

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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Minutes of Public Meeting – October 8, 2020

A public teleconference meeting of the Constables Ethics, Standards and Training Board (CESTB) was convened on October 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. CESTB Board members present via teleconference were: Chairman Scott Blake, Vice Chair Judge Dennis Dowling, Constable Mike Cobb, Melissa Buckley, Sheriff Adam Shepherd and Valerie Beckett. CESTB Board members absent were Christine Shipley. The following staff was present – Tracy Unmacht. Members of the public attending included Maricopa County Constable Administrator Patrice Goodman, Michael Madden and Scott Davis.

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

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Corrections: None

Valerie Beckett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the September 10, 2020 CESTB meeting and Melissa Buckley seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

Financial Report: New reporting methods were presented and explained by staff. Staff has requested some changes and additional reports to allow Board members to continue to see if all counties are paying their fees, as well as budget projections for the year. Corrections were made in September for the FY20 80/20 revenue split, but once again Central Services Bureau (CSB) is not appropriately splitting our revenue in FY21. Staff will continue to press CSB to get the problem resolved. Staff reported all funding requests through August have been processed. Additional requests submitted in September were missed but CSB informed staff they have now been processed. Constable Cobb made a motion to approve the report and Sheriff Shepherd seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

Call to the Public:

No members of the public made comments.

Constable Complaints:

CNA258-2021 Randall – Chairman Blake reviewed the complaint in which Constable Randall, who is the presiding constable in Pima County, tried to help resolve this complainant's grievance against Constable Joe Ferguson. Constable Cobb made a motion to dismiss the complaint and Valerie Beckett seconded. Discussion ensued. Constable Cobb stated it appeared that Constable Randall was performing her duties as she should. Judge Dowling pointed out Constable Randall did not bother to respond to the complaint. He also questioned whether the complainant felt confronted when Constable Randall allegedly said to him it that it was his word against Constable Ferguson. The motion passed with a roll call vote, 5-1, with Judge Dowling voting no.

Discussion and Possible action on Budget Increase for Investigations:

This item was tabled at the previous meeting pending budget figures, which staff provided to the Board for this meeting. Staff pointed out some budgeted items that we already know will not be spent during FY21. Constable Cobb suggested we table this item until a time such funds are needed. The Board will have time to reallocate funds should it become necessary. Board consensus was to table.

Presentation, Discussion & Possible to approve constable training course

Navajo County Constable Scott Tipton requested the Nevada training course he took be applied to his required annual continuing education hours. At the last meeting, the board approved the training, however there was a difference of

opinion on whether or not CESTB approved training can be applied to the statutory required annual training. Staff was tasked with getting an opinion from our rep at the AG's office, and explained his conclusion to the Board. There is no clear interpretation of the statute to guide how the Board should act in deciding whether or not the training can be applied to the statutory annual training hours. The Board discussed differing opinions of the intention behind the various clauses of the statute. Staff pointed out that it doesn't matter what the intention might have been, there isn't clear definition on how the statute should be applied in this situation. The Board should also consider pursuing legislation to clean up the statutes. Constable Cobb made a motion to allow Constable Tipton's requested training course to be applied to required annual training hours and Sheriff Shepherd seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote, 5-1, with Judge Dowling voting no.

Administrative Update

Staff will be conducting the annual training audit and will send letters to all constables who have not yet completed the required 16 hours.

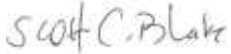
Staff reported the next grant cycle closes in November – application and instructions are available on the website. Staff will also have the next equipment and outside training grant applications ready for the website soon. Application deadlines for these grants are in February.

The Board decided by consensus that the January CESTB board meeting will be conducted on our regular schedule rather than in conjunction with the Tubac Constable Training Event.

Adjournment: Constable Cobb made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Constable Blake seconded. The motion passed unanimously 6-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Dated this 12th day of November, 2020
Constable Ethics, Standards and Training Board

By The Hon. Scott Blake



CESTB Chairman