

Mike Cobb, Chair
Constable
Mohave County

Scott Blake
Constable
Maricopa County

Dennis Dowling
Justice Court
Yavapai County



STATE OF ARIZONA

CONSTABLE ETHICS, STANDARDS AND TRAINING BOARD

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Valerie Beckett
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Adam Shepherd
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Vacant
Public Member

Christine Shipley
Multihousing
Association

Minutes of Public Meeting – December 18, 2019

A public meeting of the Constables Ethics, Standards and Training Board (CESTB) was convened on December 18, 2019 at 10:02 a.m. at the offices of Capitol Consulting 818 North First Street Phoenix, AZ 85004. CESTB Board members present were Chairman Mike Cobb and Constable Scott Blake. CESTB Board members present via teleconference were: Christine Shipley, Sheriff Adam Shepherd and Valerie Beckett. Judge Dennis Dowling joined the meeting at 10:11 during the discussion of constable complaints. The following staff was present – Tracy Unmacht. Members of the public attending in person included Constable Mike Branham and Maricopa County Constables Administrator Patrice Goodman.

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Corrections: None

Valerie Beckett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the November 20, 2019 CESTB meetings and Christine Shipley seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Financial Report: Staff had a conference with Central Services Bureau and they are working with the state treasurer's office to correctly reflect the 80/20 revenue split. Staff reported income through November is up an average of \$4100 per month over budget projections. Sheriff Shepherd made a motion to accept the November 2019 financial report and Constable Blake seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Call to the Public: None

Constable Complaints:

CNA245-2020 Vasquez - Chairman Cobb introduced the complaint and reviewed the history on this complaint as well as other related complaints against Constable Vasquez regarding his use of motor vehicles. This board previously placed the Constable on a 30-day probation following a traffic altercation. Constable Vasquez is no longer allowed to use a county vehicle, and is now using his personal vehicle to conduct his duties. The constable claims because of this, the CESTB has no jurisdiction over his vehicle use. Board members discussed all details at length and concluded that Constable Vasquez is a risk to public safety and further action is required to effectuate any change in his behavior. Valerie Beckett made a motion to place Constable Vasquez on 120 days probation, require him to complete Life Skills Driver Improvement and Anger Management courses and provide proof of completion within the probationary period. Christine Shipley seconded. Judge Dennis Dowling made a motion to amend to also require Constable Vasquez to report any traffic related violations to the CESTB. Sheriff Shepherd seconded the amendment. Constable Blake made a motion to further amend to change the probationary period to 180 days. Judge Dowling seconded. The amended motion passed 6-0.

Initial Screening of new Constable Complaints: Complaint received 11-24-19 Short vs Tipton - Chairman Cobb introduced the complaint which alleged Constable Tipton withheld property from the complainant. Judge Dowling made a motion to open the complaint process and receive a response from the constable about the property in question. Sheriff Shepherd seconded. The motion passed unanimously 6-0. The complaint will be heard at the February board meeting.

Discussion & Possible Action to add another board member: Staff has been in contact with the Governor's Boards and Commissions representative. There have been 2 new applications submitted for the open public position. There are also 2 applications from 2018, one of which is Phil Hazlett, the other from Alice Van Stockum. Staff will reach out to the other

to see if she is still interested. Constable Blake further reported there is at least one more member of the public interested if the regular board meeting date is changed.

Discussion & Possible Action on Future Meeting Schedule: Board members were polled to come up with an alternate meeting date going forward. Judge Dowling made a motion to change the regular meeting day/time to the 2nd Thursday of each month at 9:00 am. Valerie Beckett seconded and the motion passed unanimously 6-0. Since the January meeting will be taking place in Tubac, the new schedule will take effect in February 2020. Staff will contact Boards & Commissions.

Administrative Update

With the approval by the Board at the November meeting to accept late training certificates, most constables will be in compliance with the training requirements. There are several who are still deficient and staff will send a second courtesy letter reminding them they have until December 31, 2019 to complete the training and records will need to be submitted to the CESTB within 30 days of completion.

The website service request to modify how previous meeting minutes are displayed on the website is complete. Staff is now working backwards to add archived data to the site.

The next cycle for training grants will be posted to the website soon.

Adjournment: Constable Blake made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Valerie Beckett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 6-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:49 am.

Dated this 20 day of January, 2019-20
Constable Ethics, Standards and Training Board
By



Chairman Mike Cobb