

**POLICE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION OF NEBRASKA**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER**  
**GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA**

**JANUARY 24, 2008**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kurt Bottorff, Rick Carmichael, Bruce Felty, Ike Brown, Jim Peschong, Andy Backman, Don Dreyer, Kim Christensen, Jeff Elliott, Andrea Towler and Bill Larsen.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**INVITED GUESTS:** Melanie Bailey, Chris Becker, Bill Burgess, Gary Norseen and Larry Thoren.

President Bottorff called the meeting to order at 1205 hours.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the October 27 and 31, 2007 meetings were presented. Motion by Andy Backman to approve the minutes. Rick Carmichael provided a second. Motion was approved by voice vote.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer's report was presented. Jim Peschong made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Andy Backman provided a second. Motion was approved by voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Emergency Management grant: Kim Christensen indicated there was nothing new to report.
2. Retirement: Kim, Andy and Don reported that they had met with the lobbyist. Discussion occurred regarding options for LB371 and there was going to be a meeting next week. Ike Brown made a motion that once the bill was revised to send letters to the State Troopers Association (STAN), the Lincoln Police Union, the Omaha Police Union and the members of the Retirement Committee. Bruce Felty provided a second. Motion was approved by voice vote.
3. Officer of the Year and Hall of Fame Awards: Jim Peschong indicated that he had nothing to report.
4. Membership promotion: President Bottorff and Jim Peschong reported that letters were sent to law enforcement agencies around the state. Several positive responses, and some new memberships, were received.
5. President Bottorff requested that all Board Members update their e-mail addresses.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Joint Honor Guard: A letter was received from Chief Doug Provance from Kimball regarding creating a Joint Honor Guard from Agencies around the State. President Bottorff indicated that he advised Chief Provance that if he wanted to take this task upon himself, he was more than welcome. Nothing further has been received.

2. Essay Contest: Andrea Towler reported that the deadline is February 28, 2008 . Correspondence had been received from a Teacher at Peter Kiewitt School in Omaha —information regarding the essay contest was sent to him.

3. Acts of Random Violence: Bill reported that Pat Mason, Attorney General's Office, was working on getting this one day training session put together at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln on March 27, 2008 with presentations on the Amish School shooting in Pennsylvania and the Virginia Tech shootings in Virginia . POAN did make a contribution to assist with the Conference expenses and will be acknowledged for that support. Information regarding the Conference will also be posted on our website.

4. Conference Update:

A. Melanie Bailey reported on the Vendor solicitation. Melanie inquired about getting an e-mail listing of members which could be used to forward information.(Michelle advises that not very many members have been submitting e-mail addresses, but she would work on compiling a list of those we do have.) Discussion occurred regarding have vendors sponsor some of the Awards presented during the Banquet. The discussion did not result in any changes from past Award presentations.

B. Bill Brueggemann has indicated he will not be able to assist with Conference planning for the 2008 Annual Conference.

C. Lawrence Toigo, BNSF RR has made a request for some time for some RR crossing education.

5. Special Olympics: President Bottorff reported he received a communication from Col. Tuma, NSP, requesting support for the Special Olympics. POAN voted several years ago to annually make a \$5,000.00 contribution and this still occurs.

6. Buffalo County Jail: President Bottorff reported he had received a communication from a group seeking to get a new jail built in Buffalo County . Discussion resulted with nothing being done on this request.

7. Fundraising: Jim Peschong reported that he had received an inquiry from Mike McKnight, Channel 6 in Omaha , regarding our fundraising and the fundraiser asking for personal information. Jim responded to him and as of now nothing further has been received from Mr. McKnight.

8. Death Benefits: President Bottorff received a request from the Chief of Police in Ravenna regarding death benefits for spouses. He was informed that we do not have anything set up for death benefits except for members. Nothing further has been received from him.

9. Website: Jim Peschong has initiated placing the POAN Handbook on the website. It was found that Michelle did not have the appropriate programming available to get this document posted. The website developer was contacted and advised it would cost \$75.00 to put this on the website with a tab. Rick Carmichael made a motion to spend \$75.00 to put the handbook on the website. Jeff Elliott provided a second. After discussion the motion was passed by a voice vote.

10. Scholarships: Bill Larsen reported that one of the scholarship winners has inquired about using the scholarship money to purchase a rifle for use while on patrol. He was advised that was not the purpose of the scholarship, but the Board would be polled regarding their thoughts. The Board was unanimous the purpose of the scholarships is to provide training for members, not to purchase equipment. (The scholarship winner was informed of this opinion.)

11. Legislative Bills: Chief Larry Thoren presented information to the Board regarding upcoming legislative bills. See website for POAN's stance on the various bills.

12. NSA President Chris Becker and other representatives of NSA in attendance requested POAN's support for the retirement bill and also support to find a funding mechanism to replace money which has been removed from the Bryne Grants. Discussion resulted in a decision to send a letter of support to the appropriate entities regarding the replacement of 1.3 million from the Bryne grants. POAN has already taken a stand on the retirement bills.

13. Next meeting: April 3, 2008 at 1200 hours at NLETC was set for the next Board Meeting.

President Bottorff asked if anyone had any other business, or anything else for the good of the order. Nothing was presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 1540 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Larsen

Secretary/Treasurer