



**MIKE DEWINE**

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★



Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission  
Office 800-346-7682  
Fax 740-845-2675

P.O. Box 309  
London, OH 43140  
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

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Final - 11:27 a.m.

**OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION MEETING**

**THURSDAY, MAY 19, 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 9:03 a.m.  
Colonel John Born led the pledge of allegiance.  
Ms. Donna Long called the Roll.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth  
Captain Doug Hunter in proxy for 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**

Chairperson Stanforth announced that Sheriff Thomas Maurer was in an automobile accident and that Captain Doug Hunter although he would not be able to vote would be setting in proxy for Sheriff Maurer.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

Mr. Jeffery Clark  
Jen Thrasher  
Matthew Kanai

Attorney General's Office  
Attorney General's Office  
Attorney General's Office

## **GUESTS AND STAFF**

Sheriff Al Solomon  
Sheriff Tim Bailey  
Sheriff Mike Sampson  
Sheriff Michael Heldman  
Bob Cornwell  
Chelley Seibert  
Mr. Eric Troy  
Tom Conlin  
Sgt. S.M. Mahl  
Mr. Robert Fiatal  
Ms. Donna Long  
Mr. Scott Weimer  
Mr. Bill Walker  
Ms. Amy O'Grady  
Ms. Sarah Thomas  
Ms. Mary Davis  
Ms. Erin Sainato  
Ms. Jill Gregory  
Mr. Jeff Eggleston  
Mr. Kerry Curtis  
Arienne Fauber  
Wayne Wiggins  
Kelly Shore  
Tiffany Cerana

Auglaize Co. S.O.  
Marion Co. S.O.  
Preble Co. S.O.  
Hancock Co. S.O.  
Buckeye State Sheriff's Association  
Dayton P.D.  
Ohio Department of Education  
Citizen  
Ohio State Highway Patrol  
OPOTC Executive Director  
OPOTC Secretary  
OPOTA Business Manager  
OPOTC Deputy Director  
OPOTC Deputy Director  
OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer  
OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer  
OPOTC Staff  
OPOTC Staff  
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OPOTC Staff

## **II. CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

Chairperson Stanforth did not give a specific Chairperson report because any pertinent issues would be discussed throughout the meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Sgt. Troy Mineard motioned the minutes of the March 17, 2011, meeting be approved. Mr. Stephen Schumaker seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed favorably.

### **III. Ohio State Highway Patrol Regional Training**

Colonel John Born introduced Sergeant Steve Mahl, Ohio State Highway Patrol, who gave a presentation on Regional Training. Colonel Born gave a brief introduction explaining that a regional program had been created for OSHP. It helped in the scheduling of in-service /overview training/operation/and financially.

The first training developed was Criminal Patrol Training. This program proved very successful in the recovering of drugs during routine traffic stops. This training is not OPOTC certified and is not meant to be, they are however offering the training to law enforcement agencies that have a need in this training area. This training has been successful within the OSHP. They are inviting everyone to use this training product; a more trained law enforcement community is a better law enforcement community.

Sgt. Mahl presented a packet for each commission member containing slides to be discussed.

- The concept was developed during multiple field visits to increase the availability to receive the training and share services in the current economic climate.
- The R.E.G.I.S. (Regional Education and General In-Service) was designed in January 2011.
- Team put in place to develop and implement

The goal "Take it to the customer" was RTU's central theme

- Logistics for family, patrol operations, and economically sound

#### **The Mission**

- RTU (Regional Training Unit) will promote excellence within the public safety arena through the delivery of high quality training.
- RTU will remain consistent with the Division's mission and core values, as well as its goals and objectives.
- Trooper Shield "Contributing to a Safer Ohio"

#### **Implementation**

- Development of computer software application that allowed self-service, registration, course monitoring, and deployment
- Allow internal customers access through the ODPS intra-net
  - R.E.G.I.S. – Regional Education and General In-Service
- Allow external customers access through the ODPS/OSHP internet
  - R.E.G.I.S. – Region Education and General In-Service
- Allow instructors access for all course materials through R.E.G.I.S. to include:
  - Critiques
  - Rosters
  - Completion of Certificates

## Current Use

- “Criminal Patrol Baseline Awareness” Training
  - To Date
    - Troopers trained: 445
    - Outside Agency Sworn Officers: 39
    - Outside Agencies involved: 10

## Future

- Expand the availability of courses for internal and external customers
- Develop interagency partnerships
- Awaiting for field survey input and focus on training needs

Sgt. Mahl ended the presentation allowing questions from the Commission, staff and guest.

Ms. O'Connor asked how many hours were in the Criminal Base line course and if there was any certification. Sgt. Mahl responded that the course is 8 hours long and that a certificate of completion is given.

Mr. Fiatal ask what is the curriculum like for that 8 hours course. Sgt. Mahl replied that there was a 2 hour legal block; 3 hour criminal patrol awareness block, which consist of going over the indicators, the phases of observation; the three stages of observations are: prior too, in front of and post; has a past criminal indicator they relate to the driving behavior itself, then to the actual traffic stop itself. They then watch a video of an actual traffic stop and then open for questions.

Colonel Born stated that just in the first four months of the training there was a 106% increase from drug traffic stops and fatalities were down. The training will be completed at the end of August and with every state trooper trained; they want to offer the training to other agencies to assist in their training.

Mr. Fiatal questioned who instructs the courses. Sgt. Mahl responded that for the most part they are troopers. There's a lieutenant that fills in, and a couple academy instructors who teach the legal blocks. They use their own patrol experts such as Shawn Smart, who is well known as one of the top 5 drug interaction officers in the county; he is called upon by D.E.A. to conduct outside of the county training.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if there were any other courses offered. Sgt. Mahl responded that at this time there were no other courses available. But, they are looking upon need and analyzing those needs based on evaluations and surveys. There seems to be a need for more cargo theft, more of the criminal elements. There are also request for some traffic crash investigation courses. These are areas that they are working on at this time.

Colonel Born stressed that the purpose of this presentation was to make agencies aware of what they are and are not doing. They wanted to open up the programs to other agencies, there is no cost, they host for free, and all they need is a location. Colonel Born asked that the Commission help get the word out regarding these free trainings and the opportunities they provide.

Chief Denton asked if the OSHP and OPOTC would they consider working together on these programs. Is it overlapping and are we losing people because of that. Colonel Born responded that they would work on the case by case bases, anything in conjunction with OPOTA to calibrate with OPOTA and work with them. Chief Denton stated that we don't want to duplicate topics, is this something we can do together or separately for each agency? Colonel Born requested more time to look into this area due to the current training ending in August.

Sgt. Mahl responded that he would absolutely invite the opportunity to work together on this. We don't want to duplicate, but we could put training out there in a broader spectrum as a partnership, that's a win-win for law enforcement. Chief Denton stated that this is not directed at either program, but we can more strategically often times compete in terms of our topics and presentations as a profession and need to get away from that.

That concluded the presentation from Sgt. Mahl.

#### IV. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Chief Paul Denton  
Committee Chairperson

Chief Denton stated that he would turn the update over to Mr. William Walker to cover the basic peace officer lesson plan updates, job task analysis, other training course curriculum updates and the firearm sub-committee report.

#### CURRICULUM REVIEW UPDATE

Mr. Walker stated that they overtook an enormous project in the last six months. They started off with the largest academic overhaul in history, creating a baseline policy. All 113 topics of the basic curriculum were reviewed and set into priority for updating. On May 13, 2011 they released 32 new formatted lesson plans. Those went out and were handed out at the Commander's Conferences held at London on May 10<sup>th</sup> and at the Richfield campus on May 13<sup>th</sup>. It is estimated that close to 300 commanders received the updates at that time. These will be followed up with emails and letters to get the information out to all commanders and instructors in the field.

Mr. Walker stated that the staff is currently working on the back end items at this time. We will be live on July 1, 2011. Any academy that begins on or after July 1 will be using the new curriculum.

Mr. Walker explained the handouts showing the steps to obtaining the lesson plans through the OHLEG program. The curriculum code will change with each curriculum change; this

allows the users to verify that they are using the most current lesson plan. The updates are available by CD, email blast, letters, and by using OHLEG. The final eight hour review went live on the Attorney General's website with a link to the survey. The testing materials will be updated and will be in need of changes for the July 1, 2011 update run.

The LEAP (Law Enforcement Advisory Panel) met on March 31, 2011 for an eight hour session that covered the 2011 JTA Raw Task List. We have received an overwhelming response to the survey. This will stay live until June 10, 2011. The LEAP panel will meet then to discuss the input from patrol officers, supervisors, specialties, especially for Sheriff Officers. These results will be compared and discussed at the curriculum meeting on July 12, 2011 with open discussion for agencies. It will then be presented to the OPOTC Commission on July 21, 2011. Once will have our road map in place it will be forward from here for continuous updates.

Mr. Walker thanked the OPOTC and OPOTA staff for their assistance during this major project.

Mr. Walker moved onto the private security curriculum, which is 132 hours. The Humane Agents, K-9 are also curriculums that are in the process of being overhauled. Chief Denton gave a sample of the JTA there were 4000 officers or more on the patrol side, six years on the road of less patrol and supervisors over patrol was 3000. The first status report will be on Sunday evening, May 20th and calls will begin to agency on the morning of Monday, May 23rd.

Chief Denton stated that the firearms subcommittee is still out. Agencies are just now starting the requalification's process. Once data has been received, the lesson plans will be rewritten.

Mr. Denton concluded the OPOTC Curriculum report.

#### **IV. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Chief Robert Williams  
Committee Chairperson

In the absence of Chief Williams, Executive Director Fiatal gave the Legislative Committee report.

Mr. Fiatal reported that a house and senate bill version regarding that licensed concealed carry individuals are allowed to carry their weapons into taverns as long as they don't drink. We are responsible for containing the Attorney General's pamphlet that we distribute to those who seek those licenses and those are signed off on by the Governor.

That concluded the Legislative Committee report.

#### **V. HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Committee Chairperson

There was no report for the House Committee.

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

In the absence of Sheriff Maurer, Robert Fiatal reconfirmed that there will be no funding to pursue the mandatory CPT training. The staff has increased its effort to increase regional training as well as direct more courses to e-OPOTA training as well.

Mr. Fiatal confirmed that the Prescription Drugs is the focus of the Attorney General's office. Therefore, OPOTA will offer 11 regional trainings, all free. John Burke, formerly with Cincinnati Police Department and currently with the Warren Co. Drug Task Force, is doing most of that training along with OPOTA Legal LETO's.

First Responder Sexual Assault, is going regional to five sites. It covers from the first report to the interaction of the victim, victim advocates, processing the crime scene and taking some crime scene kits for DNA comparison. This course is also free.

Mr. Fiatal concluded the CPT Committee.

**STAFF REPORT**

**VII. COMMISSION AND ACADEMY UPDATES** Executive Director Robert Fiatal

Mr. Fiatal gave updates on eOPOTA course on Felony Arrest DNA Collections Procedure. Also, this will be our first Webinar training is scheduled for June 24, 2011. It's a nice topic to address; we have experts from B.C.I. & I. laboratory's, and measuring the response of law enforcement in accordance with the eOPOTA training and the Webinar training.

Mr. Fiatal spoke about the Commander's Conference last week, which is now held annually. Also, the announcement that all the annual reporting data on the effectiveness of their academies will be posted on the Attorney General's website.

Mr. Fiatal spoke of the changes in basic, legal and the importance of those changes based on need, arrest powers, communication's section and homeland security. Also, the K-9 handlers; Corrections and Jailer curriculum will be reviewed.

Mr. Fiatal introduced new staff members Arienne Fauber, Certification Officer and Tiffany Cerana, Word Processor.

Mr. Fiatal also mentioned that although this isn't Commission business the Attorney General, Mike DeWine has requested that the Attorney General's Office maintain a record of the current members of the Continuing Education Committee, and minutes of any meetings. The following are the names of the members of the Sheriff's Continuing Education Commission: Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Fayette Co.; Sheriff Thomas Maurer, Wayne Co.; Sheriff Tim

Bailey, Marion Co.; Chairman Sheriff Michael Heldman, Hancock Co.; Sheriff Brent Emmons, Champaign Co.

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 introduced Mr. Eric Troy, Assistant Director with Ohio Department of Education. Mr. Troy and Ms. O'Connor will be double teaming to reinforce their commitment for OPOTA and the law and public safety.

Ms. O'Connor thanked OPOTA for their participation in the Skills USA. Another thing that they will be forming at the state level is an advisory board for law and public safety; and would like for OPOTA to play a major role in that. This would pertain to going to career schools, to reassure quality performance in those schools and to help to market that career to the students in high school and post-secondary education.

Chief Denton took a moment to recognize SAC Keith Bennett and his service to the Commission staff as he moves on to bigger and better things. Mr. Fiala also mentioned that the Attorney General has forwarded paperwork to the Governor, naming SAC Stephen Anthony as Mr. Bennett's replacement on the Commission.

Chairperson Stanforth asked for any other new business and with no further new business that concludes the report for New Business.

**X. GUEST FORUM**

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

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

Mr. Walker introduced Jen Thrasher, Field Staff member who was beneficial to getting information out to law enforcement and public.

Mr. Tom Conlin, a retired law enforcement officer from Las Vegas has recently relocated to Ohio. Mr. Conlin wanted to discuss the policy for prior equivalency training. He is seeking a peace officer certification prior to being hired by an agency. Mr. Conlin felt that the Ohio Administrative Code and OPOTC Policy should allow for him to obtain a prior equivalency determination prior to an appointment with an agency, especially since he is now an Ohio resident.

The Commission explained that the law required Mr. Conlin to obtain an appointment with an agency prior to receiving a prior equivalency determination. Additionally, the Commission



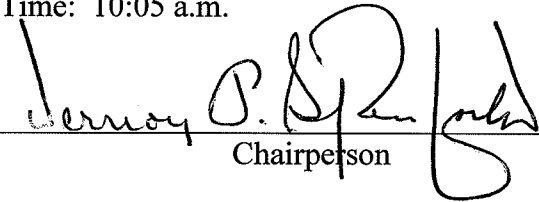
referenced the informal hour-by-hour determination that had already been processed for Mr. Conlin.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if there were any other issues. He gave appreciation for the Sheriffs who were in attendance.

**XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mr. Stephen Schumaker motioned to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Time: 10:05 a.m.

  
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Chairperson

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