

**MINUTES**  
**February 25, 2025**  
**11:00 A.M.**  
**ND PISB Board Meeting-Zoom Video Conference**  
**NDPISB**

1. Chairman Mike Wetsch called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Board members present: Justin Blinsky, Steve Lundin, Mike Wetsch and Randy Ziegler. Board member absent: Ernie Thurman. Others present: Executive Director John J. Shorey III, Board Legal Counsel Chris Redmann and Jon Pumphrey with Elite Security Solutions.
2. Micah Tweten 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.
3. Brian Dankert Application. Justin made a motion to approve the application. Randy seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
4. Legislative update SB 2051, HB 1045, SB 2266. John advised Chris, Steve, and himself all provided testimony in Senate Industry and Business Committee on SB 2266 The committee came back with a Do Not Pass recommendation on the bill. John stated SB 2266 failed in the Senate. John stated HB 1045 passed the House and moved over the Senate at the Senate Industry and Business Committee. John stated he and Steve attended that committee meeting and John provided testimony. John stated it came out of committee with a Do Pass recommendation. John stated HB 1045 was scheduled for a Senate floor vote today. John stated an emergency clause was added to SB 2051 and passed the Senate and was at the House pending before the Political Subdivision Committee and a hearing has not been set. Chris commented about starting the Administrative Rules process prior to the bill passing. Chris stated he had talked with the Attorney General's Office about this, and this has never been done before but there was no strict prohibition from doing it. Chris stated he was cautioned by the Attorney's General's Office that this was unorthodox, but that in his opinion there was no legal basis for them to deny the review of the Administrative Rules. Steve commented that some industry members had provided comments on SB 2051 and that the Board recommended increasing the Statutory limits for the highest fees that the Board can charge, that as part of the Administrative Rules process the Board would need to figure out what the actual rate increases needed to be within that upper limit. John stated he had extended an invitation to Jon Pumphrey to attend the meeting and didn't know if he wanted to address the Board on this topic. Mike asked Jon if he wanted to address the Board. Jon replied he did not.
5. Administrative Rules Process, Proposed Changes, Discussion: John stated in keeping with timelines that Chris wanted to start the discussion on what the changes would be in the Administrative Rules. John stated fees and insurance requirements were the two changes the Board was looking at. John stated the insurance requirements for licenses were \$300,000 of both General Liability and Errors and Omissions (E&O) insurance. John stated he was getting feedback from the industry that insurance rates were going up, and that one license holder asked about the E&O insurance requirement. John stated he did some research. John summarized that MN and MT do not require E&O insurance, but that MT does require it for firearms instructors. John stated that the question becomes if the Board needs to continue to the requirement for E&O insurance and commented about public protection. Chris stated his personal thoughts were every business assesses their own risk potential and operates from there. Chris stated he was agnostic on the issue. Mike asked about the rough savings that licensure holders may save. John stated he did not know off hand. John stated he had sent an article to Board members about E&O insurance. Steve stated at lot of insurance companies are not offering E&O insurance and thought it would make the licensing process easier to get rid of it. Justin made a motion to amend the administrative rules to no longer require E&O insurance, just general liability insurance. Steve seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion. John stated pending SB 2051 passes the Board needs to figure out what the fees increases will be. John stated he had

emailed out to Board members two Excel spreadsheets. John stated one was titled license fee survey and had included fee information from MT, MN, FL, CA. John summarized the information on that Excel spreadsheet to include the current fees charged by the Board, and the high limit proposed in SB 2051. John stated that the second Excel spreadsheet was estimated revenue from the high end. John summarized the administrative rules process and that included a hearing. John stated the based on the timelines with the administrative rules, the Board needed to decide what the proposed fees increases should be soon. Justin asked about the feedback from the industry, what were the concerns, and if it was something specific or just general increases. John stated general increases and he thought there was a misconception that the fees were just doubling based on the passing of SB 2051. Chris stated an agency owner had reached out to him as well and there was a concern that it affects smaller agencies disproportionately. Chris commented in his review that he thought the current fees were nominal. Justin stated that the ND POST was discussing increasing fees and that on the information John put together proposed increases were below the average of all the categories with one exception of the security officer average which was only \$2 above the average. Randy asked if the Board did not increase fees if it would be able to operate. John stated in general if the Board did not increase fees for the upcoming renewal season the Board will run out of money at some point after September 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. John stated it he thought it was vital to hire someone part-time to help clear the backlog and that needed to be taken into consideration also. Randy asked when is the drop-dead date for raising the fees. Chris responded this meeting. Randy stated for Board solvency was a no-brainer and he thought it was about time to raise the fees. John stated there was nothing saying once the fees were increased that the Board could go back and lower the fees once it had enough revenue for operations. Randy asked if the industry know the Board's thought process on the increase fees, and if they don't, if there was a way to get that message out to the industry. John stated he thought it was a common misconception about Board funding and that the Board doesn't get any outside funding. John stated it could be something as simple as a letter going out to license holders. Randy through a letter needed to be sent. Chris commented on another concern that was brought to him that there was some industry feeling about being caught off guard with the fee increases. There was Board direction for a letter to be sent out. Steve made a motion for the increases to be the proposed ND increases as outline in the spreadsheet John provided to Board members. Randy seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve to the motion.

6. Late Renewal Procedures Past 60 Day Late Renewal Window: John stated in the administrative rules if someone did not submit a late renewal within 60 days of September 30<sup>th</sup> that triggered a new application needing to be submitted. John stated that under normal conditions if a license holder did not submit a renewal application a letter would be sent out informing them of such. John stated with the backlog those letters have not been sent. John stated there were a handful of individuals that did not renew, but want to renew, but can't based on the administrative rule. John stated they had one agency, several meetings ago, that ran into the situation of not renewing past the 60-day window and the Board allowed them to late renewal, with two months late fees assessed, along with if they provided services in the State during that period. John stated as they make their way through the backlog, he didn't know if the Board wanted to give him direction to allow individuals to late renew past those 60 days and any unlicensed activity would come before the Board as a separate issue. Chris stated given the backlog and deviation of procedures to guard against late renewals, that the Board could extend a late renewal because of those circumstances but would caution about extending a precedent passed when the backlog is cleared. There was Board discussion on the circumstances of some of the current individuals and the previous agency that was allowed to late renew past 60 days. Steve made the motion for the ability to renewal outside the 60-day window, if there is evidence of unlicensed activity in that period, that would need to come before the Board before the license is renewed. Randy seconded. Justin commented that its extremely frustrating as a great amount of the workload of the Board is improper applications being tuned in and the delays that causes. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.

7. Backlog Update: John stated Steve has been in the Office to assist John with backlog issues for several days. John stated he was trying to focus on agency level licenses and getting those out. John stated there have been some cases where the agencies needed registrations, and he had been trying to make those a priority as well. John stated the backlog was not clear, but they were making progress. John stated it was extremely hard at his level with just one person to make progress, as the Board office has been identified as a two-person operation. John stated he was doing what he could.
8. Financial Report: John stated he was not able to touch base with Ernie about a financial report due to Ernie being gone. John stated currently the Board has \$21, 084.16 in its checking account. John stated with money still owed to the Board coming in, the projection he had is that the Board will probably make it until the renewal season is open this year. John stated that it might change depending on the amount of applications. John stated with the backlog there is still invoicing that needs to be completed and he had been trying to make that a priority. John reminded the Board that some agencies keep money on account with the Board.
9. Minutes: John stated he did not have any minutes for Board review.
10. Justin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 P.M.

  
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Chairman

2/26/26  
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Date

  
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NDPISB Executive Director

2/26/20  
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Date