



WILEAG Governing Board Meeting Minutes

December 14th, 2020

The virtual meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order at 0900 hours by President Mark Ferguson.

Present: Ferguson, Vendola-Messer, Balistrieri, Pederson, Zilavy, Grill, Peterson, Nasci, Nimmer, Kopp, Ruzinski, Rosch, Cole, and Braun.

Excused: Palmer and Stojkovic.

Others: Katie Wrightsman, Steve Wagner, Phil Noche, and Darin Rice

The minutes from the November 9th, 2020 meeting were sent in advance of the meeting. ***After review, the meeting minutes of the November 9th, 2020 were approved on a unanimous voice vote following a motion by Ruzinski, seconded by Peterson.***

Standing and Ad-hoc Committee Reports

- **Training Committee** – Balistrieri stated that CVMIC will be closed from January to March of 2021. Ferguson reported that assessor training will be conducted at WCTC on 12/15/20 with 32 total attendees.
- **Process Committee** – The updated standards review document been disseminated for review. Peterson discussed his review and recommended that the standards committee meet to discuss further rather than having the reviews conducted by e-mail exchange. Ferguson will coordinate a meeting in January.
- **Outreach Committee** – Rosch advised that the annual Chief's Conference is still scheduled. He has not received any information indicating that there have been changes.
- **Large Agency Committee** –Nothing to report

OFFICER'S REPORTS

- **President's Report** – Nothing to report
- **Vice President's Report** – Nothing to report
- **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 \$44,315.60. No concerns were expressed by the Executive Board who had reviewed the detailed report. Following discussion and review, ***a motion was made by Ruzinski, seconded by Peterson and passed on a unanimous voice vote to accept the Financial Reports.***

Staff Report – Wrightsman reported that the final on-site assessment for 2020 begins tomorrow, 12/15/20, at Reedsburg P.D. The 2021 meeting dates had been provided to all board members. Wrightsman advised that she sent all required paperwork for the upcoming year to each agency and Rosch sent sponsorship letters. She also stated that the annual awards nomination forms were forwarded. The 2021 assessment schedule was sent to assessors to begin planning for the upcoming year.

Old and Unfinished Business

Update on Use of Force Credentialing Program – To date, 128 agencies have sent policies in for review. Ferguson stated that WILEAG would not apply for the previously discussed grant as it could not be utilized to offset the cost of conducting policy reviews. A meeting of all assessors reviewing use of force policies was held virtually on 12/11/20. The most commonly reported issue with policies occurred in agencies utilizing Lexipol. Specifically, the verbiage used in the definition of deadly force is different than the Wisconsin definition. WI DOJ has discussed the discrepancy and will not be altering the definition. Ferguson reiterated that January 31st is the deadline to provide policy review information to the U.S. DOJ. Wrightsman commented that she is re-assigning some of the reviews to other assessors as necessary. Steve Wagner, Bureau Chief for Training and Standards, confirmed that any law enforcement agency who intends to apply for federal grant funding must have a use of force policy review completed to achieve compliance. This includes District Attorney's Office investigators and State law enforcement agencies. A notice will be provided to every district attorney in the state. All law enforcement agencies were notified by WI DOJ.

New Business

Board Member Practices/Procedures Questions – No questions

2021 Budget - Rosch sent the 2021 budget items to Board members in advance of the meeting. Following discussion and review, ***a motion was made by Ruzinski, seconded by Nasci and passed on a unanimous voice vote to approve the 2021 budget as presented.***

Officer Elections

- **President** – ***A motion was made by Ruzinski, seconded by Peterson, to nominate Mark Ferguson for President. Ruzinski made a motion, seconded by Nasci, to close nominations for President. After a unanimous vote, Ferguson was elected as President.***
- **Vice President** – ***A motion was made by Ferguson, seconded by Nimmer, to nominate Anna Ruzinski as Vice President. A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Nasci, to close nominations. After a unanimous vote, Ruzinski was elected as Vice President.***
- **Secretary** – ***A motion was made by Ferguson, seconded by Ruzinski, to nominate Todd Christopherson as secretary. Ruzinski made a motion, seconded by Kopp, to close nominations for Secretary. After a unanimous vote, Christopherson was elected as Secretary.***
- **Treasurer** – ***A motion was made by Ferguson, seconded by Kopp, to nominate Bob Rosch as the Treasurer. Ferguson made a motion, seconded by Rosch, to close nominations for Secretary. After a unanimous vote, Rosch was elected as Treasurer.***

Agency Accreditation Review

Following a motion by Ruzinski, seconded by Kopp, at 0949 hours the Board convened in a closed session on a unanimous voice vote.

Walworth County Sheriff's Office - The written report was sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. Team leader Mark Ferguson provided a summary of the process and the findings. ***There was a motion by Ruzinski, seconded by Kopp and passed on unanimous voice vote to grant reaccreditation status to Walworth County Sheriff's Office effective December 14, 2020.***

La Crosse P.D. – The written report was sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. Team leader Sergeant Phil Noche provided a summary of the process and the findings. ***There was a motion by Peterson, seconded by Kopp and passed on unanimous voice vote to grant reaccreditation status to La Crosse P.D. effective December 14, 2020.***

Jackson P.D. Core Verification – The written report was sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. Katie Wrightsman provided a summary of the process and the findings of the review that had been completed by Chief Scott Marquardt. After discussion, ***a motion was made by***

Kopp, seconded by Ruzinski, and passed on unanimous voice vote to grant reaccreditation status to Jackson P.D., contingent upon successful completion of requested documentation relating to Standards 16, 37, and 43 by May 1, 2021, effective December 14, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 1118 hours on a unanimous voice vote following a motion by Ruzinski, seconded by Peterson.

Next meeting – Virtual, January 11th, 2021 at 0900 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Darin Rice for Todd Christopherson-Secretary