

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  
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Justice Court  
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Matt Giordano  
AZPOST

Christine Shipley,  
Secretary  
Multihousing  
Association

### Minutes of Public Meeting – July 8, 2021

A public teleconference meeting of the Constables Ethics, Standards and Training Board (CESTB) was convened on July 8, 2021 at 9:01 a.m. CESTB Board members present via teleconference were: Chairman Constable Scott Blake, Matt Giordano, Constable Mike Cobb and Valerie Beckett. Members absent included Christine Shipley, Vice Chair Judge Dennis Dowling and Melissa Buckley. The following staff was present – Tracy Unmacht. Also present from public was Patrice Goodman and Scott Davis.

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

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

Corrections: None

Matt Giordano made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the June 10, 2021 CESTB meeting and Valerie Beckett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

**Financial Report:** Staff reviewed the May financial report. Central Service Bureau has not yet sent the June financial report. Revenue continues to be low compared to budgeted, although it is trending back up. Matt Giordano made a motion to approve the May financial report, Mike Cobb seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

**Call to the Public: No public comments were received.**

#### **Constable Complaints:**

CNA269-2021 Randall – The new constable training was to be completed by May 3<sup>rd</sup>, which the constable failed to do, resulting in the CESTB initiating this complaint. Chairman Blake reviewed the completed training documentation received to date and indicated there are still several outstanding courses we have not received training certificates for. We understand the remaining courses were to have been completed by July 3<sup>rd</sup>, but we have not yet received the training certificates. Chairman Blake also pointed out that constables have 30 days to submit certification of completed training. Mike Cobb made a motion to postpone ruling on this complaint until the August board meeting and Matt Giordano seconded. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote 4-0.

#### **Initial Screening of new Constable Complaints:**

Complaint received 06-23-21 Stradling v Lathan – Chairman Blake reviewed the complaint in which the complainant (justice court manager) alleged Constable Lathan has created a hostile work environment. Discussion ensued and included the statement that the constable acted unprofessionally, however, jurisdiction is questionable. It was suggested that we request the presiding constable intervene. Maricopa County Administrator Patrice Goodman stated this has already taken place with no resolution. Mike Cobb made a motion to dismiss the complaint and Matt Giordano seconded. Discussion – staff verified that if this complaint is dismissed and the CESTB receives something more on this issue, that this complaint information can be included in future discussion. Staff also verified the complainant was informed an initial screening of the complaint would take place at today's meeting. Valerie Beckett suggested the proper channel for workplace challenges should be raised with presiding court justice. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote 4-0.

**Recognition for Outgoing Board Members** – Chairman Blake discussed recognizing outgoing board members for their service. He suggested the ACA could fund plaques for past board members. Valerie Beckett asked if there would be any conflict with the ACA funding something for CESTB Board members – consensus was that since this would be given to someone after they have left the board, there wouldn't be a conflict. Matt Giordano indicated AZPOST does this very thing and can provide a quote with his provider. Also discussed that this could be fit within the CESTB administrative budget should the board vote to do so. Matt will secure a quote and the board will revisit at a future meeting.

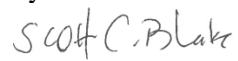
**Administrative Update**

Staff will continue working on FY21 closeout including financial reporting and complaint synopsis. Staff will also be working on annual budget and strategic planning reports for the governor's office. Staff reported the CESTB received a public records request asking for every document, email, memo, letter the CESTB has on file since its inception. Given the extremely extensive nature of the request, Staff has asked if the requestor can narrow down his request and is awaiting his response.

**Adjournment:** Mike Cobb made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Scott Blake seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Dated this 12th day of August, 2021  
Constable Ethics, Standards and Training Board

By The Hon. Scott Blake



CESTB Chairman