

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF  
PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING**

**BOARD MEETING  
POST Board Office  
1600 University Avenue, Suite 200  
Saint Paul, Minnesota  
January 26, 2017**

**Members Present**

Mr. Medaria Arradondo  
Mr. Tim Bildsoe (Chair)  
Mr. Dave Bentrud  
Mr. Andrew Evans  
Mr. Mark Fahning  
Ms. Nancy Johnson  
Mr. Joel Olejnicak  
Dr. Joel Powell  
Mr. Paul Schnell  
Ms. Becky Swanson  
Mr. Dave Titus  
Mr. Kent Wilkening  
Mr. Troy Wolbersen  
Mr. Jim Yang

**Staff Present**

Mr. Nate Gove  
Ms. Carol J. Hall  
Ms. Deb Soderbeck  
Ms. Peggy Strand  
Ms. Sheryl Waddick

**Counsel Present**

Ms. Karen McGillic,  
Assistant A.G.

**Others Present**

Mr. Michael Ardolf  
Mr. Tom Draper  
Ms. Deb Hanssen  
Ms. Susan Hilal  
Mr. Bryan Litsey  
Ms. Kellie McElray-Hooper  
Mr. Andy Skoogman  
Ms. Mary Vukelich

Chair Bildsoe called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone. The **Forum** was the next item on the agenda. No one present asked to address the Board.

**Election of Vice Chair:** The floor was opened to nominations to serve as Vice Chair of the Board. Current Vice-Chair Mark Fahning was asked if he would again be willing to fill the position and he affirmed he would.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Powell moved to nominate Mr. Fahning. Mr. Bentrud seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Bildsoe thanked Mr. Fahning and congratulated him.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Chair Bildsoe looked for a motion to approve the agenda.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Schnell moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Fahning seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Approval of the October 17, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes:** Chair Bildsoe looked for a motion to approve the minutes.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Wilkening moved to approve the minutes as written. Chair Bildsoe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Announcements:** Mr. Gove told the Board that long-time staff member Ms. Carol Hall would retire on February 21<sup>st</sup>. He recognized her for the roles she served at POST and

presented her with an engraved award. "Carol has done a great job. She is a 32.5 year employee with the State and came to POST on February 14, 2001. I really appreciate all the work she has done on behalf of the POST Board in serving the law enforcement profession in Minnesota." The Board applauded. Ms. Hall told the Board she would be gardening and keeping busy with many volunteer organizations. Chair Bildsoe also thanked Ms. Hall. There were no other announcements.

#### **TRAINING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Chair Bentrud updated the Board regarding items coming forward from the Training Committee. **Changes to the Professional Peace Officer Education (PPOE) Learning Objectives** based on suggestions from many of the PPOE Coordinators was the first item. He told the Board the changes were requested because some of the objectives were too agency-specific and they would be better covered during in-service training or a field training program, not in pre-service education. Though the original request removed all of the "intelligence led policing" objectives, it was decided to put two of them back into the objectives. The board asked for clarification. The Training Committee recommended approval. Discussion followed.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Schnell moved to approve the recommendations. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### **Century College Application to Become a POST Board Certified PPOE Provider:**

Chair Bentrud reported the committee approved Century College's application with the caveat they secure a contract with a skills provider. Ms. Strand conducted a site visit and received a signed copy of the contract. She had no concerns.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Powell moved to approve Century College's certification. Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chair Bentrud reported the Training Committee would be meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> and focusing on revisions to the in-service Use of Force learning objectives, specifically adding some objectives related to verbal skills and de-escalation. "We are also continuing to look at fitness standards. We are still working on it trying to get on good ground, or we may just strike the language that requires it," he said. Crisis Intervention Training would also be looked at.

#### **STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Chair Schnell said the committee met in December to discuss three items. The first item was potentially conducting statewide listening sessions involving staff and perhaps Board members, but due to the legislature being in session, staff involvement at this time would be minimal, if at all, and this outreach may possibly parallel the work of the Governor's task force. They decided to wait to see how those things fare before continuing discussion in the latter part of February. The second item was a requirement for agencies to have a domestic violence policy when peace officers and high-profile persons are the accused aggressors. Domestic violence advocacy groups would like to appear before the committee to address some of their concerns on this issue. Third, the committee discussed the establishment of POST's lack of ability to take disciplinary action in instances where there is substantial non-compliance with POST Board policy requirements, i.e., an agency that has a policy in place but does not follow the policy. He explained there are a number of questions and issues with this and it would take some time to make any determinations. He answered some questions from the Board

members. Chair Schnell would report again on these issues after the February Standards Committee meeting.

**Law Enforcement Coalition Legislation:** Mr. Gove told the Board he is looking for support surrounding the piece of legislation that the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA), the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA), the Minnesota Sheriffs Association (MSA), and POST collaboratively drafted in response to public concerns regarding the law enforcement profession. The bill would seek to the following:

- preserve the funding of POST Board operations;
- grant authority to POST to collect aggregate racial composition data of students and officers;
- mandate 16 CE training credits in crisis intervention and mental health crises, conflict management and mediation, and recognizing community and cultural differences;
- an annual recurring appropriation of \$10 million dollars for training reimbursement to local governments;
- reinstatement fees from non-DWI driver's license suspensions deposited into the general fund instead of the special revenue account;
- an appropriation of \$1 million dollar to establish a "Pathway to Policing Fund" for partial reimbursement costs associated with hiring and compensating diverse candidates while they complete licensure requirements.

"We can all recognize that the legislative process turns out what may not look like what we started with. I am looking for the authority and the flexibility to work with our partners, the Legislature and the Governor's office to try to attain these general principles," said Mr. Gove. Mr. Gove answered many questions from the Board members. Mr. Evans said, "Because of my position in the Executive Branch, I need to abstain from voting on this particular item, but I want to recognize the coalition and the work they did." Mr. Andy Skoogman added, "Thanks to the POST Board for putting this proposal together. We support the spirit of it and we believe it is really moving the profession forward. It took the coalition a lot of time to put it together and try to come up with what is best and we appreciate the POST Board for being a part of it." Lengthy discussion ensued. Ms. Swanson and Mr. Titus wondered if officer wellness should have been included in the bill. Mr. Gove said, "This is an excellent place to start."

- **MOTION:** Mr. Wilkening moved to support the Law Enforcement Coalition's legislative bill and to authorize Mr. Gove with the flexibility to use his discretion and expertise to advocate for these principles with the caveat that he continue to keep the Board informed regarding the bill and how it progresses. Dr. Powell seconded the motion. Discussion continued. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**FY 2017 Budget / Strategic Planning Update:** Mr. Gove directed the members to the 2017 budget handout displaying the operating expenses at the current point in the fiscal year. "We are doing quite well and are on pace. There are a number of areas where we will be backing-off in expenditures. Conducting three hundred on-site visits in the past two years significantly increased our statewide travel costs. We are on a much better pace now," he said. Mr. Gove added that he was very optimistic of the Governor's recommendations towards the POST Board and he has provided an agency overview to

both the House and Senate. "I thought our presentation was well received," he concluded.

**Strategic Planning Update:** Mr. Gove reported a two-day meeting took place at the POST Board on January 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> with subject-matter experts from across the State and the representative from PSI. The volunteers, who represent a wide variety of law enforcement operational experience, are in the process of developing the new exam based on the revised learning objectives and on what they think is important for entry-level officers to know. "The meeting was well organized by Mr. Vujovich," said Mr. Gove. Another two-day meeting is planned for February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> for evaluation of specific test questions and the writing of new questions.

Mr. Gove mentioned Media Minefield, the contractor who is assisting Mr. Gove with the communications plan for the POST Board, has been invaluable. "Getting our message out about who we are, what we stand for, and how we advance the professionalism of Minnesota's officers," said Mr. Gove. They laid the groundwork for his live, radio interview on WCCO and ran a segment on KSTP a few times about the POST Board.

Mr. Gove continues to participate with the Governor's Council on Law Enforcement and Community Relations. "I will continue to keep the Board up to date," he said.

**Licensure Matters:** This portion of the meeting was closed to the public. During this time, two Settlement Agreement and Consent Orders were considered, discussed, and adopted by the Board. Complaint Committee members that were abstained from the votes.

Seeing no additional business before the Board, Chair Bildsoe adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training when it met on April 27, 2017.

  
Board Chair  
Executive Director