



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★



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**OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, July 17, 2014
OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING ACADEMY
1650 STATE ROUTE 56 S.W.
LONDON, OHIO 43140**

MINUTES

I. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Stanforth called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
Chairperson Stanforth led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Ms. Donna Long called the Roll Call.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Chairperson
Mr. Stephen Schumaker
Sgt. Troy Mineard
Sheriff Michael Heldman
Chief Paul Denton

B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STAFF

Captain Shawn Lee	OSHP
L/LT Ron Raines	OSHP
Captain Geoffrey Barnard	CHPD
Inv. Timothy O'Haire	CHPD
Sgt. Chris Malson	Dayton P.D.
Lt. Gregg Gaby	Dayton P.D.
Commander, Jacqueline Bowman	Cuyahoga Community College
Chief Tim Sabransky	Loveland Police Division
Commander Stan Henry	Ashland Co. Career Center
Ms. Mary Davis	OPOTC Executive Director
Ms. Donna Long	OPOTC Secretary
Mr. Justin Hykes	OPOTC Assistant Attorney General
Mr. Lou Agosta	OPOTA Deputy Director
Ms. Jessica Didion	OPOTA Deputy Director

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

Mr. James Burke
Ms. Alice Robinson-Bond
Mr. John Green
Mr. Scott Weimer
Ms. Anne Laux
Ms. Arienne Fauber
Mr. Eric Schaefer
Ms. Sarah Thomas
Ms. Brittany Thompson
Ms. Jill Cury
Mr. James Bennett

OPOTC Deputy Director
OPOTC Deputy Director
OPOTA Deputy Director
OPOTC Business Manager
OPOTC Staff
OPOTC Staff
OPOTC Staff
OPOTC Staff
OPOTC Staff
OPOTC Staff
OPOTA Staff

II. CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Chairperson Stanforth stated he had nothing to report and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from May 15, 2014.

MOTION

Sgt. Troy Mineard motioned that the minutes of the May 15, 2014, meeting be approved, Chief Paul Denton seconded the motion. No discussion was forthcoming; a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

That concluded the Chairperson's Report.

III. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Chief Paul Denton
Committee Chairperson

Chief Denton stated the curriculum committee met this morning prior to this meeting and had two items on the agenda. The first was the proposed changes to **OAC 109:2-1-12 Certification before service and re-entry requirements, [Addendum 1]** which he asked Mr. Justin Hykes to discuss.

Mr. Hykes summarized the draft language to revise the break in service for prior equivalency, Administrative Code Section 109:2-1-12 Certification before service and re-entry requirements, as requested at the May 2014 commission meeting.

Applicants that have five or more years of full-time experience in a position in another state that is substantially similar to that of an Ohio peace officer, within the previous four years, shall only be required to complete all statutorily mandated peace officer basic training topics and all topics that contain material specific to Ohio.

Mr. Hykes stated additional changes highlight **all applicants**, regardless of the amount of credit received, **shall be required to sit for and successfully complete the State Certification Exam** set forth in rule 109:2-1-11 of the Administrative Code. Additionally, prior to carrying a firearm during the course of their official duties, shall successfully complete a firearms requalification course pursuant to section 109.801 of the Revised Code.

The final revision clarified that evidence of successful completion of an approved Ohio peace officer basic training course shall not be accepted for prior equivalent credit.

Chief Denton asked if there were any questions or discussions for the items above, hearing none, made a motion.

MOTION

Chief Denton with the support and approval of the OPOTC curriculum committee made a motion recommending approval by the OPOTC. Mr. Schumaker seconded the motion. No discussion was forthcoming. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Chief Denton stated the second item on the agenda this morning was the private security academic program proposal of 100% mandatory attendance. After a productive and lengthy discussion the issue was tabled to allow staff to work with constituents on finding a solution for all parties involved. Chief Denton asked Mr. Hykes to explain what the proposals were at the time and how we may move forward in the future.

Mr. Hykes stated at the March 27th OPOTC meeting the Commission approved changing all basic training programs to 100% attendance. When the rule changes were submitted to JCARR, there were some complaints brought forth in regards to the private security academic academies conducted by high school joint vocational schools. To address the concerns, the rule change was withdrawn to allow the commission and interested parties time to discuss it further.

After a discussion during the curriculum committee meeting, it was decided that the committee would discuss some of the concerns internally to and work with the commanders on solutions to ease their concerns of the mandatory hours. If all hours are mandatory there are ways we can make it easier for those commanders to meet the make-up requirements of the mandatory hours.

Chief Denton invited Commander Bowman and Commander Henry to explain their reasons for not wanting to go to 100% mandatory training to the full OPOTC.

Commander Bowman stated they discussed the mandatory hours for all the topics and agree they are all important. However, because of financial and time restraints, the instructors are not full time and must be paid to return to cover makeup hours. There are room assignment issues and rather or not the student can pay; these are all hardships to the student. Commander Bowman questions why another instructor can't conduct the makeup hours or if the commander could do some of the makeups one-on-one with the students if the commander holds an instructors certification in that topic. She would appreciate that being taken into consideration. She would also like for the makeup policy to reflect if less than 1/2 hour it can be done in the same day verses mandating it be completed on different day.

Commander Henry stated they are made up of several local high schools and have no control over school district delays or cancellations. If the hours missed are all mandatory, a student on their own must pay for makeup time as well as the school accommodating them. It is not feasible to bring the instructors back for 1-2 students. If it's one of the current mandated

topics they will make accommodations for it. His administrators can't promise that they can offer OPOTA as part of their curriculum if all hours were to become mandatory. Especially, if we are required have to the same instructor come back to teach the makeup sessions for those students The other thing is Corrections and Peace Officers Basic trainings have to be certified, private security does not require certification.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if the student absences were because of their own choices or where they because of closed or delayed schools? If schools are closed what are the Department of Education's policy for the mandatory curriculum to be made up? Both Commanders responded that students are required to call the school attendance office, but they are also required to call the commander prior to missing the class. Both Commanders stated if the missed hours are mandatory they usually schedule an extra day or two on the calendar to makeup the hours to still be able to meet the closing and be able to test. Non-mandatory hours can be covered in a one-on-one training with the student. Both commanders provide extra training time to students with special needs and those students score well above average on their tests.

Ms. Anne Laux, OPOTC Field Agent spoke on behalf of several commanders who couldn't attend. Not only do they have concerns regarding the snow days, but with the high school programs where seniors in career type programs. They are not all JVS type programs. They attend a regular track of high school courses along with a track of career focused courses. Some will take their Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) over their senior year, most take it their junior year, but any part that they failed most be retested their senior year. If these tests are scheduled during the same time as OPOTA time, it can become an issue for the student to do the makeups. There are issues with busing, and/or transportation, with extracurricular activities. There is very limited OPOTA time to makeup OPOTA hours. Ms. Laux concluded that the education and training is very valuable to the students because it is free; students leave high school with job opportunities. Many students will work for a year then move into additional career and educational training.

Chief Denton encouraged the commanders to attend the curriculum committee meeting to share their input with staff so we can work on a solution. Ms. Davis stated their plan was to work on a solution and bring that solution back to the OPOTC Curriculum committee in September then discuss with the full OPOTC.

One other item from the curriculum meeting was an update on the proposed new chief's training course. There will be meeting on July 31, 2014 with subject matter experts which have been assembled from the Ohio Association Chief of Police. Deputy Director James Burke is facilitating the discussions on training content.

That concluded the curriculum committee report.

IV. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chief David Wiseman
Committee Chairperson

Committee Chair, Chief David Wiseman was absent from the meeting and the OPOTC members in attendance had nothing to report. That concluded the Legislative Committee.

V. **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Colonel Paul Pride
Committee Chairperson

Committee Chair, Colonel Pride was absent from the meeting and the OPOTC members in attendance had nothing to report. That concluded the House Committee report.

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

Committee Chair, Sheriff Heldman stated there was nothing new to report at this time. That concluded the Continuing Professional Training Committee report.

STAFF REPORTS

VII. **COMMISSION AND ACADEMY UPDATES** Executive Director Mary Davis

Ms. Davis gave an update for mandatory attendance of basic programs. With the exception of the private security academic which is still being considered and peace officer basic which is already 100% mandatory, the remaining programs should have all mandatory hours, effective July 1, 2014. Due to the timing and finalizing of JCARR and the Corrections curriculum being released prior to July 1, 2014; the effective was moved back until the next curriculum release date of January 1, 2015.

Ms. Davis also advised that she has been invite by the CALEA National Accreditation Agency, to participate in the CALEA Executive Director's Advisory Group. Ms. Davis accepted the invitation and encouraged the OPOTC members or their constituents to share any suggestions or concerns and she would take those to the CALEA Advisory Board.

Ms. Davis stated House Bill 170 passed in March allowing agencies to administrator the drug Naloxone which can reverse the effects of opiate related overdoses. OPOTA created an eOPOTA course and a similar version for the public website. Officers and family members or friends of individuals at risks of opiate related overdoses can take the on-line courses.

Ms. Davis asked the OPOTC members if the current interactions between her, the staff, and the commission members were meeting with everyone's expectations. If not, was there anything she could do to improve the working communications between them. All the commission members were pleased with the open line of communication.

That concluded the executive director's report.

VIII. **OLD BUSINESS** Chairperson Vernon Stanforth

Chairperson Stanforth asked for any old business. With none forthcoming that concluded the old business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon Stanforth

Ms. Davis stated Continuing Professional Training (CPT) for 2015 needs to be announced by October 15th, which means the OPOTC has to vote on it at the September 2014 meeting. Attorney General DeWine is interested if the commission members or the public represented 1) have any suggestions or preferences for a critical subject topic being included with the requirements with 2015 and 2) have a preference of the number of hours assigned to general or critical subject topics.

Chief Denton made the suggestion at the national level of “sexual assault on campus” as a very hot topic and high crime area with domestic violence, stalking, rape, etc. Ms. Davis stated the topic could be broader than sexual assault on campus; we could even do a general critical topic such as Offenses of Violence, but develop some domestic violence, and sexual assault type training course. Chief Denton stated that another thought was drones, security, being proactive, large events, fairs, and minimum standards.

Chief Tim Sabransky, Loveland Police Division suggested something along the lines with social media especially with children and officer’s investigating using technology in the investigations. Commander Bowman would like to see more private security courses in advanced training. Sgt. Mineard recommended “Officer Collisions/Deaths due to speed and loss of control”. Ms. Davis spoke about the Below 100 initiative and the trainer-of-trainers course OPOTA held; OSP is hosting courses this fall about losing officers in accidents. Ms. Davis thanked everyone for their suggestions.

Ms. Davis asked the members how they felt in regards to assigning hours verses being able to choose the topics that officers are taking? After discussing the assigned hours, the consensus seemed to be with the one hour designated to a topic and three hours of any other training deemed by the agency. Chairperson Stanforth thanked everyone for the discussion.

That concluded the new business.

X. GUEST FORUM

Chairperson Vernon Stanforth

Chairperson Stanforth asked if any of the guests would like to speak or had any questions for the OPOTC. There was no response. The Chair stated he has been receiving a number of phone calls from people wanting to start corrections academies, asking him to host academies, to send people to an academy, and/or to provide instructors for an academy. He was wondering what would bring on these requests, feeling the requests are coming from non-law enforcement organizations that have never ran the training before. Ms. Cury stated corrections basic attendance has been on the rise but she has not received increased request for schools. Sheriff Heldman offered the increased interest could be due to the increased number of jail inspections and agencies needing to get their personnel trained.

With nothing else forthcoming that concluded the guest forum.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Chairperson Stanforth asked if there was anything further to address. With nothing forthcoming, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Sheriff Michael Heldman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sgt. Troy Mineard seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Time: 10:55 a.m.



Chairperson

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