



THE OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION- OPOTC Meeting

Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy  
1650 State Route 56 S.W., London, Ohio 43140

Minutes  
May 20th, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vernon Stanforth at 10:22 a.m. in the cafeteria of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, London, Ohio.

The following members attended the meeting:

**Voting Members**

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth  
Chief Robert Chabali  
Lieutenant James Fitsko  
Carol O'Brien  
Wynette Carter-Smith  
SAC Gregory Nelsen  
Leah Amstutz

**Non-voting Members**

Scott , Attorney General

**Absent**

Colonel Charles Jones

**Staff**

Erica Wilson  
Brittany Brashears  
Brian Malachowsky  
Thomas Quinlan  
Reverand Eddie Parker  
Robert Strausbaugh  
Melissa Day  
Anthony Traska  
Scott Spangler

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m.

**Chairman Vernon Stanforth moved to approve the February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, OPOTC minutes. Without objection, roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved with a vote of 7-0.**

Director Quinlan presented the proposed 2026 CPT recommendations that were presented to the CPT Committee which they adopted to move to the full commission. Mr. Quinlan stated that he has received feedback from the survey that was sent out to all officers as well as school commanders,

BSSA and OACP, regarding what the outstanding interest is in this topic. There are four paths that are offered to acquire the remaining 16 hours of training.

The recommendation for the mandatory 2026 CPT is:

*Legal Updates*- 3 hours,  
*Communications*- 2 hours,  
*Prisoner/Subject Control*- 2 hours,  
*Firearms*- 1 hour

Total Mandatory Hours: 8 hours

**Ms. Carol O'Brien moved to adopt the 2026 CPT recommendation. Ms. Wynette Carter- Smith second the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved with a vote of 7-0.**

Dr. Erica Wilson presented the July 2025 Curriculum Release with the changes to the SPOs. She also presented the January 2026 Release, including the release of ICAT. She emphasized that all academies would start the new curriculum in January of 2026.

Director Quinlan stated that due to the implementation delay in ICAT until January 2026, they are proposing to allow school commanders the discretion to advise OPOTA which curriculum they wish to follow during the cycle of the class. OPOTA does not want to delay the Blue-Ribbon Task Force Recommendations any longer. This will provide school commanders with control of the process and have the option to have discretionary or non-discretionary audit tracks. The request is to adopt the curriculum as proposed with the caveat that each school can decide which curriculum they will follow until January 2026.

**Ms. Wynette Carter- Smith moved to adopt the July 2026 Release and the Discretionary Audit Tracks. Chief Robert Chabali second the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved with a vote of 7-0.**

Director Quinlan stated that there is a need for instructor pools and currently the Ohio Administrative Code has very specific criteria for instructors. It has left no discretion for the commission or the executive director to make changes to the instructor's requirements as the field and profession evolves. He is proposing that the commission recommend language be drafted and added to the Ohio Administrative Code that will empower the executive director to recommend guidelines for approval of instructors that are supplemental to what is stated in the Ohio Administrative Code. He provided copies to all the commissioners and stated the guidelines show they are more inclusive versus less inclusive. This would be to vote for OAC Rule 109.2-06 to be updated to include language allowing the commission to implement guidelines for basic instructor certification.

**Ms. Leah Amstutz moved to accept the recommendation to adopt OAC Rule 109.2-06 to be updated to include language allowing the commission to implement guidelines for basic instructor certification. Chief Robert Chabali second the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved with a vote of 7-0.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:53 a.m.

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**Chair Vernon Stanforth**

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