

MINUTES
May 30, 2023
11:00 A.M.
ND PISB Board Meeting-Zoom Video Conference
NDPISB

1. Chairman Mike Wetsch called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. Board members present: Mike Wetsch, Steve Lundin, Justin Blinsky Ernie Thurman, Jason Nelson and Randy Ziegler. Board members absent: None. Others present: Executive Director John J. Shorey III, Board Legal Counsel Chris Redmann, Mark Warren, Scott Williams, North Dakota Assistant Attorney General Matt Menge.
2. Dale Wetzel with NDDPI Email/Armed First Responder in School or Ambulance or Firefighter Crew Training Program. Assistant Attorney General Matt Menge advised he was General Counsel for ND DPI and was looking for an update on the training program. John gave an overview of the Board's involvement with the training program. John stated the Board needed to revamp and develop new forms to support applicants applying for the training program. John stated there has been a delay with the backlog and getting that accomplished. Assistant Attorney General Matt Menge asked if someone was to go and obtain training from South Dakota if the Board would accept that training. John stated that would be a question for Chris and brought up a pathway for retired law enforcement with the program. Chris stated he would need to check into it and get back to Matt.
3. Ernst & Young LLP, Clarity on Exemption for Recovery of Unclaimed Property Update. Mark addressed the Board and stated he submitted information to the Board on how other states have dealt with a similar requirement. John stated information from Mark was forwarded to Board members. Chris confirmed that the business structure had not changed from the last time this was before the Board. Mark outlined the process they undertook in Illinois and North Carolina to the Board and how other states have handled exemptions. Justin made a motion that the exemption does not apply in this circumstance. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken: Jason No, Ernie Yes, Randy Yes, Steve Yes, Justin Yes; motion carried.
4. Scott Williams, Pro Dog Security, LLC d/b/a Red River Security Request to Address the Board. Scott addressed the Board regarding the long-time frame for the Board to issue renewals. Scott stated the last time his agency had received renewals was in May of 2021. Scott stated Executive Director Shorey is not fulfilling his basic job duties of issuing timely license and registration renewals. Mike stated he hears Scott's frustrations and sees where he is coming from. Mike stated he can ensure they are doing everything in their power to try and address it. Mike commented that John is a one-man office and John is doing everything he can to try and catch up. Mike stated John touches base with him, at least once, if not twice a week. Mike stated John has the full support of the Board as John is doing everything he can. Mike indicated the Board due to financial issues, cannot hire an assistant. Mike asked John for a timetable to get caught up and John replied conservatively in the next 2-3 months. Mike asked what the biggest hold up with renewal or new applications. John stated the Board has seen several incomplete applications which have bogged down the process. John stated the day-to-day operations with applications put's more work on the Board's office staff versus the old process. John stated the increased use of provisional registrations and things are just busier. John stated the litigation and redaction of the documents took a major part of his time. John commented its not just one thing causing the delay, its everything. Scott stated he would admit they were not perfect in sending in complete applications. John stated he expects incomplete applications, but it has come to the point where the Board is holding the industries hand with incomplete applications. Jason stated he wanted to thank Scott for elevating his concern and he is sure Scott is not the only one. Jason stated this has been a topic of many of the meetings and how the Boad gets back on track and they are trying to do everything they can to help John out. Scott brought up the Board leveraging technology for applications. Scott also brought up the notary requirement for applications and the page 2A application form. John stated the page 2A was a requirement from ND BCI and it is not something the Board came up with. John stated the Board is in the process of revamping the applications and he has had discussions with Chris about removing the notary requirements, based on conversations that he had with Scott previously. Justin stated they all share the frustration with the backlog and there are many reasons that have caused this and they are muddling through trying to find resolutions. Justin stated he did not think there was anything the Board Members heard today that they were not aware of. Justin stated there might be some assumptions that were incorrect or at least narrow sided. Justin stated there is frustration with incomplete applications and thanked Scott for sharing his frustrations. Mike added John and he had talked about technology and the expenses that go along with it.

5. Rhonda Grimli Application. Steve made a motion to approve the application. Randy seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
6. Nesha Streeter Application. Steve made a motion to approve the application. Jason seconded. A roll call vote was taken: Jason Yes, Randy Yes, Ernie Yes, Steve Yes, Justin No, motion carried.
7. Jessica Volla Application. Justin made a motion to approve the application. Jason seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
8. Jenny Andel Application. Randy made a motion to approve the application. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
9. Minutes. John advised there were 5 sets of minutes (6-29-2021, 2-4-2022, 5-7-2021, 7-30-2022, and 11-19-2021). Randy made a motion to approve the minutes. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
10. Financial Report. John stated the Board currently has \$4,310.64 in checking. John stated he estimated there were around \$3000 of undeposited checks that are linked to incomplete applications or applications that have issues. John stated they would need to seek funding for Board operations. John stated his previous discussion with Assistant Attorney General Allyson Hicks was the Emergency Commission was the appropriate route. John stated he would reach out to Allyson to see what the process is and probably come back to the Board with a special meeting to move forward with that process. John also brought up seeking funding for an administrative assistant to help clear the backlog.
11. Ratification of Licenses and Registrations issued and renewed. John stated this was part of the backlog and once they are caught up they will come to the Board for ratification.
12. Application Procedures and Policy Update. John stated he and Chris have met 2-3 times on this topic. John will work on this and try and get draft application forms for the Board to look at soon.
13. Backlog Update. John stated it was still ongoing and he was doing what he could at his level to try and clear it.
14. Procedures for Processing Backlogged Renewal Applications. John stated the Board's policy has been that you do not deposit money from incomplete applications until that application is made complete. John stated same thing applies for registrations and making sure the applicants are currently registered and renewing at the same level they are currently at. John was asking the Board to modify the procedures with backlogged renewal applications to allow the applications to be invoiced regardless if they are valid renewal applications or not since they have summited the application and the Board must handle it. Steve clarified this was just limited to renewal applications and not new applications and John stated yes. Steve made a motion to allow John to invoice renewal applications immediately upon receipt. Ernie seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.
15. ND BCI CHRI Audit Update. John stated this was something he needed to catch up on both the questions ND BCI are looking for and putting into place a policy on CHRI. John stated this was part of the backlog.
16. Randy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and it was unanimous to approve the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

Mike Wetsch

Chairman

11/03/26

Date


NDPISB Executive Director


Date

Signature: 

Michael Wetsch (Mar 11, 2026 17:10:49 CDT)

Email: mwetsch@midco.net

Draft Regular Meeting Minutes 5-30-2023

Final Audit Report

2026-03-11

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