

**WPOA**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**  
**August 26, 2021**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chris Leffler, President  
(board members were in Tom Nordbak, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
And out of the meeting Mike Rosario, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
During discussion) Tom Osendorf, Secretary  
Dave Perez, Treasurer  
Angie Balzano, Member  
Angel Garcia DeAlba, Member  
Tim Jakcsy, Member  
Paul Salazar, Member

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

1. Jimmy
2. Brenda Manzo
3. Yosh
4. Vaz
5. Biley
6. Handlen
7. Jimmy
8. Samuel Jimenez
9. Jim Uhl
10. Dominic
11. Nate Volk
12. Esteban Medina
13. Rudy Perez
14. John Scoggins

**Call to Order:** Leffler called the ZOOM meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Approval of minutes:** Osendorf submitted for approval. Consensus to approve

**Treasurer's Report:** Fran submitted the Treasurer's report, and it was approved by consensus. Total WPOA assets are \$716,561.86

**Donations:** No requests at this time.

**Membership input:**

- Rosario said he was asked when the longevity pay would be distributed. It was on the last paycheck and retro, so the member received the response. Leffler will double check.
- Balzano advised she heard concerns regarding Officers signing up for the traffic division and not wanting to ride motorcycles when other officers applied and weren't given the position. The assigned officers are only working traffic enforcement. Leffler will investigate.

**Board Elections:**

Leffler advised he put out a notice that there are board openings and encouraged members to apply.

**City Council Endorsements:**

Leffler reported that Joe Vinatieri and Fernando Dutra have asked for an endorsement from WPOA. No members present were against endorsement. Leffler also reported that Pete Casey who is retired from LAPD may also be running. Leffler was advised that Henry Bouchet will not as he's running for a different office.

Rosario recommended the candidates be invited to a WPOA meeting so members can hear from all the candidates before a decision is made. The membership concurred with Rosario's recommendation. Leffler will talk with the candidates and set up a meeting when appropriate.

**Brian Casaol:**

Brian is no longer with the department pending a final meeting with the city. He needs help financially from WPOA until things are settled. After discussion, there was consensus to support Casaol with Foundation funds allotting him one month of salary.

**Jakcsy training reimbursement:**

Jakcsy has registered for the PORAC conference in November in Monterey. He is requesting reimbursement for travel and registration expenses. As this has been courage by the Board in the past, Leffler motioned the board approve the training expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

**By Laws:**

Jakcsy said he has been in contact with Mike McGill from the WPOA law firm regarding possible updates to the By-Laws. Mr. McGill said the By-Laws are solid and need minor changes only. He presented potential changes as discussed by the board. The redlined version of the By-Laws will be distributed to the membership for approval as soon as they are completed. Leffler said he'd like to see the process completed by October 1 so the new Board will have a clean version to work with.

**Mandatory vaccinations:**

Leffler stated there are members who have concerns regarding potential mandatory vaccinations. He turned the floor over to Uhl. Uhl said the neither the City Council nor City Manager have had any discussion on the issue. This discussion is to get ahead of the process and make the city administration aware of the member's concerns. Sacramento and Anaheim Fire, in advance of mandatory vaccinations, came out and said they support medical freedom to choose. Uhl feels all first responders will be part of the discussion in the future. He feels mandatory vaccinations are wrong and would like to draft a letter to the city expressing the desire for our members to have freedom of choice. He said we look forward to working with the city, but we should make it clear what the membership's wishes are regarding mandatory vaccinations. He said currently 70% of the organization are not vaccinated. This has never been a condition of employment and should not be required now. Uhl requested a survey be put together to question the membership on their opinion. The data can be submitted to the city as part of the letter when approved.

Rosario suggested a committee be established to discuss the Association's stance on mandatory vaccinations. The Committee would be led by Uhl. Rosario commented that everyone has different opinions, and the Board is here to do what is right for the membership. Uhl agreed to lead the Committee and requested Board Members volunteer to help. The survey will be sent out by the board.

Leffler said that PORAC has prepared a paper on COVID and has stated they will not support any legal action against mandatory vaccination. PORAC's information will be shared with the membership so both side of the discussion will be heard. Leffler has had discussions with the City Manager re mandatory vaccinations and he has agreed to discuss the issue with the board before any final recommendation is made.

The members who volunteered to be on the Committee include Nathan Volk, Garcia DeAlba, Vas, Trevor, Rosario, Handlen, Scoggins, Biley and Gabe Lopez.

Rosario commented that at the last meeting with the Chief there was concern expressed if one person on a team has COVID, it's possible the whole team will need to be off and quarantined. If they are vaccinated the quarantine won't be needed.

Scoggins said we need to communicate with the city on the membership's stance. He feels it's about member's rights to make medical decisions on their own. It's not about whether we believe it's good. It's about personal rights.

Jakcsy said WPOAs legal representative McGill stated the issue has already been fought and the determination was vaccinations can be mandated. Uhl disagreed with that information and will talk with McGill. He encouraged the Board to form the committee quickly and get the information to administration as soon as possible.

Garcia DeLaAlba commented that the non-sworn employee's union should be contacted regarding their stance.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned by Leffler at 8:13 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Tom Osendorf, Secretary