Force Credentialing at any point when they apply for Federal grant funding. Nationally over 6,600 agencies have been certified with over 1,300 actively still in process. At this time, no updates/changes to the program have occurred as a result of the transition to President Biden's administration.

## **New Business**

**Board Member Practices/Procedures Questions** – No questions

**Elect Vice President-** With the resignation of Anna Ruzinski from the Board, an election was held to fill the remainder of her unexpired term as Vice President through 12/31/22. ***A motion was made by Rosch, seconded by Palmer, to nominate Dennis Nasci as Vice President. A motion was made by Rosch, seconded by Palmer, to close nominations. After a unanimous vote, Nasci was elected as Vice President.***

**Discuss/Review Lexipol Use of Force Standards-** Use of Force Credentialing has identified a discrepancy between WI Statute and the language being promulgated by Lexipol regarding Great Bodily Harm. Lexipol takes the position that Very Serious Injury is synonymous with Great Bodily Harm and the terms are without difference. However, the Training and Standards Bureau reviewed this matter and does not share this assessment. Zilavy and Palmer confirmed that the two terms are not interchangeable and that the definition of Great Bodily Harm includes, but is not limited to, Very Serious Injury. Following discussion, the Board was unanimous in its opinion that for purposes of accreditation, agencies must adhere to the definition of Great Bodily Harm as enumerated by WI Statute 939.22(14) in order to demonstrate compliance with WILEAG Use of Force standards.

**Discuss WILEAG Training Curriculum-** Balistrieri reported that CVMIC will remain closed through June 30, 2021. The training calendar for 2021 was confirmed and will include Team Leader, Assessor, and Accreditation Manager trainings held over the months of May and June. Based on enrollment and interest, additional classes can be scheduled in the fall if needed. CVMIC will assist with the production of two training videos for WILEAG. Glendale PD has agreed to host the segment focused on Property/Evidence Room management and West Allis PD will host a segment on Temporary Holding. Each of these areas were identified by the Board as being often times problematic for agencies when demonstrating compliance.

***The meeting was adjourned at 1018 hours on a unanimous voice vote following a motion by Nasci, seconded by Stojkovic.***

**Next meeting** – Friday February 26, 2021 at 0900 hours via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd Christopherson-Secretary