

CWEPA Minutes  
June 12, 2015

10:07 Call to order

Board Members Present:, Bob Carochi, Matt Thorpe, Dan Cacho, Jason Surface, Kris Middledorf, Casey Westbrook

Membership Present: J. Wenum, Brandon Diamond, Mark Richman, Matt Ortega, Paul Jones, Stewart Sinclair, Lucas Martin, Lyle Sidener

Call to Order: 10:07AM

Approval of Minutes:

Acceptance of February Minutes Thorpe move, 2<sup>nd</sup> Surface – board approved

Treasurer Report:

UBS: \$142,422.29

US Bank main acct: \$23,878.83

US Bank scholarship acct: \$27,637.75

Credit Union of Colorado:

Savings: \$503.84

Checking: \$5063.62

Money Mgt: \$3424.44

12 month CD: \$4931.54

New / Retiring Members:

New Members: Frank McGee, Jenifer Goldman, Scott Hoyer, Mark Richman, Craig Wescoatt, Darren Chacon, Quentin Springer – Board approved

Retirement Benefits: Kevin Wright, Francie Pusateri, John Koshak - Board approved

New/Old Business:

- Updating / current legal coverage with Bruno, Colin, and Lowe - Middledorf
  - o Continuation of issue raised several years ago regarding the dollar amount provided for criminal and civil protection being insufficient for current times (it was last negotiated in 2002).
  - o Current coverage is \$30,000. Members who sign up for this coverage pay \$12 / month currently.
  - o Proposed examination of higher limits for Civil and Criminal cases and what the cost of new contracts may be. Seeking Ok to move forward with B,C,L then bring to CWEPA members with proposal based upon cost 50-100-200-250 thousand dollar coverage brackets.
  - o Discussion of knowing costs helps explain need to update. Can we find the costs associated with recent issue related to the agency?

- o Middledorf will attempt to get contracts to board by or prior to next board meeting. He will also seek feed back re: recent critical incidents and how they were handled from BCL perspective.
- o Carochi will send the current contract and contact info for BCL to currently covered members. It is recommended this contact info be put in your phones.
- o Members are strongly encouraged to check their pay stubs (all electronic now <https://ess.state.co.us/ess/welcome.jsp> ) to be sure they are being billed appropriately regarding coverage (total CWEPA withdrawal would be \$22 if you are paying for legal). We have had members that were not been enrolled in legal coverage but thought they were.
- o Interactions with BCL over the past few years have been proving their worth. Several members attested to this via personal experiences.
- Rafle license put on hold until next meeting
- Wangnild Fund- John's brother is willing to manage a 529 fund. Mettenbrink and Westbrook will initiate this along with a letter of intent to designate the money is only for the John's kids and that the 529 should not be transferred.
- Meeting with Director for CWEPA to provide general concerns / check in will take place. Date to be determined hopefully before September Board meeting
- Coghill Award will be presented to Kevin Wright at his retirement on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Presented with an "elk and pack string" framed print. He is very honored by the award having personal history with Cliff Coghill
  - o The award had good voting response
  - o The award will occur around the same time next year

#### Member Concerns / Reports:

- CWEPA Naweoa scholarship – Board missed getting a Naweoa scholarship out this year in part due to not having a decision announced on the John D Hart award. In the past CWEPA offered the scholarship to the JD Hart award winner first. This will still be the case but given the timing of the JD Hart announcement it is likely no scholarship will be awarded this year. The Board will offer to send the 2014 and 2015 JD Hart winners next year.
  - o **Colorado Still has no NAWEOA jurisdictional rep- no interest was expressed after the last minutes were sent out. PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING ON THIS ROLE AND LET THE BOARD KNOW IF YOU ARE WILLING TO DO SO!!!**
- Cost of investment banking – Middledorf will look at current contract as it relates to costs for investments as it was brought up that the investment fees with the current contract may be exorbitant. This will be discussed once the fees are known.
- Update web site and forms – Westbrook will look into by prioritizing issues and arrange update. Potentially create / update an email for CWEPA that will be checked. Website will be reviewed by the board send comments to Westbrook by 6/30/15.

- \$100 donation to <http://flyingwheelsfoundation.com/> on behalf of CWEPA for Trooper Taylor Thyfault (pronounced Te-Fo) approved by board as appropriate to bylaws
  - o Discussion of forming a funeral contingent – board liked the idea. Discussed logistics and fairness. Sidener stated that support has been provided in the past from DOW for this purpose. Board decided requests for this should be directed to the agency first then can come to CWEPA as follow up / Back up
  - o Presentation of class A uniforms – concern about the level of professionalism displayed by the current class A uniform. After discussion the Board decided to defer to the uniform directive. The Board discussed the importance of personal officer attention to present the uniform well (i.e. pressed, tailored, etc...)
- Bylaws- These still need to updated as a result of the Merger. The board is committed to get them reviewed and out to the Membership for a vote this year.
- Discussion of value of BCL value in recent incidents
  - o Wenum provided some insight regarding Diamond’s incident (BD having had to leave) from both Diamonds point of view and that of his supervisor
  - o Several others present also vouched for the value through criminal cases that have been tried, admin actions witnessed, etc... The breadth of knowledge of BCL from working for / with other LE agencies is an asset to us.
- After incident counseling – so far agency has been very supportive, but there is still a need
  - o “Peer support” was previously discussed by Board and decided to keep it on the radar but need to see where new LEOP’s direct this issue.
  - o Support aside from “Peer support” is needed related to a physical / mental health. This can simply be a resource person who checks in with the officer to maintain “normality” during the aftermath of an incident. This has been provided through National Parks employees to date and that may be an existing resource elsewhere. As an agency with level 1 Police officer status the agency should provide these services to and through its own employees.
- Review of new LEOP’s by legal?
  - o Specifically related to critical incidents, UOF.... they are being run by AG’s office
  - o Carochi will have a discussion with Thompson
- Compression issues were brought to the Board again recently – The history of CWEPA’s approach was discussed. The issue has been and is being looked at through HR policies, and agency administration. Agency awareness and support for employees exists but progress is slow. There is a lot of miss-information related to the issue and without good info it is difficult to pursue. The Board has been told the issue would be looked at and board should ask schedule
  - o For info related to compression or other HR policies please follow the link <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/Rules7-1-13.pdf>
- Communication from agency with retirees – recent retirees have had difficulty staying in touch and there appears to be an issue with the Red Owls lines of communication. Carochi will try to touch base with Red Owls to re-establish contact.

Regional Reports/ Roundtable:

None

**NEXT meeting Sept 9, 2015 at 1PM Silverthorn at USFS office**

Motion to Adjourn:

12:11 JS, KM second

***CWEPA provides members with death benefits, retirement benefits, legal representation with optional expanded coverage for "critical incidents", employee recognition awards, , and student scholarships. Your CWEPA Membership also affords you the opportunity to have a stronger fraternal relationship with fellow employees and have an expanded voice within the Agency through employee solidarity.***