

Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (BPSST or the Board) Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2026

The Board on Public Safety Standards and Training held a regular meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2026, in the Governor Victor G. Atiyeh Boardroom at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training located at 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem, Oregon. Chair Casey Coddling called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Board members present in-person and by Video/Teleconference:

Casey Coddling, Chair, Oregon State Police
Chris Heppel, Vice-Chair, Oregon Fire Chief's Association
Jennifer Cameron, Non-Management Parole & Probation
Jack Carriger, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association
Mark Daniel, Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police
Michael Fletcher, APCO-NENA
Jason Harvey, Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police
Nicholas Hunter, Oregon State Sheriffs' Association
Lauren Johnson, Portland Fire & Rescue
Morry Jones, Public Member
Dan Lenzen, Private Security Industry
Kathryn Lynch, Oregon District Attorneys Association
Joseph Morneau, Oregon Fire District Director's Association – (Teams)
Scotty Nowning, Non-Management Law Enforcement
Doug Olson, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Mike Reese, Director, Department of Corrections
Mariana Ruiz-Temple, Oregon State Fire Marshal
Sam Willits, Non-Management Law Enforcement

Board Members Absent:

Robert Day, Portland Police Bureau
Mo Young, Public Member

DPSST Staff:

Phil Castle, Agency Director
Kathy McAlpine, Deputy Director
Audra Anderson, Chief of Staff
Kayla Ballrot, Fire Training Program Manager
Chris Enquist, Training Division Director
Michael Holsapple, Compliance Specialist
Jennifer Howald, Legislative and Rules Coordinator
Melissa Lang-Bacho, Professional Standards Case Coordinator
Michelle Morrison, Private Security Compliance Specialist

Sam Tenney, Communications Coordinator
Shelby Alexander, Executive Assistant to the Director
Juan Lopez, Executive Support Specialist

Guests:

Dianne Lugo, Statesman Journal

1. Introductions

- *Chair Coddling introduced himself and invited everyone in attendance to state their name and position for the record.*

2. *Meeting Minutes

Approve January 22, 2026, Meeting Minutes

- *Vice-Chair Heppel motioned to approve the January 22, 2026, meeting minutes, as presented. Member Daniel seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call where the motion passed unanimously by the Board.*

3. Fire Policy Committee

a. Fire Policy Committee Update – Chris Heppel, Chair

- *Chair Heppel reported that the Fire Policy Committee (FPC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on February 25, 2026. Chair Heppel added that policy committee members discussed a request for a FPC review for fire certifications. The committee elected to establish a task force that would develop the introduction, removal, and archiving of certifications. While there have been several new certifications introduced over the years, there is not currently an efficient process to remove certifications in general. Board members will also vote on the NFPA Firefighter component and a committee appointment to fill a seat under Central Oregon Community College. The next FPC meeting will take place on May 27, 2026.*

b. * Consent Agenda (The following items to be ratified by one vote)

- A. *Clifton Booher, DPSST No. 13925; Albany Fire Department – No Action**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the FPC on February 25, 2026.
- B. *Kyle Clark, DPSST No. 44945; Irrigon RFPD – Revoke**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the FPC on February 25, 2026.
- C. *Steven Eubanks, DPSST No. 41031; Scio RFPD – No Action**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the FPC on February 25, 2026.
- D. *Request for Fire Policy Committee Review of Fire Certifications**
Adoption of Standards and Issuance of Fire Certifications

E. *Proposed Rule Changes for Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 259-009-0005, 259-009-0062, and 259-009-0065

Minimum Standards on Professional Qualifications for NFPA Airport Firefighter

F. *Committee Appointments

Fire Policy Committee

Ryan Gregor – Central Oregon Community College. Appointment to the FPC, 1st term effective April 23, 2026.

- *Member Ruiz-Temple motioned to approve the FPC Consent Agenda, items A through F, as presented. Member Carriger seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call where the motion passed unanimously by the Board.*

4. Criminal Justice Policy Committees

a. Police Policy Committee Update – Scotty Nowning, Chair

- *Chair Nowning stated that the Police Policy Committee met on February 19, 2026, and reviewed a light case load of two (2) cases, one discretionary review and one administrative closure. The committee also heard proposed changes to multiple Oregon Administrative Rules, primarily concerning public safety certification, denial, and revocation standards. The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place on May 21, 2026.*

b. Telecommunications Policy Committee Update – Michael Fletcher, Chair

- *Chair Fletcher stated that the Telecommunications Policy Committee last met on February 4, 2026, whereby the committee reviewed one (1) discretionary case as well as eight (8) proposed rule changes to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR). The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place on May 6, 2026.*

c. Corrections Policy Committee Update – Nicholas Hunter, Chair

- *Chair Hunter stated that the Corrections Policy Committee (CPC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on February 10, 2026, whereby members reviewed seven (7) discretionary cases, took action on three (3) of those cases, and one (1) was sent back to DPSST staff for additional information. The CPC also heard the proposed rule changes to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) regarding amending the public safety professional certification denial and revocations standards process. Additionally, committee members Joshua Aldrich and Michael Mays will be re-appointed for a second term and their contributions thus far were highlighted. The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place on May 12, 2026.*

d. *Consent Agenda (The following items to be ratified by one vote)

- A. ***Sefiu Ballam, DPSST No. 59203; Marion County Sheriff's Office – Revoke**
Unanimous vote with one (1) recusal to recommend to the Board by the CPC on February 10, 2026.
- B. ***Robert Bingham, DPSST No. 38928; Washington County Sheriff's Office – No Action**
Unanimous vote with one (1) recusal to recommend to the Board by the CPC on February 10, 2026.
- C. ***Mileena Edwards, DPSST No. 61544; Warm Springs Police Department – No Action**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the TPC on February 4, 2026.
- D. ***Louis Martin, DPSST No. 45897; DOC/Coffee Creek Correctional Facility – Revoke**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the CPC on February 10, 2025.
- E. ***Alexander Navruzov, DPSST No. 64946; DOC/Columbia River Correctional Institution– No Action**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the CPC on February 10, 2026.
- F. ***Ryan Reid, DPSST No. 48586; DOC/Snake River Correctional Institution – Revoke**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the CPC on February 10, 2026.
- G. ***Austin Wilcox, DPSST No. 64231; DOC/Snake River Correctional Institution – No Action**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the CPC on February 10, 2026.
- H. ***Sabrina Whittaker, DPSST No. 51116; Oregon State Police – Revoke**
Unanimous vote to recommend to the Board by the PPC on February 19, 2026.
- I. ***Committee Appointments**

Corrections Policy Committee

- Gregory Rice – Oregon Sheriff's Jail Command Council. Appointment to the CPC, 1st term effective April 23, 2026.
 - Josh Aldrich – Oregon Sheriff's Jail Command Council. Re-appointment to the CPC, 2nd term effective April 28, 2026.
 - Michael Mays – Non-Management Corrections Officer. Re-appointment to the CPC, 2nd term effective April 25, 2026.
- *Member Daniel motioned to approve the Criminal Justice Consent Agenda, items A-I, as presented. Member Fletcher seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call and the motion was passed unanimously by the Board.*
- e. ***Emergency Suspension Recommendation**

Presented by Melissa Lang-Bacho

The Department opened a professional standards case for Hector Carranza after receiving notification that he had been arrested on July 31, 2025.

Carranza is charged in Multnomah County with 56 felony offenses:

- Rape in the Third Degree (4 counts); Felony Class C
- Sodomy in the Third Degree (12 counts); Felony Class C
- Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree (24 counts); Felony Class C
- Attempt to Commit a Class A Felony (1 count); Felony Class B
- Using a Child in a Display of Sexually Explicit Conduct (5 counts); Felony Class A
- Encouraging Child Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree (5 counts); Felony Class C
- Luring a Minor (5 counts); Felony Class C

Carranza is also charged in Clackamas County with 27 counts of Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree, Class C Felony, ORS 163.425.

The allegations against Carranza were said to have occurred while he was employed as a police officer between 2014 and 2017.

On August 12, 2025, Carranza was released from custody and signed a release agreement with court ordered conditions.

On March 23, 2026, a corrections deputy with Close Street Pretrial Release Service monitoring program reported to the Multnomah County Court that Carranza had cut off his GPS device and had his phone turned off. A welfare check was conducted by the Washington County Sheriff's Office confirmed that Carranza's GPS bracelet had been cut off and they were unable to locate Carranza.

On March 23, 2026, Carranza's release agreement was revoked and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

On April 10, 2026, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office issued a press release asking for the public's help finding Carranza.

Carranza was hired by the Gresham Police Department on January 13, 2014, as a Police Officer. Carranza has obtained Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Police Certifications. Carranza resigned from the Gresham Police Department on September 5, 2025.

Carranza's police officer certifications are currently lapsed, but labeled as under review (UR). The "UR" designation indicates that there is an open professional standards case, however until a determination has been made in the case, no action has been taken against the individual's certification.

OAR 259-008-0300 (6) states that "The Department must issue an Emergency Suspension Order immediately suspending a public safety professional's certifications when a Policy Committee,

the Board or the Board's Executive Committee finds that there is a serious danger to public health and safety."

If convicted of any of the charges, Carranza's police officer certifications would be revoked under OAR 259-008-0300(2)(a). The rule requires the Department to revoke certification if the "public safety professional has a conviction for any offense designated under the law of the jurisdiction where the conviction occurred as being punishable as a felony or as a crime for which a maximum term of imprisonment of more than one year may be imposed."

Issuance of an Emergency Suspension Order results in immediate suspension of an officer's certification. The Emergency Suspension Order must be issued in writing. It may be issued without prior notice and without a hearing prior to the order. Emergency Suspension Orders also follow due process procedures and include the opportunity to make a request, within 90 days of the date of the order, for a hearing.

Emergency Suspension Orders must include the reasons why the specified acts or omissions seriously endanger the public's health or safety.

The Emergency Suspension Order would remain in effect until the professional standards case can be resolved or until withdrawn.

- *Deputy Chief McAlpine drew the Board members' attention to the fact that DPSS staff did not receive relevant documentation under the deadline stated in the staff report under review. Deputy Chief McAlpine added that the individual in question is still at large, as of the day of this meeting, and there was an additional warrant issued for his failure to appear in court. What this also does, should the Board decide to approve this emergency suspension, is documents this decision in a national database index as an additional safeguard (i.e. should there be a small agency, whether he is back in the country, etc.)*
- *Member Nowning stated that given the amount of charges and gravity of said charges, mostly Measure 11, and his actions since being accused, it appears to him that this qualifies under the criteria of an emergency suspension. Member Cameron agreed and highlighted that these are person-to-person crimes, which pose a threat to individuals and reiterated the seriousness of the circumstances. Member Jones also expressed his concern as a member of the public on the Board at the gravity of the situation. Member Hunter added that these crimes involve minors/children and increases the danger this individual poses to the public should he be able to retain employment anywhere else or even potentially represent himself as a public safety officer.*
- *Member Hunter motioned to immediately suspend Hector Carranza's certifications, pursuant to OAR 259-008-0300 (6), as presented. Member Willits seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call and the motion was passed unanimously by the Board.*

5. Private Security/Investigator Policy Committee

a. Private Security Investigator Policy Committee Update – Dan Lenzen, Chair

- *Chair Lenzen reported that the Private Security/Investigators Policy Committee (PSIPC), held a regularly scheduled meeting on February 17, 2026, where the committee reviewed three (3) compliance cases, two (2) of which were civil penalties, and one (1) licensure denial. The PSIPC also reviewed and approved a rule change to implement House Bill 2183, regarding applicants with previous law enforcement experience. The next regularly scheduled PSIPC meeting is set for May 19, 2026.*

b. *Consent Agenda (The following to be ratified by one vote).

A. *Casey Pitney, PS No. 105268

Notice of Intent to Propose Civil Penalty

B. *Ronald Riebel, PI No. 038063

Notice of Denial of Provisional Private Investigator Application

C. *Wayne Yu, PS No. 077282

Notice of Intent to Propose Civil Penalty

D. *Proposed Rule Changes for Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 259-060-0125

Adopting Rule Changes for Private Security Professional Applicants with Prior Law Enforcement Experience (House Bill 2183)

E. *Committee Appointments

Private Security/Investigators Policy Committee

- James Odd – Private Investigator Recommended by the Oregon State Bar. Appointment to the PSIPC, 1st term effective April 23, 2026.
- *Member Nowning motioned to approve the Private Security/Investigators Policy Committee Consent Agenda, items A-E, as presented. Chair Coddling seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call and the motion was passed unanimously by the Board.*

6. BPSST Recommendations (The following items to be ratified by one vote each).

a. *Imposition of Civil Penalties – House Bill 2527

Presented by Michael Holsapple

House Bill 2527 was enacted in 2021, which directed the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to license entities that engage in providing private security services. The legislation granted DPSST's authority to establish, by rule, standards and procedures for licensing. The Board approved these standards and procedures in 2023.

The Private Security Entity Licensing program became operational on January 1, 2024, at which time it became unlawful for any private security entity to provide services in Oregon without first obtaining a license under the Act.

The entities listed below have failed to obtain the required license. Since January 2024, DPSST has undertaken multiple compliance efforts, including issuing Notices of Violation and offering resolution through mitigation or stipulated agreements with reduced penalties.

Despite these efforts, the entities remain out of compliance as of the current date. Under House Bill 2527 and OAR 259-059-0400, the Board is authorized to assess civil penalties for continued violations. Board imposed civil penalty allows the specific parties to request a contested case proceeding and judicial review in accordance with the Oregon Administrative Procedure Act.

a) Syndicate K9, No. 7513

- Out of compliance since January 1, 2024.
- Notice of Violation issued – September 30, 2025, offered mitigation or a stipulation for \$1,000 with full compliance.
- Entity was found to be out of compliance for one 30-day period, for failing to obtain an entity license (\$1,000).
- Entity was found to be out of compliance for one 30-day period, for failing to provide to the person to whom services were to be provided, the Internet address for the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training's webpage where a copy of or information pertaining to the private security entity's license may be accessed (\$1,000).
- **Full imposition amount for non-compliance is \$2,000.**

b) Centerpoint Security & Investigations LLC, No. 3201

- Out of compliance since January 1, 2024.
- Notice of Violation issued – September 16, 2024, offered mitigation or a stipulation for \$8,000 with full compliance.
- Amended Notice of Violation issued – September 30, 2025, offered mitigation or a stipulation for \$10,500 with full compliance.
- Entity was found to be out of compliance for 21 (twenty-one) 30-day periods, for failing to obtain an entity license (\$21,000).
- **Full imposition amount for non-compliance is \$21,000.**

- *Member Hunter motioned to approve the imposition of civil penalties under House Bill 2527, as presented. Member Daniel seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call and the motion was passed unanimously by the Board.*

b. *Imposition of Civil Penalties – House Bill 2527/Senate Bill 300
Presented by Michael Holsapple

House Bill 2527 was enacted in 2021, which directed the Department of Public Safety

Standards and Training (DPSST) to license entities that engage in providing private security services. The legislation granted DPSST's authority to establish, by rule, standards and procedures for licensing. The Board approved these standards and procedures in 2023.

The Private Security Entity Licensing program became operational on January 1, 2024, at which time it became unlawful for any private security entity to provide services in Oregon without first obtaining a license under the Act.

The entities listed below have failed to obtain the required license. Since January 2024, DPSST has undertaken multiple compliance efforts, including issuing Notices of Violation and offering resolution through mitigation or stipulated agreements with reduced penalties.

Despite repeated compliance efforts, the entities listed below remained out of compliance until the passage of Senate Bill 300 (SB 300), effective June 26, 2025. SB 300 changed the licensing requirements by removing the obligation for entities that provide private security services solely "In-house" to obtain an entity license previously mandated under House Bill 2527.

The Board is now reviewing those entities that failed to obtain licensure during the period when it was legally required. These cases are before you today because, during the 18-month window in which licensure was mandatory, the entities below did not comply with the law.

Under House Bill 2527 and OAR 259-059-0400, the law in effect at the time of the violation governs each case. Accordingly, the Board retains authority to impose civil penalties for continued violations. Any civil penalty imposed by the Board entitles the affected parties to request a contested case hearing and seek judicial review under the Oregon Administrative Procedure Act.

a) Lowe's Home Centers, LLC, No. 1429

- Out of compliance since January 1, 2024.
- Notice of Violation issued January 6, 2025, offered mitigation or a stipulation with reduced civil penalty fee of \$6,500.
- Entity was found to be out of compliance for 13 consecutive 30-day periods, for failing to obtain a private security entity license.
- **Full imposition amount for non-compliance is \$13,000.**

b) SAJ Management Inc. DBA Guilty Pleasures, No. 7038

- Out of compliance since January 1, 2024.
- Notice of Violation issued December 9, 2024, offering mitigation or a stipulation with reduced civil penalty fee of \$6,000.
- Amended Notice of Violation issued August 18, 2025, offering mitigation or a stipulation with reduced civil penalty fee of \$9,500.

- Entity found to be out of compliance for 19 consecutive 30-day periods, for failing to obtain a private security entity license.
- **Full imposition amount for non-compliance is \$19,000.**

c) **Old Trapper Smoked Products Inc., No. 9166**

- Out of compliance since January 1, 2024
- Notice of Violation issued January 6, 2025, offering mitigation or a stipulation with reduced civil penalty fee of \$7,000.
- Entity found to be out of compliance for 8 (eight) consecutive 30-day periods, for failing to obtain a private security entity license.
- **Full imposition amount for non-compliance is \$8,000.**

Member Hunter asked if the civil penalties in question are for the timespan prior to the implementation of Senate Bill 300 to which DPSST confirmed that is correct.

- *Vice-Chair Heppel motioned to approve the imposition of civil penalties under House Bill 2527 and House Bill 300, as presented. Member Carriger seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call and the motion was passed unanimously by the Board.*

7. *Annual Director's Evaluation – Chair Codding

Chair Codding emphasized key points of the evaluation letter in question such as Director Castle's collaborative disposition, good communication, strong advocate for students and safety, high ethic, integrity, and an overall pleasure to work with due to his receptiveness to issues for fellow public safety professionals. If approved by the Board, this letter will be forwarded to the Governor's Office for Governor Kotek's review.

Scotty Nowning noted a discrepancy on the date of the letter. DPSST noted that this will be corrected.

Member Ruiz-Temple extended her gratitude working with Director Castle and his work creating multi-disciplinary opportunities across public safety. She offered her support of the letter and mentioned her admiration for Director Castle's navigation of budgetary hardship while representing the members of the Board.

Member Hunter highlighted Director Castle's national work alongside what he does statewide and mentioned that it has been interesting to see where DPSST ranks in this category through national discourse. Member Hunter added how important it is to be involved in these conversations by citing his own experience being able to engage in such through his own work, and the positive contacts he has had with other public safety officials at this level recognize DPSST for what it is doing. Member Hunter recognized DPSST as well and noted the level of preparation that goes into these meetings alone.

Member Olson stated his gratitude and that he recognizes Director Castle's work at a national level due to his sustained partnership with the FBI.

- *Member Hunter motioned to approve the Annual Director's Evaluation, as presented. Member Daniel seconded the motion. A vote was taken by roll call and the motion was passed unanimously by the Board.*

8. Agency Updates – Agency Director, Phil Castle

Director Castle introduced Legislative Rules Coordinator, Jennifer Howald, to present Legislative Concepts. Jennifer Howald stated that this is a brief overview of Legislative Concepts that DPSST has identified and that are going through the pre-approval processes with the Governor's Office and the Department of Administrative Services.

DPSST is requesting five (5) topics for Legislative Concepts, and if approved, DPSST will be returning to the July 2026 Board meeting for approval. The requested Legislative Concepts are as follows:

- Deferred Cases – Concept from last Legislative Session in 2025 and set aside due to budgetary processes, this topic involves Criminal Justice professional standards cases for individuals who have separated from employment, under allegations of misconduct, but separated before they were certified (i.e. not certified or employed, therefore they fall outside of DPSST jurisdiction). This change would give DPSST the permissive authority to carry out these cases and may be prioritized as individuals seek employment. DPSST would adapt rules to implement that process.
- Board and Committee Membership – DPSST would like to explore the opportunity to include a member to the Board who represents Tribal law enforcement agencies and Tribal police officers. As a Board member representing police entities, this position would also automatically default to a position on the Police Policy Committee. This concept also explores addressing membership to the Private Security/Investigators Policy Committee due to positions being named in association to an industry (i.e. manufacturing, healthcare, retail, etc.), resulting in long-term vacancies.
- (Placeholder) Private Security Entity Statutes: House Bill 2527 passed in 2021 and become an effective law in 2024, which is when DPSST began licensing entities. DPSST is in the process of forming a Rules Advisory Committee to review the Administrative Rules as to how the agency processes everything, and there may be rules that cannot be changed without a corresponding Legislative change. DPSST would also like to request a clearer authority related to the Department's action to deny or revoke entity licenses.
- DPSST Training Vehicles: DPSST possesses fire trucks and mock-police training vehicles, and because the Department is not a law enforcement agency and cannot respond to emergencies as such, these vehicles are technically in violation of prohibited lights and sirens if transported off-campus. DPSST hopes this is a relatively easy technical fix for the good of the order.
- Fee Increases: A companion legislative process to an evaluation of fee increases for Private Entity and Private Investigators programs. If fees are adopted by new administrative rules, even if approved by the Department of Administrative Services, the legislature must ratify these fees during Legislative Session.

Director Castle then introduced the agency's draft Policy Option Packages (POPs), as follows:

- POP 101 Learning Management System (LMS) – Received funding for LMS during the last Legislative Session and was directed to continue with project. DPSST is at Gate 2 and looking forward to getting to Gate 3 in the near future. POP 101 is for the learning management staffing suite as the LMS project must be supported by staffing.
- POP 102 – Private Security/Investigators program fee increases.
- POP 103 – Deferred maintenance. State agencies are required by statute to submit a POP for maintenance that needs completed on the facility. There have been conversations about converting DPSST to a 24-hour facilities model.
- POP 104 – Statewide regional training office under House Bill 4121 establishes a new office within DPSST for regional training. This office contains a full-time employee, non-funded, that is legislatively mandated and will tentatively report to the Director of DPSST, in conjunction to OEM and the State Resiliency Officer. This position will also be responsible for fulfilling the intent of the SPARTACIS bill and establish a statewide regional training specifically targeted for emergency management (involving all public safety officers).

All State agencies have been told that they must produce revenue-neutral POPs, although there are exceptions due to the nature of direction for certain programs.

Director Castle continued the agency updates by thanking the members of the Board for their efforts despite their busy schedules as well as DPSST staff, specifically, Melissa Lang-Bacho for her work as a Case Coordinator. However, DPSST now has a fully staffed team, meaning that the volume of cases will increase for the better. Director Castle thanked Deputy Director McAlpine for filling in during Director Atwood's absence, as well as Chief of Staff, Audra Anderson, whom he invited to speak.

Chief of Staff Anderson shared a quick update on the Board member photo wall, and invited Board members who have not had their pictures taken to please do so prior to the start of the next July 23, 2026, Board meeting.

Director Castle continued by stating that during the 2026 Legislative Session regarding cost-saving measures, the Legislature considered balancing the budget, yet DPSST was held largely unharmed. Furthermore, the agency received Salary Pot funding, which does not happen often, and put DPSST back in a positive place. The most important amount for DPSST to consider is the "carryover balance" since this allows the agency to get by from the end of June through mid-August.

Oftentimes, it takes approximately a month and a half to secure funding after a biennium, and there must be funds to continue payroll during this time period. DPSST needs approximately \$5.5 million in funds, in comparison to the approximately \$3 million spent a month on operations costs. Currently, DPSST is sitting on \$6.7 million thanks to the cost-saving measures it enacted at the beginning of the biennium and favorable budgetary outcomes and is committed to continuing to serve staff, students, and constituents in the way that they deserve.

Director Castle moved on to the topic of partnerships, specifically thanking Member Hunter for his support during a recent example, and stated DPSST's inability to function without the connections present Board members offer.

DPSST has seen a subtle drop in student registration numbers, particularly for police, and is aware of certain variables that may be contributing to this. One, budgetary issues are well

known at the state-level, but also the fact that there are some agencies that are staffed at capacity and do not require as much training. This has been evident due to classes not being filled entirely and prospective students enrolling well under 30-days.

Director Castle stated that when a class is not fully enrolled, it is very inefficient. If student volume reaches below a certain level, it has an impact on students' overall experience. Courses are designed for rotation, meaning that students are trained to be role-players, so when they are not learning the capacities of an officer, a low ratio permeates into the learning experience. DPSST is constantly monitoring this status, and there is the opportunity to potentially remove a class from the roster later in the year to rebalance student numbers. This will manifest itself as a waiting list of approximately 30-45 days, which is still well under the statutory obligation of a 90-day wait period.

Director Castle updated the members of the Board on the F-Building, or "Main Street" building, and its progress during renovations. This building suffered from internal wind shear due to two large doors on either end, causing structural damage to the building. This project will likely be done in mid-June and is anticipated due to its importance to training.

Over the past year, DPSST staff have been consistently reviewing student feedback from each class to make improvements to student training. On this tangent, state agencies are required to evaluate themselves and the work they are conducting (i.e. What is missing? Are any policies inaccurate? How can curriculum be improved?), and to this effect, DPSST has sought accreditation from International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST), of which Director Castle is the Western Regional Director.

This accreditation program encompasses both sides of a training academy (POST and academy), and Deputy Director McAlpine added that the recommendation is to accredit the academy before standards and certifications, and this evaluation requires self-documentation to evaluate the current status of an agency. DPSST is currently at this stage reviewing internal policies and there is also a "risk assessment" that needs to be memorialized in order to proceed.

Deputy Director McAlpine expressed her excitement for this opportunity to reinforce loose-ends and recognized the Compliance Coordinators present, specifically, Victor Sanchez, who is assuming his new capacity. DPSST is also excited to announce that there is a position for an Instructor Coordinator, which received 50 applicants, and an individual will be identified to move forward.

Director Castle mentioned that DPSST is working on the lighting to both Fire and Law Enforcement memorials, as well as restoring areas of damaged marble. Funding sources for such maintenance is primarily derived through donations, memorial license plates (of which Director Castle noted high demand), and through a Sub-Board that approves memorial expenses incurred. DPSST is also looking to expand this Board and search for opportunities to leverage funds to support those who experience an unfortunate loss. The account balance currently stands at approximately \$374,000.

The Law Enforcement memorial will take place on May 5, 2026, and the Fire Fighter Memorial will be held on June 16, 2026.

- *Member Reese asked what the fiscal impact or the Deferred Cases concept listed above. Jennifer Howald replied that the previously identified fiscal impact was one full-time staff position. Moving forward, DPSST does not intend to include the fiscal impact, albeit recognizing that it does still carry a workload for DPSST. The Department is rather focusing on that permissive authority, where there are at least*

150 pending deferred cases, and the agency would not be addressing all 150 of these cases, but instead only those who are applying.

- *Member Ruiz-Temple asked with regards to the Boards and Committee concept whether there has been any conversation for Fire representation from Tribes? Jennifer Howald replied that there has not due to there not being many Tribal fire departments. Member Ruiz-Temple replied that there are three (3) out of the nine (9) non-sovereign Nations. Member Ruiz-Temple added that Tribal representation was incorporated into the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council, and as DPSST works through the Legislative Concept process, this point may come up throughout discussions.*
- *Member Lenzen asked which disciplines are represented under the Deferred Cases concept. Jennifer Howald replied that representation consists of Criminal Justice disciplines (i.e. Police, Corrections, Parole and Probation, Telecommunications, Emergency Medical Dispatcher, and OLCC regulatory specialist).*
- *Member Ruiz-Temple asked if POPs 101 and 104 were General Fund or submitted as no funding source. Director Castle answered that the POPs were submitted under no funding source since DPSST is not aware of how these would be financed. More than likely, these would come out of CFA, and could eventually require other agencies to be supplemented through General Fund. This is how DPSST has received most budget increases, and although the Legislature would like to keep DPSST on CFA, in the revenue forecast CFA had a substantial impact. This forecast indicated that CFA experienced a decrease in \$10 million – a sizable amount for a fund that recently had approximately \$110 million. As this fund decreases, more than a dozen agencies that rely on this source are beginning to attrit and therefore starting to become re-supplemented with General Fund. There are only a few agencies remaining on CFA as a result.*
- *Member Ruiz-Temple commented that the national firefighter training is still suspended, leading to cancelled classes, despite the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation service having been allowed to continue despite campus not being open. Member Ruiz-Temple asked if there has been any update on the resumption of classes. Director Castle replied that Eriks Gabliks, who runs the National Fire Academy, and commented that there is still uncertainty as to when this will happen due to procedural circumstances. Fire Program Manager, Kayla Ballrot, concurred with Director Castle but is hopeful that cancelled classes will be rescheduled soon.*
- *Director Castle recognized Manager Ballrot during the Winter Fire School and noted a healthy attendance of 220 individuals, 180 of which arrived here to take the federally offered classes that were cancelled. There were 40-50 students on campus during this time who partook in DPSST trainings.*
- *Member Reese took a moment to recognize a DPSST staff member, John Clinton, who assisted with a motor vehicle accident he witnessed and provided first-aid to a motorist and coordinated traffic while emergency responders arrived.*

9. Next Meeting Date: July 23, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

- *With no further items or questions to discuss, Chair Coddington adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:10 a.m.*

Administrative Note:

These minutes reflect the order of the discussion/voting items as they appear on the official meeting agenda. The actual order in which they were discussed may vary.