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1/17/2014



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OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2013

HELD AT THE

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING ACADEMY

1650 STATE ROUTE 56 S.W.

LONDON, OHIO 43140

MINUTES

I. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Vernon Stanforth called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
Sheriff Michael Heldman led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Ms. Donna Long called the Roll Call.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth
Sergeant Troy Mineard
Chief David Wiseman
Colonel Paul Pride
Sheriff Michael Heldman
Mr. Stephen Schumaker
Chief Paul Denton
SAC Stephen Anthony

B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STAFF

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Mr. Jeff Clark

Attorney General's Office

GUESTS AND STAFF

Capt. Shawn Lee	OSHP/Academy
Capt. Geoffrey Barnard	CHPD/Academy
Ms. Kathleen Barch	COTC
Lt. Ellis L. R. Willis	Sinclair Community College
Ms. Mary Davis	OPOTC Acting Executive Director
Ms. Donna Long	OPOTC Secretary
Mr. Justin Hykes	OPOTC Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Alice Robinson-Bond	OPOTC Deputy Director
Mr. Lou Agosta	OPOTA Deputy Director
Mr. John Green	OPOTA Deputy Director
Mr. Scott Weimer	OPOTC Deputy Director
Ms. Jill Cury	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Arienne Fauber	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Mary Broyles	OPOTC Staff
Mr. Mike Roever	OPOTC Staff
Mr. Aaron Coey	OPOTC Staff
Mr. Eric Schaefer	OPOTC Staff
Mr. Kerry Curtis	OPOTA Staff

II. CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Approval of Minutes

MOTION

Sgt. Troy Mineard motioned that the minutes of the September 19, 2013, meeting be approved, Sheriff Michael Heldman seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Stanforth assigned the 2014 OPOTC Proposed Committee Assignments changes.

- Curriculum Committee
 - Chief Paul Denton, Chairperson
 - Sgt. Troy Mineard
 - Ms. Linda O'Connor

- Legislative Committee
 - Chief David Wiseman, Chairperson
 - Sheriff Michael Heldman

- House Committee
 - Colonel Paul Pride, Chairperson
 - SAC Stephen Anthony
 - Mr. Stephen Schumaker

- Continuing Professional Training Committee
 - Sheriff Michael Heldman, Chairperson
 - Chief David Wiseman

That concluded the Chairperson's Report.

III. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Chief Paul Denton
Committee Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Denton stated that he had nothing to report and referred to Ms. Davis for basic training information updates during the Executive Director's report.

That concluded the Curriculum Committee Report.

IV. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Sergeant Troy Mineard
Committee Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Mineard stated there was nothing to report. That concluded the Legislative Committee Report.

V. HOUSE COMMITTEE

Colonel Paul Pride
Committee Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Pride stated that the House Committee met prior to this meeting and has a couple items for discussion. The first item of business was to submit to the board in the form of a motion, to continue through 2014 meeting dates.

MOTION

Committee Chairperson Pride made the recommendation for the approval of the third Thursday, of every other month, beginning in the month of January, as the 2014 meeting dates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stephen Schumaker. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

The 2014 meeting dates will be:

- January 16, 2014
- March 20, 2014
- May 15, 2014
- July 17, 2014
- September 18, 2014

- November 20, 2014

All meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m.

The second item of business was to submit to the OPOTC, in the form of a motion, to choose the 2014 OPOTC Chairperson.

MOTION

Committee Chairperson Pride made the recommendation for the nomination of Sheriff Vernon Stanforth for the 2014 OPOTC Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Sgt. Troy Mineard. A vote was taken and passed unanimously, with Chairperson Stanforth excusing himself from the vote.

Chairperson Stanforth thanked the OPOTC members for their confidence and stated that he is honored to serve.

That concluded the House Committee Report.

**VI. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COMMITTEE Sheriff Michael Heldman
Committee Chairperson**

Committee Chairperson Heldman stated that there was nothing new to report at this time.

That concluded the Continuing Professional Training Committee Report.

STAFF REPORT

VII. COMMISSION AND ACADEMY UPDATES Acting Executive Director Mary Davis

Ms. Davis stated that there were a few updates she wanted to make the OPOTC aware of.

- One of the topics being revised and looked at is the Physical Fitness. One consideration the SME group is looking at is adding a skill at the beginning of the basic academy where a student would have to pass a lower percentile of the standards they are required to pass at the end of the academy. Currently, cadets are required to pass at the 50th percentile of the cooper standards in order to sit for the state examine. We have added more skill topics to the basic curriculum so we are not just looking at the cogitative testing of the students but looking more at the psychomotor and skills testing. One of the considerations is at the beginning of the academy putting in a lower percentile.

A survey will be sent out to the academy commanders and of those commanders that already have the standard in place, we will ask at what percentile they are requiring. Providing this information to the OPOTC is a courtesy in case members get calls from agencies or academies inquiring about it.

Chairperson Stanforth asked Mr. Clark if he could look into if the OPOTC has the authority to establish an entrance criterion. Mr. Clark agreed to look in to the matter.

Chief Denton had some concern with the verbiage of the word entry standard. It's a fitness test that is conducted at the early phase of the academy after you have been admitted for entrance. Ms. Davis stated that was correct it will be an additional skill that we are requiring.

Mr. Aaron Coey, training officer coordinating the topic revision, stated it puts an exact standard that would increase the success of the student. Chairperson Stanforth asked would that standard then apply also to the firearms, driving and etc. Mr. Coey replied, no, those are skill based and this is a health or a physical assessment. Chairperson Stanforth stated it is an argument we need to be prepared to answer.

Ms. Barch, a representative of Central Ohio Technical College, asked that OPOTC consider the timing of this requirement so it can keep with the time frame that would allow reimbursements for the students who wouldn't pass the requirement. That would be a big concern for the academies held at higher education institution. Some students will continue forward even if they are unable to complete the physical fitness requirements, but others will look for a tuition refund. Chairperson Stanforth stated it could be argued we are here to give them an education; we don't have to give them a certification. Ms. Barch agreed they could still get the education.

Chief Wiseman asked if we are looking at the entry standard only or at the complete physical fitness lesson plan. Ms. Davis replied that we are looking at the whole lesson plan. Chief Wiseman asked if we looking at the SF195 for a percentage of where the cadets should be at. Ms. Davis stated this is something that they are looking for. There will be a new topic recommended to add that covers officer wellness including physical and psychological wellness. Chief Wiseman's concern is the nutritional and overall health training will not come into the physical fitness as you don't have to be a physical training instructor to teach the new course. Ms. Davis agreed and stated that the new course instructor requirements are based on mental/emotional as well as physical well-being of the officer.

- Ms. Davis gave a follow up to the legislative committee. House Bill 8 has been introduced to revise the school safety laws and is currently included as part of the Attorney General's duties. "The Attorney General shall establish a model curriculum for training individuals authorized to carry firearms as part of school safety plans.

Schools and districts may utilize the model curriculum in consultation with local law enforcement to determine training requirements for individuals authorized to carry firearms as part of the school safety plan."

The Attorney General was contacted by group of county school superintendents that have testified before legislature; although the Attorney General did not pursue or request the responsibility, he is willing to do what is statutorily required. The Attorney General does feel the legislation should not tie anyone's hands by providing restrictive language. If the bill is passed, the Attorney General will look to OPOTA / OPOTC staff to establish the curriculum.

- Ms. Davis announced that 851 people attended the Attorney General's 2013 Law Enforcement Conference. She wanted to publicly acknowledge her appreciation for all of the OPOTC/OPOTA staff for their hard work to make the conference a success. She extended a thank you to the OPOTC members who helped at the conference.
- A letter of intent has been submitted for the 2014 Law Enforcement Conference to be held on October 28th & 29th. Ms. Davis asked Deputy Director Robinson-Bond to discuss R.C. 109.761 Reports of Appointment. Ms. Robinson-Bond gave an overview of some of the problems her staff deals with. Agencies are to notify OPOTC of changes to appointments, with the SF400/SF401 forms, within 10 days of the change. If this information is not provided by the departments, the only way we know of roster changes is at the annual rosters. Ms. Davis stated we are depended on the agency administration for the accuracy of their agencies certifications.

Ms. Robinson-Bond offered many times we get the information from the officers who call for an unrelated matter and the information comes to light. This is also a problem when officers are released because of a criminal or other certification disqualifying offense. Much of this decertification information is come upon unofficially. Chairperson Stanforth asked if there was any way of obtaining the information other than by word of mouth. Ms. Robinson-Bond stated she has setup a Google search that hits on Ohio, Officer, Felony hits and also have the help of Attorney General's Field Representatives who keep us informed of things in their areas.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if we are anywhere close to get 100% of the agency rosters turned in? Ms. Robinson-Bond stated it should improve due to the CPT funding reimbursements. Chief Denton asked if the SF400 reflects any changes in status due to a criminal case. Ms. Jill Cury stated that it is already on the SF401.

- Ms. Davis asked Deputy Director John Green to give an update on our mobile academy simulators. Mr. Green advised in January of 2013 we started with three simulators and in the spring due to demand we added four more simulators. We have deployed 100's of agencies to train over 1000 officers. There is a waiting list that is being worked through.

In January 2014 we will start training with the Portable Training Facilities. These facilities are interchangeable and creates a different setting in each scenario. It is marketed to the patrol officers. Simunitions (f x Marking Cartridges) will be incorporated so the officer is receiving high-end training. Since announcement at the 2013 Law Enforcement Conference we already have 20 sessions scheduled. One unit will work out of the Richfield Campus and two will work out of the London Campus.

- Ms. Davis asked Deputy Director Lou Agosta to update the OPOTC on the development of the new Sub-Machine (SMG) and M16/M4 requalification courses of fire. Mr. Agosta reported we came up with a requalification course of fire, 25 rounds. We have field tested and it has been met with high reviews. Currently, Police Rifle Carbine doesn't address sub-fire weapons, so we created a requalification course that would cover the M16/M4. A lot of agencies are going to the M16/M4 weapon. This will combine requalification courses for any select fire weapons.

Mr. Clark asked if a person could qualify with a M16/M4 and then carry a submachine. Mr. Agosta stated they have to requalify with every weapon they will carry so that scenario is not possible.

- Ms. Davis stated that the final item was the Continuing Professional Training hours. By code, every hour that is required for CPT. We must provide the same amount of hours in eOPOTA courses and the same amount of hours in lesson plans that are available on the Attorney General's web site which agencies will be able to download and, if their instructors meet the requirements in code, they can print and teach the lesson plan at their agencies.

There is one hour of critical subject training on crimes against families; we are in the process of developing a one hour Crimes against Children course which is targeted to be on eOPOTA in January 2014. In addition, we have contracted to get a three course series on officer survival; they will be three hours each and will incorporate the remaining three hours of CPT that will be available.

That concluded the staff report.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

Chairperson Stanforth asked for any old business. With none forth coming, that concluded the old business.

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With none forth coming, that concluded the new business.

X. GUEST FORUM

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

Chairperson Stanforth asked if any guest had anything they would like to bring before the OPOTC.

Ms. Kathleen Barch thanked the OPOTC and OPOTA for their understanding and support in the death of their facility member. Chairperson Stanforth expressed condolences for their loss.

Lt. Ellis L. R. Willis asked to discuss the Physical Fitness assessment. He represents Sinclair Community College which is an open enrollment academy. In 2004 they instituted a physical fitness entry placement. They did that in correspondence to the OPOTA Training Requirements Chart, what they call the graduation standard, and after looking at the Cooper Standard, they indication a 15% standard for someone to enter their program as a prerequisite.

This has worked very well for them and they have 10 years of data to back that up. In the last four years of their academy 2010 – 2013, they have ran 16 basic academy programs. Ten of

those programs had 100% passing of physical fitness final assessment. Of the 313 cadets who tested 302 passed. That is a 97% passing rate for their program.

The college wants to know student success; they want to know if you are bringing people in, are they graduating (97%), are they passing the state exam (98%) and finally are they getting jobs (80%).

Initially, there were some concerns about bringing in an entry standard. The commanders were very concerned if there would be anyone eligible, but it hasn't worked out that way. We had a 40% attrition rate of people applying to the academy which is now down to under 20%. Now that the standard is known, they are held at a higher standard, most applicants can meet the 15% prerequisite standard. Only 18 of those who applied either didn't show or didn't pass the assessment.

If the OPOTC adopts the pre-entrance standard, we would like to make sure it was concluded in advance of the course drop dates to assure refunds to the student.

Ms. Barch agreed with the course drop dates to assure refunds and commended them on their accomplishments. Mr. Willis stated that 95% will pass the physical fitness testing and examination.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if Cleveland Heights had any updates. Captain Geoffrey Barnard stated they do this for officers and open enrollments at their academy. Their entry standard for their academy is the exit standard. You have to pass the OPOTA test at the beginning.

They have an academy starting in January 2014; they sent out 260 applications for this academy and have already received over half of them back. The physical assessment is setup for the weekend after Thanksgiving.

Captain Barnard does have a concern, all the applications, all the medical and health assessments have been completed and signed by doctors, will they be required to use the revised form effective 01/01/2014. Ms. Robinson-Bond stated that they can use the medical forms that are on file currently.

Chairperson Stanforth added one other agenda item. Chairperson Stanforth asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to consider the appointment and employment of a new Executive Director of the Commission.

MOTION

Sheriff Heldman made the motion to go into Executive Session to consider the appointment and employment of a new Executive Director of the Commission. Mr. Schumaker seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken with the following OPOTC members present:

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Chief Paul Denton, Sheriff Michael Heldman, Sgt. Troy Mineard, SAC, Stephen Anthony, Mr. Stephen Schumaker, Chief David Wiseman and Colonel Paul Pride.

The meeting went into Executive Session at 10:42 a.m.

At 11:26 a.m. the Chair entertained the motion to come out of the Executive Session.

MOTION

Sheriff Heldman made the motion to come out of the Executive Session. Mr. Schumaker seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken with the following OPOTC members present:

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Chief Paul Denton, Sheriff Michael Heldman, Sgt. Troy Mineard, SAC, Stephen Anthony, Mr. Stephen Schumaker, Chief David Wiseman and Colonel Paul Pride.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if there were any of topics or concerns to be discussed. Done were brought forth. Ms. Davis invited the OPOTC members to stay for lunch.

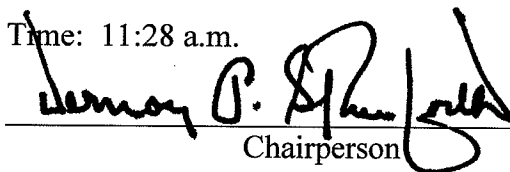
That concluded the guest forum.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Chairperson Stanforth asked if there was anything further to address. With none forthcoming asked for a motion to adjourn.

Chief Paul Denton motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sgt. Troy Mineard seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Time: 11:28 a.m.



Chairperson

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