



WILEAG

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2024

The dual format meeting held in-person at the CVMIC offices in Wauwatosa and virtually via Zoom, was called to order at 1005 hours by President Mark Ferguson.

Present: Ferguson, Nasci, Grill, Christopherson, Stojkovic, Pederson, Jaeger, Nimmer, Styka, Hingiss, Braun, Cole, Misko, Zilavy, and Palmer.

Excused: Peterson

Others: Katie Wrightsman, Mark Rather, Rick Balistreri, and Patrick Reese

The minutes from the December 15, 2023 meeting were sent in advance of the meeting. ***After review, the meeting minutes of the December 15, 2023 were approved on a unanimous voice vote following a motion by Nimmer, seconded by Cole.***

Standing and Ad-hoc Committee Reports

Training Committee- Styka reports that enrollment for WILEAG training offered in 2024 is going well. To date, 35 people are enrolled for Accreditation Manager training which is being held April 11 at CVMIC. Assessor training has 15 people enrolled already and will take place April 19 at CVMIC. Lieutenant Matt Wagner (Cottage Grove PD) will be shadowing Ferguson and Nasci during the Assessor training so that he can instruct future classes. Wagner was also elected as the Vice President of WI-PAC and will assist with filming the training video that details what agencies can expect during a mock assessment. Once this is complete, Jaeger reports that filming will begin on the next training video that will provide an overview of how a CORE assessment works. Braun reports that filming of the training video centered on victim/witness rights has been delayed until the Frequently Asked Questions document regarding Chapter 14 of the 6th Edition Standards is finalized and approved. The statutes and enumerated requirements associated with these rights are very complex and subject to significant interpretation. While an Attorney General's opinion may provide clarity, Pederson believes this is unlikely to occur as Attorney General Kaul has historically deferred discretionary interpretation and decision making for these matters to local authorities.

Standards and Process Committee – Cole reports that he has been working with Peterson regarding accreditation cycle variance procedures. A finished product has been completed and is ready for presentation at the February 2, 2024 Board meeting.

Outreach Committee- Jaeger reports that she will be presenting an accreditation overview for the Wisconsin Command College program. Vendola-Messer is scheduled to present an accreditation overview for the New Chiefs & Sheriffs training occurring the week of January 22-26 in Sun Prairie.

Large Agency Committee – Ferguson reports that Racine PD contacted WILEAG inquiring about accreditation. He will reach out to them and serve as their point of contact.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President's Report – Ferguson reports that he is unable to attend the virtual Accredited Net meeting January 9, 2024. Any Board member that wants to attend in his absence should let Wrightsman know, and she can share the link to the meeting with them. Lastly, Ferguson reports that he has not received any new updates regarding the legislation proposed by Assembly Representative Jacobsen's office which provides grant funding to offset the costs of accreditation. He will continue to monitor this development and provide timely updates as needed.

Vice President's Report – Nothing report.

Secretary's Report – Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report – The financial report completed by Grill was submitted to the Board in advance of today's meeting and detailed a current balance of \$74,087.47. Grill advised that electronic payment of annual dues by participating agencies is going well with no problems or concerns reported. Following discussion and review, ***a motion was made by Nasci, seconded by Braun, and passed on a unanimous voice vote to accept the Financial Report.*** Lastly, Grill reports that she will be examining the fees that are charged by payroll service providers to see if a more economical option exists for WILEAG. She will report her findings to the Board at a future meeting once she has gathered the information.

Staff Report- Wrightsman reviewed the Executive Director's Report that was provided in advance of today's meeting. She was contacted by the Law Enforcement Administrative Professionals (LEAP) association regarding their 2024 training conference being held in Green Bay. Vendola was volunteered to coordinate a training segment and provide an overview of accreditation on June 20 from 2:00-2:45pm. Wrightsman reports that she is still receiving requests from law enforcement agencies to certify/recertify their Use of Force polices in accordance with Executive Order 13929. Ferguson confirmed that this is no longer a requirement to receive Federal discretionary grant funds. As such, WILEAG is no longer performing this service. Wrightsman reviewed the 2023 Annual Awards that will be presented at the Wisconsin Police Leadership Foundation (WPLF) Winter Conference in February. At the direction of the Board, she will be sending out polling to break a tie amongst nominations for the Innovative Program of the Year Award.

Old and Unfinished Business –

Board Member Vacancies- Both Ferguson and Nasci announced their intention to retire in 2024. This development will create vacancies on the WILEAG Board as well as the officer positions of president and vice president. Christopherson reviewed that Ferguson occupies an at large seat on the Board which will require an election to fill upon his departure. Nasci occupies a seat designated by the Fourth Class Cities, Towns, and Villages Committee of the Wisconsin Chief's of Police Association. This will require that organization to designate a new representative upon his departure. Christopherson also reviewed that elections for the officer positions of president and vice president will need to occur. The newly elected president and vice president will serve out the unexpired portion of the current two-year term which ends December 31, 2024.

New Business

Board Member Practices/Procedure Questions - None

2023 Board Member Attendance- Article III of the By-Laws mandates review of Board member attendance records for the previous year during the January board meeting. Ferguson was in contact with Palmer, Grill, and Stojkovic whose attendance did not meet the minimum standards. Each expressed their continued support of WILEAG and desire to remain on the governing board. Following discussion ***there was a motion by Braun, seconded by Nasci, and passed on a unanimous voice vote that Palmer, Grill, and Stojkovic would retain their positions on the WILEAG governing board of directors.***

Agency Accreditation Review

Following a motion by Nimmer, seconded by Misko, at 1057 hours the Board convened in closed session following unanimous voice vote.

Reedsburg PD- The written report was sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. Team Leader Chief Patrick Reese provided a summary of the process and responded to specific questions from Board members. After discussion and review, ***there was a motion by Jaeger, seconded by Hingiss, and passed on a unanimous voice vote to grant WILEAG reaccreditation status for a period of three years to Reedsburg PD, effective January 5, 2024.*** Reedsburg PD will be invited to the next Board meeting for formal recognition of their accredited status.

Waukesha Sheriff- The written report was sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. Team Leader Chief Mark Ferguson provided a summary of the process and responded to specific questions from Board members. After discussion and review, ***there was a motion by Jaeger, seconded by Nimmer, and passed on a unanimous voice vote to grant WILEAG reaccreditation status for a period of three years to Waukesha County Sheriff, effective January 5, 2024.*** Waukesha County Sheriff will be invited to the next Board meeting for formal recognition of their accredited status.

Following a motion by Nasci, seconded by Hingiss, at 1108 hours the Board convened in open session following unanimous voice vote.

Walworth Sheriff Accreditation Presentation –Sheriff Dave Gerber, Undersheriff Tom Hausner, Accreditation Manager Captain Josh Staggs, and County Administrator Mark Luberdá were present representing the department. Ferguson recapped significant highlights from the agency on-site and informed them of the Board’s decision to grant reaccreditation status effective December 15, 2023. Sheriff Gerber was advised as to the timing of the formal award presentation at the WPLF Winter Conference in February and that a local presentation could be made if requested.

West Milwaukee PD Accreditation Presentation – Chief Dennis Nasci, Assistant Chief Shaundra Randolph, and Accreditation Manager Michelle Preisler were present representing the department. Ferguson recapped significant highlights from the agency on-site and informed them of the Board’s decision to grant reaccreditation status effective November 10, 2023. Chief Nasci was advised as to the timing of the formal award presentation at the WPLF Winter Conference in February and that a local presentation could be made if requested.

The meeting was adjourned at 1133 hours on a unanimous voice vote following a motion by Misko, seconded by Nimmer.

Next meeting – Friday February 2, 2024, in-person at CVMIC and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Todd Christopherson-Secretary