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Final Copy
Submitted on
September 16, 2011

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2011

HELD AT THE

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING ACADEMY

1650 STATE ROUTE 56 SW

LONDON, OHIO 43140

MINUTES

I. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Vernon Stanforth called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
Sheriff Thomas Maurer led the pledge of allegiance.
Ms. Donna Long called the Roll.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth
Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Sgt. Troy Mineard
Chief Paul Denton
Ms. Linda O'Connor
Mr. Stephen Schumaker
Colonel John Born

B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STAFF

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Mr. Jeffery Clark

Attorney General's Office

GUESTS AND STAFF

Commander Bonner	NATA Academy
Ms. Pam Shackelford	NATA Academy
Commander Walt Poffenbaugh	North Central State College
Lt. Gregg Gaby	Dayton Police Academy
Chelley Seibert	Dayton Police Department
Mr. Robert Fiatal	OPOTC Executive Director
Ms. Donna Long	OPOTC Secretary
Ms. Amy O'Grady	OPOTC Deputy Director
Mr. Lou Agosta	Asst. Director of L.E.S.
Ms. Sarah Thomas	OPOTC Law Enforcement Training Officer
Ms. Mary Davis	OPOTC Law Enforcement Training Officer
Mr. James D. Daniels	OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer
Ms. Erin Sainato	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Jill Gregory	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Arienne Fauber	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Tiffany Cerana	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Mary Broyles	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Lori Wachtel	OPOTC Staff
Mr. Justin Cain	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Brittany Thompson	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Melody Gay	OPOTC Intern

II. CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Approval of Minutes

Sgt. Troy Mineard motioned the minutes of the May 19, 2011, meeting be approved. Colonel John Born seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed favorably.

Chairperson Stanforth had nothing to report.

III. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Chief Denton stated that he had nothing to report.

Chief Paul Denton
Committee Chairperson

Ms. O'Connor stated that she met with Mr. Bill Walker in June and supplied him the standards from the state post-secondary to supplement the OPOTA Curriculum updates.

IV. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chief Robert Williams
Committee Chairperson

In the absence of Chief Williams, Executive Director Fiatal stated that there was nothing to report for the Legislative Committee.

V. HOUSE COMMITTEE

Colonel John Born
Committee Chairperson

There was no report for the House Committee.

Colonel Born was appointed chairperson for the House Committee. The committee will consist of Colonel Born, Chairperson, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Stephen Schumaker, Attorney General Office and a representative of the FBI, once appointed. That concluded the House Committee report.

VI. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COMMITTEE Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Committee Chairperson

Sheriff Maurer discussed an email Chief Denton forwarded to Mr. Fiatal and himself indicating Chief Robinette from Grove City Police Department was undertaking a new initiative for the state traffic records coordinating for the Ohio crash reports. Sheriff Maurer asked Chief Denton to explain to the OPOTC Commission members what that entails.

Chief Denton stated that Chief Robinette from Grove City Police Department serves on the State Traffic Records Coordinating Committee. This committee is completing work on changing the OH-1 traffic crash report and is discussing ways to conduct state wide training for officers. Chief Robinette is very familiar with e-OPOTA and has proposed that the training be conducted in this format. Chief Robinette said the committee seems supportive and is willing to fund the development of the training module. Further, Chief Robinette said that there has been discussion of funding CPT hours to do this in 2012.

Mr. Fiatal stated OPOTA is prepared to assist in any way to train for the break out of the report. In addition to eOPOTA, we might also consider conducting Webinar sessions.

Colonel Born stated that he just became aware of the work that has gone into the OH-1 traffic crash report revision a week or so ago. His agency is looking into it; it does appear that there will be some cost involved with the need to change the form. The committee is looking at whether 6 months is enough time to get forms updated and information out. Colonel Born will have an update on this subject during the September 15, 2011 OPOTC Commission Meeting. Colonel Born and Mr. Fiatal feel that these types of changes would be best delivered through OPOTA.

Colonel Born ask if anyone else was serving on the OH-1 committee. Chairperson Stanforth stated that he has been on the committee for some time. They are involved in revising of the citation. This revision has been in the works for a long time. Colonel Born stated that based on what he knew of the committee, it was a needed and good thing.

Sheriff Maurer asked if this was the first time that the commission was aware of it. Mr. Fiatal stated that he was personally aware informally that work was in progress, but he had not been included in it. Colonel Born said that the OPOTC would have to find out who chairs the committee, who is on that committee, and make contact.

Chairperson Stanforth does not believe six months is enough time to get everything completed. Mr. Fiatal stated that the content is the hard work, but the facilitating part which is the OPOTC's part could be ready. Chairperson Stanforth expressed that things are moving towards a paperless route and encouraged responds via websites, email, etc.

Colonel Born will report back at the September 15, 2011 OPOTC Commission Meeting.

STAFF REPORT

VII. COMMISSION AND ACADEMY UPDATES

Executive Director Robert Fiatal

Mr. Fiatal wanted to give the opportunity for the Commission to meet some of the staff who works for the Commission and the State of Ohio, to give them the opportunity to show you and everyone all the hard work that they do.

Mr. Fiatal went over the Basic Academy 2010 data. All the Commission members were notified that the posting of the Basic Peace Officer Academy Annual Reports has been completed. This report is the accumulation of all the data that we have received from all those academies in 2010. The report was condensed and any and all references to gender, race and age have been removed. However, if needed those details are available. The most telling figure is the percentages; started/eligible; lowest initial exam score; highest exam score; average initial exam score. This data form shows how each school has performed. It is now public knowledge and is posted on the Attorney General's Web Site. The website is used greatly by OPOTA to get information out to the public. There have been over 6,500 hits on the web.

a. OPOTC Education and Policy

Mr. Fiatal introduced Sarah Thomas with the OPOTC Education and Policy section who gave a briefing on the Job Training Analysis.

Ms. Thomas stated that they have been working on the JTA for several months. The surveys have been distributed to the officers and many have already been returned. There were over 800 individual agencies throughout the state out of 980 who participated in the survey. Over 2,300 officers and 1,000 supervisors completed the survey. The next step

will be the L.E.A.P. (Law Enforcement Advisory Panel) meeting on August 16, 2011. The committee will validate the result from the survey. The following day OPOTC Education and Policy section will meet with the vendor and will validate the results within our curriculum. They will go through the curriculum challenge and make sure a performance objective is established for everything identified in the test analysis that currently may be missing. After that, the goal is to present the results to the OPOTC sometime in September.

Next, Mr. Fiatal introduced Mary Davis with the OPOTC Education and Policy section who gave a briefing on lesson plan reviews and the basic peace officer lesson plans.

Ms. Davis stated that a roll-out of basic training lesson plans took into effect on July 1, 2011. They are currently working on 16 peace officer basic training lesson plans and also revising 12 private security lesson plans. There will also be nine legal updates to the legal lesson plans that went out on July 1st due to legislative changes in those lesson plans. House Bill and Senate Bill changes were the reason for those updates.

Ms. Davis also updated the OPOTC on the status of the Private Security lesson plan updates. They are in the process of revising 12 lesson plans of which two are most likely to be merged. There are only 135 hours for private security and the topics aren't as lengthy as basic training. The goal is to be completed within a year. They meet monthly at the London and Richfield campuses for this purpose.

b. Humane Agent Lesson Plan

Mr. Fiatal thanked LETO Lynnette Rodrigue with OPOTA for her work on the Humane Agent lesson plans. In her absent Mr. Fiatal spoke about the Humane Agents lesson plans. Humane Agent lesson plan, including the legal portions have not been updated in quite some time. The legal portion changes have not been updated in quite some time. With the statutory changes over the last eight years there is a great need for updating.

Mr. Fiatal stated that they would use subject matter experts in the Husbandry lesson plan; it is currently a twenty hour course. Currently the Humane Society of Ohio does most of this, Ms. Rodrigue will be attending one of their training sessions to observe and verify that they are actually following the lesson plan.

The lesson plans also covers a 20- hour session on child abuse. Mr. Fiatal believes that that 20 hours could be used to better cover the care of livestock and animals and that we could reduce the actual hours used to cover child abuse.

c. Canine Certification

Mr. Fiatal introduced Justin Cain, Certification Officer with OPOTC for a briefing on the Canine lesson plans. Canine certification from OPOTC is not required in the state to be certified by the Commission. However, there are Canine Certifications that are in place at OPOTC and Justin oversees those.

Mr. Cain stated that they are currently working on adding the topic accelerant detection under the special purpose evaluation. The accelerant detection is spear headed by the Columbus Division of Fire and the State Fire Marshall's. Lesson plans were sent to other state and federal agencies including the United States Border Patrol and Pennsylvania State Police, who have returned their comments and request. We will move on to setting up in the core evaluators course, the curriculum to teach these individuals to implement the accelerate protection into our certification process as the evaluator. We are also looking into the legal block and will be revamping it entirely; it has not been updated in several years. Also, will be changing the administrative code section in reference to qualification for evaluators, trainers, TOT's and will be using a lot of SME (Subject Matter Experts) for that, trying to recognize every agency in the state of Ohio as well as Federal agencies who use canines.

d. Private Security

Mr. Fiatal introduced Assistant Deputy Director, Amy O'Grady who gave a briefing on the Private Security background procedures.

Ms. O'Grady stated that in August 1, 2010 the Commission required students who were enrolling into Commission approved Private Security Firearms Training Program to have National Webcheck background checks done between 60-90 days prior to the start of a class. The Ohio Department of Public Safety and the Commission were made aware of the student's results at the same time. This process was a joint effort by the Commission and the Ohio Department of Public Safety to save the student from having to have a background check by both agencies.

We received notice at the beginning of July that on June 29, 2011, the Ohio Department of Public Safety would be a participant in BCI's Rapback program (retained applicant fingerprint database program). The idea of the program is that it continuously monitors the criminal record of individuals enrolled and that the Department of Public Safety would be notified in the event of an arrest or conviction. (R.C. 4749.031) This means, the Department of Public Safety would no longer be able to accept background checks that were completed more than 30 days prior to the student's application with Department of Public Safety to obtain their private security certification.

In order to alleviate the burden on the student of having to do two background checks, we are no longer requiring background checks for private security students to attend Commission approved training programs. Instead, we will rely on the Department of Public Safety to inform us of a student's eligibility at the time of renewal or application.

The Department of Public Safety and all school commanders were notified of the change in processing. We have also been very clear in this notice that completing our program does not mean that a student is eligible for certification as a private security guard. Instead, as it always has been they should be relying on the Department of Public Safety.

e. Proposed Pistol Qualification

Next, Mr. Fiatal introduced LETO James D. Daniels to give a briefing on the proposed pistol qualification.

Mr. Daniels stated that all departments responded and 95% passed with higher than 80% of the requalification standard. OPOTA has already received numerous phone calls asking how soon they can start requalification with the new targets. Most of the agencies stated that they are pleased with the new target and scoring system. OPOTA even used the new target and scoring system with the probation officers and they did fairly well. The pretest course was also added to our firearm instructor courses.

Mr. Fiatal stated that as this firearms pistol instructor course starts, the student must pass this test by 80% in order to remain in class, and by the last day of the course they must pass the test by 85% or they aren't certified.

Sheriff Maurer asks what it would take from the OPOTC to move this along. Mr. Fiatal stated that if it is the recommendation of the OPOTC; however, if this is not what is best for law enforcement, then we need to start over and place our resources elsewhere. If the OPOTC feels this is the best direction, we would like to go forward from here. We are in the process of redrafting all of our basic peace officer firearms lesson plans.

Mr. Fiatal stated there was a concern regarding the elimination of low light shooting conditions on this shooting requalification course. Mr. Fiatal can't emphasize enough that the low light shooting is not being eliminated from the lesson plan for the OPOTC basic peace officers curriculum. It will be included in the lesson plan, but will not be required as part of this universal testing standard. By creating this, we are giving the abilities to the peace officer basic schools as well as the existing law enforcement officers to display their abilities with the pistol, but also give the agency in the basic peace officer school the solidity and the time to devote to things that may be an issue in that school or agency. Mr. Fiatal expressed that there is such a condition in our state that many confuse certificate standards with training standards.

Mr. Daniels stated that the officers that he has spoken with at the firearm conference say that some of the things we do in the basic peace officer course is actually training and not certification. It comes down to us putting down the line saying this is for certification test and everything else is training.

Mr. Fiatal stated that we are waiting on the OPOTC to press forward. There will be a period for when it takes effect. Agencies have old targets to use up, to become familiar with the certification standards, especially those requalification officers as well as the basic peace officer school.

Colonel Born asked what type of period it would be. Mr. Fiatal responded once it is implemented, which he doesn't see until early next year due to lesson plan factor, before

an actual effective date, (excluding, basic peace officer) because that can change very quickly. But, as for the other 34,000 police officers in the state, he would anticipate from the time it is announced by our staff a one year implementation.

Chief Denton who is chairperson for the OPOTC Curriculum Committee would like to discuss this with that committee one final time and then bring it to the table at the OPOTC meeting on September 15, 2011. Chairperson Stanforth referred to the OPOTC Curriculum Committee and Sheriff Maurer agreed with bringing before the September 15, 2011 meeting. It was decided that the OPOTC Curriculum Committee would meet on September 15th at 8:00 a.m. prior to the OPOTC Commission meeting.

f. Ohio Peace Officer Basic Training 2012

Mr. Fiatal stated that OPOTA has had a request from Ohio Department of Natural Resources to run a basic training class in 2012. They have requested that we training 15-16 officers and we have planned for a 582 hour basic peace officer academy on January 17, 2012 – May 04, 2012. Because there are only 16 ODNR applicants, we have opened this up to any other department to send candidates. However, because we have some liability concerns; an applicant must be appointed and they also must be hired in some capacity.

g. Personnel Issues

Mr. Fiatal went on to discuss personnel issues. Melody Gay, a non-legal intern was introduced and Mr. Fiatal express his appreciation for the work she did compiling the data for the academy testing log.

Mr. Fiatal also mention that Bill Walker, Deputy Director of Education and Policy section has been called up for military assignment and the length of his absent at this time is undetermined. Mr. Fiatal will be assuming Mr. Walker's responsibilities during his leave.

A lot of our focus right now not only on our typical things like the memorial, law enforcement conference and good customer service, but also on regional training and addressing curriculum lesson plans deficiencies. We have lost some positions and we are creating some new positions in the same unit to basically assist with this task. They will be Law Enforcement Training Officers (LETO's) whose first priority is developing curriculum lesson plans, but they also will be classroom ready and firearms ready. They will also be able to assist with the basic training academy in January 2012.

h. Advanced Training

Mr. Fiatal shared that many comments are coming in expressing their appreciation for the efforts of the regional training. We are giving agencies more topics to choose from and if you don't like the topic or have a need for specific training let us know, we can develop them quickly, schedules aren't set months in advance. Some of the ones we have either developed or are now instructing are: 1st Responder in Sexual Assault; Death

Investigation; Stops and Approaches and Legal concerns with stops and approaches; and Civil Liability Use of Force. Regional training for 2011 has really been expanded and we are starting on the Regional training for 2012.

That concluded the Commission and Academy reports.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

There was no report for Old Business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

Ms. Linda O'Connor gave thanks to Lou Agosta, Deputy Director of Law Enforcement Services and to LETO James D. Daniels for their help with the State Skills USA Competition. Due to their assistance our kids won the gold for the second year in a row. They will be attending the September 15, 2011 meeting and will share with the OPOTC Commissioners their experiences.

Also, there is an issue on the House Bill 223, telecommunication certification. Ms. O'Connor would like to have that brought before the OPOTC Curriculum Committee meeting on September 15, 2011 for discussion.

Mr. Fiatal asked if that was still under the Department of Education and Ms. O'Connor stated that it was.

X. GUEST FORUM

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

Chairperson Stanforth opened the meeting to public comments and/or concerns.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if the Commissioners thought it might be better to go back to the 10:00 a.m. meeting. After a brief discussion the Commissioners agreed to keep the meeting at the current 9:00 a.m. start time.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if there were any comments or concerns from the guest forum.

Commander Bonner, NATA Academy would like to attend the Private Security Curriculum meetings. He was pleased to know that the private security curriculum is being revised. Mr. Fiatal welcomed Commander Bonner to attend the meetings and would be happy to email Commander Bonner the schedule.

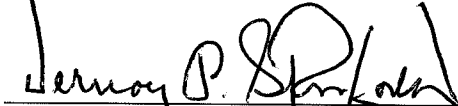
Commander Bonner is interested in staying updated on any curriculum changes. Mr. Fiatal shared that the following Commanders were assisting with the curriculum changes: James Copeland from Tri-C, Eric Winbigler from Pioneer and Rocky Hill from Tri-C. Mr. Fiatal advised Commander Bonner that the meeting took place at the OPOTA Richfield Campus and he also stated that there would be a Private Security Conference once the curriculum changes were completed.

Commander Bonner stated that the cadets appreciated the training; because of this training they are able to find employment at a high rate. The curriculum is working and the updates are needed.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Sheriff Maurer motioned to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Time: 9:55 a.m.



Chairperson

These transcripts are not verbatim. Audio recordings are available upon request.