

Minutes from WVAPO Virtual Meeting on 08/21/25

****Motions made during meeting are italicized****

Members present: Jessica, Dane, Erika, Lucy, Jerrod, Danielle, Matt, Heidi, D.R., Dave, Jerry, Kevin, Tracy, Lon, Darren

12:00 PM – Meeting began. *A motion to accept the minutes from our virtual meeting on 04/18/25. All were in favor of the motion.*

12:04 PM – Danielle presented WVAPO Account Financial Report. She is currently waiting on the store closure to make a deposit into the account. Current balance is \$14,186.91. Secretary of State has been the only pay out/expenditure since our prior meeting. *A motion was made to accept the WVAPO Account Info. All were in favor of the motion.*

12:06 PM – Education Committee had a few updates regarding secretary trainings. They may be attending our conference for a few days, but a lack of lodging may affect that plan. No further updates regarding the Education Committee at this time.

12:08 PM – Chief's Committee's agenda regarding salaries has stalled out due to the hiring freeze. No further updates regarding the Chief's Committee at this time.

12:09 PM – Erika reported that there were no new updates from the Salary Committee at this time. Jessica reported that she talked with Stephanie regarding salaries, and is still looking into it.

12:10 PM – No new updates regarding the Legislative Committee. It was reported that a House of Delegates Member local to Wood County was going to be running for Senate.

12:11 PM – No new updates regarding the WVAPO Website. Danielle did inform the board that the yearly renewal fee for the website will be due in September. *Danielle made a motion to renew the WVAPO Website for another year. All were in favor of the motion.*

12:13 PM – Jessica will be authoring a letter for the website regarding current situations, including the hiring freeze and status of the Family Treatment Courts.

12:15 PM – Extensive discussion regarding hiring freeze. Where did the money go? Is money already allocated for current vacancies?

12:23 PM – POY Award voting to begin soon. Danielle reported that it should be the last Friday in August, and the voting will be open for two (2) weeks. Presentation for the award will be in mid-October.

12:25 PM – No new updates regarding the Judicial Committee.

12:26 PM – Safety Committee reported that new officer training will be the third (3rd) and fourth (4th) week of September. Firearm training will be the first (1st) week, beginning on September 15. Also, Chris Salmons has an addendum to the Use of Force Policy regarding

flashlights on firearms. No word yet on its approval. No further updates were reported on instructors being trained in defensive tactics.

12:28 PM – There are currently 294 members in the WVAPO, which includes secretaries and associate members.

12:29 PM – No new updates regarding the Ethics Committee.

12:30 PM – Both Dave and Jerrod met with Senator Brian Helton regarding potential changes to our retirement. It is still a work in progress.

12:31 PM – Tom Ewing is our new Supreme Court Justice. Jerrod reported that his tenure as a Circuit Court Judge was well received.

12:36 PM – Extensive discussion regarding the WVAPO store

- Excessive shipping costs
 - \$32.00 for a single clothing item.
 - Danielle suggested that we ship bulk orders to Probation Office's over personal residences.
- The current store is open until September 5th
- Should we use multiple stores that may be regional based?
 - Jessica reported that Shirt Tales, a store located in Wood County and run by Kristi Bond, is willing to create a website and work with us.
 - No formal motion was made regarding the use of a new or multiple stores, but Jessica reported that she would get us more information regarding Shirt Tales in the coming weeks.

12:49 PM – Extensive discussion regarding the future of Family Treatment Courts (FTC)

- Administrative Office does not have the money to fully fund FTC
 - 5.5 million cut to the budget
 - Has 30 million in carry-over monies
 - Could some of this money be allocated to FTC?
 - Are these carry-over funds allocated appropriately?
 - Lack of transparency is frustrating
 - Are millions being spent on renovations/upgrades rather than on salaries of Officers that are already hired?
- Dave to write a letter to Chief Justice Wooten, Stephanie Bond, Keith Hoover, and Evan Lynch
 - Letter to be written on behalf of the WVAPO
 - Ask for line items regarding budget for a better understanding why they won't fund FTC Salaries
 - *Motion for the letter to be written and addressed to all of the Justices, Stephanie Bond, and Keith Hoover. All were in favor of the motion.*

1:28 PM – Meeting Adjourned.