

Scott Blake, Chair  
Constable  
Maricopa County

Valerie Beckett  
County Administrator  
Maricopa County

Melissa Buckley  
Public Member

Mike Cobb  
Constable  
Mohave County



STATE OF ARIZONA

## CONSTABLE ETHICS, STANDARDS AND TRAINING BOARD

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Dennis Dowling, Vice  
Chair  
Justice Court  
Yavapai County

Adam Shepherd  
Sheriff  
Gila County

Christine Shipley,  
Secretary  
Multihousing  
Association

### Minutes of Public Meeting – February 11, 2021

A public teleconference meeting of the Constables Ethics, Standards and Training Board (CESTB) was convened on February 11, 2021 at 1:04 p.m. CESTB Board members present via teleconference were: Chairman Constable Scott Blake, Vice Chair Judge Dennis Dowling, Valerie Beckett, Melissa Buckley, Sheriff Adam Shepherd and Christine Shipley. Constable Mike Cobb joined the meeting late. The following staff was present – Tracy Unmacht. Members of the public attending included Michael Madden and Patrice Goodman.

A quorum was reached and the following matters were discussed and decided at the meeting:

#### **Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

Corrections: None

Christine Shipley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the January 14, 2021 CESTB meeting and Valerie Beckett seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

**Financial Report:** Staff reviewed income, expenses, cash flow and grant spending summary. Revenue continues to be down. Cash flow projections reflect the lower monthly average revenue. Sheriff Shepherd made a motion to approve the financial report and Christine Shipley seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

#### **Call to the Public:**

None.

#### **Grant Applications for Constable Equipment:**

One application was received from Maricopa County for the purchase of ammunition in the amount of \$4,985.51. Total funding available this cycle is \$55,000. Scores were received and tabulated for the record. Melissa Buckley made a motion to approve the application as submitted and Christine Shipley seconded. Motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0-1 with Chairman Blake abstaining.

#### **Grant Applications for Outside Training:**

We did not receive any applications for this cycle. Constable Blake reported that the National Conference for which some constables utilize this grant cycle, has been postponed to August. He also stated Constable Cobb had requested we extend the deadline for application for this cycle because of it. Constable Cobb was not in attendance at this point in the meeting, so no further clarification was available for what the extension might involve. This item was tabled to a future board meeting.

#### **2020 Training Deficiencies:**

Staff concluded the 2020 Training Audit and reported Constable Brandon Giles was the only active constable who was deficient in meeting the statutory training requirements. Judge Dowling made a motion to file a complaint against Constable Giles and Sheriff Shepherd seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0.

It was noted that Constable Mike Cobb joined the meeting during discussion of the following agenda item.

#### **2021 New Constable Training Deficiencies:**

The AZ Constables Association submitted a report to the CESTB showing which newly elected or appointed constables

did not attend the mandatory training classes during the January 18-22, 2021 training conference. Judge Dowling clarified that A.R.S. § 22-137(E), states this training must be completed within 6 months after election, therefore, this board cannot take any disciplinary action at this point. Judge Dowling made a motion to send courtesy letters to those constables who did not complete the training, reminding them of the statutory requirements, and directing them to complete the missed training. Constable Cobb seconded and the motion passed with a roll call vote 7-0.

It should be noted that Judge Dowling left the meeting during discussion of the following agenda item.

**SB1662:**

Chairman Blake provided information on this bill which would amend the membership of the CESTB. The change would eliminate representation from the AZ Multihousing Association and replace that position with another member of the public appointed by the Governor.

Constable Cobb pointed out historically it has been difficult filling the position of the public member. Prior to the appointment of Melissa Buckley, this position was vacant for almost 2 years.

Chairman Blake also pointed out that much of what constables do directly affects the Multihousing industry. The Multihousing Association representative provides important input to the Board that a second member of the public would not have and indicated this would not be a favorable move. Melissa Buckley made a motion to oppose this bill and submit input to the legislature. Constable Cobb seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote 5-0-1 with Christine Shipley abstaining.

**CESTB Management:**

Chairman Blake reported he was approached by the Governor's office to move management of the CESTB from Capitol Consulting to AZPOST. Constable Cobb was chair in 2019 when the CESTB went through the procurement process and Capitol Consulting was awarded a second 5 year contract to provide management services, so he believes that action would violate the contract. He also stated that at the time of the procurement process, AZPOST was consulted and they were not interested in providing the service.

Christine Shipley was serving on the board prior to hiring Capitol Consulting and stated the CESTB was not well-served by previous management. Capitol Consulting provides a dedicated staff member which has enabled the CESTB to maintain a high degree of professionalism.

Chairman Blake indicated the Governor's office views the job as part time for which another agency could absorb the services.

Valerie Becket made a motion to write a letter to the Governor's office stating it is not the desire of the CESTB to move management services and that it is imperative this board be provided with dedicated resources to maintain a high level of professionalism. Christine Shipley seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote 6-0.

**Administrative Update**

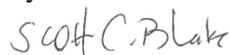
Staff has received training records from the January constables training conference and will be working on getting the hours recorded.

**Adjournment:** Constable Cobb made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Sheriff Shepherd seconded. The motion passed unanimously 6-0. Meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Dated this 11th day of March, 2021

Constable Ethics, Standards and Training Board

By The Hon. Scott Blake



CESTB Chairman