


MINUTES
December 30, 2025
8:00 A.M.
ND PISB Board Meeting-Zoom Video Conference
NDPISB

1. Chairman Mike Wetsch called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. Board members present: Mike Wetsch, Justin Blinsky, Steve Lundin, Kevin Fisher, and Ernie Thurman. Board member absent: Randy Ziegler. Others present: Executive Director John J. Shorey III, Board Legal Counsel Chris Redmann, and Travis Carlson (left the meeting at about 8:27 AM).
2. Justin made a motion to go into Executive Session for agenda item #1, Travis Carlson's application. Kevin Fisher advised he wanted to disclose a conflict of interest as he has been engaged with Travis Carlson defense attorney with his criminal case as the defense investigator. Kevin stated he would refrain from any discussion or decision with this agenda item. John asked Chris if anything further was need on the recusal. Chris advised no as there was a material basis for the recusal. Mike asked Travis if he wanted to address the Board. Travis stated he had written a letter that was included with his application. Travis stated his attorney advised him not to speak on any of the facts pertinent to his current criminal case. Travis stated he had worked hard to meet the requirements of the Board, that he was innocent until proven guilty, and that if the Board granted him a license he would be in contact with the Board of any changes in the criminal case. Travis stated this was an important opportunity for him and his family for income.
3. John provided a brief overview of Travis Carlson's license application, including information regarding his disclosures to questions # 16 and # 22, and that those disclosures were the reason the application was before the Board. John advised as part of vetting the application he was able to find: the 2014 adverse license action with the ND POST Board information; that Travis applied in 2020 for certification as a South Dakota Law Enforcement Officer that was denied; that subsequently Travis did have his ND Peace Officer License reinstated; and information surrounding his current criminal charges in North Dakota. Chris advised he had legal advice to provide to the Board and recommend the Board enter into Executive Session for Attorney Consultation.
4. A motion was made by Justin to close the meeting for an executive session for attorney consultation (N.D.C.C. 44-04-19.1(2) and 44-04-19.2(1) closed or confidential records for Travis Carlson's application. Seconded by Ernie. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to go into executive session. John advised Kevin and Travis to exit the meeting and rejoin, and they would go into a waiting room and when the Board came out of Executive Session he could have them rejoin the meeting from the waiting room. The executive session began at 8:16 A.M. and was attended by: Steve Lundin, Justin Blinsky, Mike Wetsch, Ernie Thurman, John Shorey, and Chris Redmann. The executive session adjourned at 8:23 A.M. The public was invited back for the open session of the meeting.
5. Justin made a motion to issue a notice of intent to deny the application of Travis Carlson based on the information provided to the Board and the totality of the applicant's history; to include the ND POST Board revocation of a professional license and the admissions of wrongdoing in three separate jurisdictions in 2014, the South Dakota denial of a professional license in 2020, and the BIA revoking the applicant's SLEC card relating the applicant's credibility on the Brady list; Justin as part of his motion cited 93-02-01.01(5) that there is a pattern of conduct indicative of bad moral character which would have a direct being on applicant's ability to serve the public. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion. Kevin did not vote or provide any comments. John advised Travis that a notice of intent to deny would be generated and sent to him with the Board's decision.
6. Roman Bodomov Application. Stave made a motion to approve the application. Justin seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.

7. Aaron Brotherton Application. Steve asked if the applicant had requested a copy of their criminal history. John advised they had, and copy was mailed out on 12-15-2025. Justin advise he thought there was inadequate information and suggested the Board direct John to send the applicant a letter requesting additional information. Mike asked if the application needed to be tabled. John advised the Board to request additional information, unless Chris thought a motion was needed. Chris advised he didn't think a motion was needed in his option. Mike requested John to proceed as directed by the Board and it would be reviewed at a future meeting.
8. Melanie Carr Application. John provided a brief overview of the application along with outlining the information sent to Board members. Steve made a motion to approve the application. Justin seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
9. Shane Lavecchia Application. John provided a brief update on the status of the application. Steve made a motion to approve the application. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
10. Kalen Thomas Application. Steve made a motion to approve the application. Justin seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
11. Roberto Cantu Application. John provided a brief overview of the application. Steve commented on frustration with disclosure on applications. Steve asked if this was a specific agency issue. John stated generally this disclosure issue was industry-wide and not specific to any agency. Steve made a motion to approve the application. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
12. Alana Alexander Application. Justin made a motion to issue a notice of intent to deny application based on 93-02-02.1-01(3)(5) as the violation has a direct bearing upon the applicant's ability to serve the public. There was not a second, so the motion failed. Steven made a motion to approve the application. There was not a second, so the motion failed.
13. A motion was made by Kevin to close the meeting for an executive session for attorney consultation N.D.C.C. 44-04-19.1(2) and 44-04-19.2(1) closed or confidential records for Alana Alexander's application. Seconded by Justin. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to go into executive session. The executive session began at 8:43 A.M. and was attended by: Steve Lundin, Justin Blinsky, Mike Wetsch, Ernie Thurman, Kevin Fisher, John Shorey, and Chris Redmann. The executive session adjourned at 8:47 A.M. The public was invited back for the open session of the meeting.
14. Jusitn stated he was going to renew his motion to issue a notice of intent to deny application for Alana Alexander based on the disclosures made on the application citing 93-02-02.1-01(3)(5). Steve seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
15. 2025 Renewal Season update. John stated he estimated there was about a quarter of the renewal application submitted that were still pending processing. John stated some of those pending renewals are individuals that are operating under a provisional status due to the backlog. John advised he thought special procedures needed to be made for renewal applications that were operating under a provisional status that had issues with disclosures. John stated this also was applicable to Application Procedures/Matrix agenda item. Justin commented that applicants are relying on the Board to work on the applications, specifically failure to disclose and incomplete applications, and it's bogging the process down. Justin brought up building into the procure that failure to disclose and incomplete applicants be issued a notice of intent to deny and the applicants can reapply with a fee. Steve stated he agreed with Justin comments and the frustration of going back and forth with applicants with issues with their applications. Mike stated he also agreed with Steve and Justin comments. Kevin stated he agreed that if the application was incomplete and he was fine with issuing a notice of intent to deny right away. The consensus of the Board was for John to work with Chris on application procedures/matrix for both regular applications and backlogged provisional status application and report back to the Board soon.
16. John advised he did not have any minutes ready for approval by the Board at this time. John advised he was intending to make catching up on the backlogged meeting minutes a priority. There was discussion


by Board members on exploring the possibility of using an AI program to generate meeting minutes via Teams or Zoom. Mike stated at his work there were issues with using an AI program for a meeting. Steve suggested that he and John test AI programs by having a conversation in the future.

17. John provided a financial report of the Board and advised that as of November 30, 2025, there was \$74,979.69 in the Board's checking account. John reminded Board members that some agencies carry funds on account with the Board for new applications. John stated as he was making his way through the backlog he was targeting uninvoiced applications.
18. John advised the Board needed to schedule its 2026 regular meetings and came up with proposed dates of February 24, May 28, August 25, and November 17. There was discussion on start times of the meetings and 9:00 A.M. was the consensus for start times from Board members.
19. Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 A.M.



Chairman

2/26/26
Date



NDPI SB Executive Director

2/26/26
Date