

Minutes
AELE Board of Directors Meeting
September 24, 2020

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of Americans for Effective Law Enforcement, Inc. (hereinafter “Board”) was held on September 24, 2020, beginning at 12:00 p.m., CDT. The meeting was held via Zoom meeting.

The following Directors were present and participated in the meeting: President Chet Epperson, Vice President/Secretary Al Youngs, Treasurer Charles Reynolds, Executive Director John Peters and Directors Chuck Gruber, Dennis Harrison, Russ Laine, Jack Pecoraro, Emory Plitt and Wayne Schmidt. Also, in attendance were: Helen Finkel and Bernard Farber, from AELE. Directors Dan Hales and Don Leach were not in attendance.

An agenda had been submitted to the Board by President Epperson. Additional agenda items were discussed during the meeting. President Epperson chaired the meeting.

Executive Board Minutes. The past Executive Board minutes and the minutes of this meeting will be sent to the Directors for their approval.

Executive Director Comments. Executive Director Peters commented on the following topics:

Executive Director Peters stated that there have been four webinars and approximately 2,000 people have viewed them. There are plans for additional webinars in 2020 and 2021. Executive Director Peters then shared a PowerPoint presentation giving a brief overview regarding the updated AELE website. Executive Director Peters commended Bernie Farber for his excellent work on the Online Legal Library and Educational Publications.

Executive Director Peters walked the Directors and guests through the Online Education Center, where the webinars and virtual seminars will be held. He also spoke about the online Certified Litigation Specialists and the changes that are being made.

Director Executive Peters stated it costs approximately \$10,000 to produce the IA Seminar. These virtual seminars are very cost-effective. The cost of putting the IA Seminar in Las Vegas in 2019 was approximately \$58,000. The IA Seminar will be launched on Monday, September 28, 2020.

Executive Director Peters stated that the in-house email is at approximately 40,000 names with the elimination of the expense of printing and mailing. Executive Director Peters commended Bernie, Helen and Missy in their team effort.

At this time it is too early to project whether the Jail Seminar in 2021 will be held virtually, live or both.

Executive Director Peters stated AELE is in good financial condition, even with COVID-19. Helen mentioned the benefits of electronic invoicing streamlining the payment process. Helen was responsible for AELE receiving a PPP loan in the amount of \$12,000, and has applied for this loan to be forgiven.

Executive Director Peters stated that the Expert Witness Directory was being revised and that a cost would be charged for being a member of the Directory and that this would be an income stream for AELE.

Additional Discussion. Judge Emory Plitt commended Executive Director Peters for all of his efforts for AELE. Director Pecoraro raised the question of where would policelegal.org be housed. Executive Director Peters mentioned it would be included in the online Education Center.

President Epperson mentioned that Bernie Farber agreed to mentor someone regarding his responsibilities. The Executive Board will interview and determine who that individual will be. Also, President Epperson requested that any Director who was interested in reviewing Bernie's special publications or the monthly *Law Journal*, would be appreciated. Bernie also agreed to upload his files to the AELE Dropbox.

Election of Officers. All Directors indicated a desire to remain as Directors from 2020 to 2021. Director Plitt made a motion to retain all members of the Board, it was unclear who seconded, but it was unanimous. Director Plitt made a motion to add Executive Director Peters as a member of the Board, Director Pecoraro seconded it, but it was rescinded. After discussion, Director Plitt withdrew his motion.

Al Youngs made a motion to nominate Chet Epperson as President, seconded by Director Reynolds and it was unanimous.

Director Reynolds then made a motion to nominate Director Youngs as Secretary, seconded by Director Pecoraro and it was unanimous. Director Plitt made a motion was made to appoint Ms. Finkel as Vice President, seconded by Director Youngs and it was unanimous.

Director Pecoraro and Director Reynolds were nominated for Treasurer. Director Plitt nominated Director Pecoraro for Treasurer, seconded by Director Youngs. Director Schmidt nominated Director Reynolds for Treasurer, seconded by Director Laine. Director Pecoraro was unanimously voted in as Treasurer.

President: Chet Epperson
Vice President: Helen Finkel
Secretary: Al Youngs
Treasurer: Jack Pecoraro

Open Forum. Director Reynolds was commended for his efforts as Treasurer, by the Board. Bernie Farber was also commended by several members of the Board. Director Youngs commended President Epperson and all members of the Board for their efforts. Executive Director Peters thanked Director Youngs for securing organizational underwriting for some of the meals for future seminars and in helping select presenters for the seminars.

Director Schmidt brought up several valid points regarding mislabeling of a document which will be corrected. It was also mentioned that the site for all corporate documents, including financials can be found at: aele.org/corp.

Adjournment. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:11 p.m., CDT.

/s/ Chet Epperson

Chet Epperson, President

/s/ Al Youngs

Al Youngs, Secretary