



RICHARD CORDRAY
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010

HELD AT THE

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING ACADEMY

IN

LONDON, OHIO

MINUTES



I. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
Mr. Keith Bennett led the pledge of allegiance.
Ms. Gaye Gossard called the Roll.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Mr. Jeffrey Patzer
Chief Paul Denton
Chief Robert Williams
SAC Keith Bennett

Mr. Kurt Shearer represented Mr. John Lenhart and BCI.
Major Dan Kolcum represented the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STAFF

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Mr. Jeffery W. Clark

Attorney General's Office

GUESTS AND STAFF

Mr. Ron Ferrell	Executive Director
Mr. Lou Agosta	Assistant Executive Director
Mr. Scott Weimer	OPOTC Business Manager
Mr. Bill Walker	Deputy Director
Mr. Fred Wolk	Assistant Executive Director
Ms. Gaye Gossard	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Mary Broyles	OPOTC Certification Officer
Ms. Sarah Thomas	OPOTC Certification Officer
Mr. Mike McGreevy	OPOTC Compliance Officer
Captain Bob Markowski	OSP
Lt. Jerry Hughes	Akron P.D.
Sgt. Robert L. Stewart	Columbus Police Academy
Ms. Tina Hundley	Columbus Police Academy
Officer David Jenkins	Columbus P.D.
Commander Ellis L. R. Willis	Sinclair College
Ms. Lori Wachtel	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Joyce Boudreau	Ohio Department of Education
Ms. Suzanne Tobin	OPOTC Certification Officer
Ms. Lynn Henry	OPOTC Staff
Mr. John Milliman	OPOTC Intern
Mr. James D. Daniels	OPOTA LETO
Officer Chelley Seibert	Dayton P.D.
Chief David Wisemen	London P.D.
Mr. Doug Johnson	ODNR
Mr. Mike Taylor	ODNR
Commander Kip Wright	Wright State University

II. CHAIRPERSON REPORT

IN MEMORY OF MARK LOSEY

Mr. Jeff Patzer asked the Commission, staff, and guests to pause for a moment of silence to remember and honor their colleague, Mark Losey. The loss to the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) is great. The loss to his family and many friends is beyond measure. Mark Losey was among the rarest of God's creatures, a good man and a good lawyer. He will be missed. May he rest in peace.

III. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Vacant
Committee Chairperson

Executive Director Ferrell reported the Chairperson position for the Curriculum Committee was currently vacant due to the recent resignation of Dr. Kathy Sommers. Chairperson Stanforth was in the process of selecting a Commissioner to fill the seat.

IV. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Committee Chairperson

Sheriff Maurer reported the Legislative Committee was waiting for a status report from the Attorney General and direction concerning where he wanted to take the work done in

Kentucky and apply it to Ohio. Last the Committee knew was it was waiting the resolve of the casino bill which had passed. The Committee is trying to secure funds for future training in Ohio. A portion of the casino bill was slated for training for Ohio law enforcement, which Sheriff Maurer foreseen to take place 3-4 years down the road. He also felt any thought of a Kentucky program, which is a stipend off of a policy holder in Ohio, would also be at least 2 years in the future.

V. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. John Lenhart
Committee Chairperson

No report given.

VI. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COMMITTEE

Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Committee Chairperson

Executive Director Ferrell reminded there was 1 hour required continuing professional training (CPT) for 2010 and to be reimbursed it must be in approved crime victim related training.

STAFF REPORT

VII. COMMISSION AND ACADEMY UPDATES

Executive Director Ron Ferrell

PEACE OFFICER TRAINING INFORMATION SYSTEM (POTIS)

Executive Director Ferrell reported a Request for Proposal (RFP) was ready to go out for the proposed Peace Officer Training Information System (POTIS) and the responses were expected back within 30 days. POTIS is an internet-based software system that would permit more effective communication between OPOTC staff and commanders as well as tracking police training in Ohio, and other features as well. The estimated cost is unknown at this time.

Staff met with the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) to discuss the software and the impact and advantages it may have for Homeland Security.

PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING TRAINING (PBL)

Executive Director Ferrell reported work continued to progress with the problem-based learning (PBL) training initiative. The OPOTC had previously put a moratorium on any curriculum changes to allow time for the task analysis to be completed and its results obtained, unless it was a safety issue for the officer or a legally mandated change. Executive Director Ferrell requested Mr. Bill Walker to research what needed changed in the current peace officer basic training (POBT) curriculum. Executive Director Ferrell stated it was anticipated to request the moratorium be reconsidered to allow the staff, with the Curriculum Committee, to start looking at some changes as a segue into PBL. Mr. Walker distributed to the Commissioners a document containing POBT audit sheet curriculum status information that depicted the date the topic was last updated, topics that were added, and topics reviewed by law enforcement training officers (LETOS) and pending. Because it is currently being looked at to change to a more problem-based learning format, a small group has been assembled internally, to include the overwhelming participation of LETOs. Mr. Walker and staff have completed an exhaustive audit of the current curriculum which resulted in only five lesson plans were in the newer format that would be able to switch to PBL. Since 2006, approximately 20 topics had been reviewed by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) or committees that

were sitting in files awaiting the lift of the moratorium. Since 2008, only domestic violence and subject control techniques had been reviewed.

Mr. Walker stated he would like to take the PBL and curriculum update projects forward together. Regardless of what was being done with PBL, which was more focused on instructional technique, there must be a solid foundation of curriculum for the instructors to work from. He suggested if the moratorium was lifted to go ahead and implement the numerous subjects that had already been updated. Upon the consent of the OPOTC, the intent of the Education and Policy Development Division is to implement a 2-year review schedule of every topic in the curriculum. Perishable topics such as the legal unit would have a 6 month review process. This would insure an on-going fresh curriculum.

MOTION

Mr. Jeffery Patzer motioned the moratorium previously enacted on curriculum revision be lifted. Chief Robert Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed favorably.

MOTION

Mr. Jeffery Patzer motioned, at a minimum, a 2-year rotary schedule be implemented to review each curriculum topic as determined by the staff. Chief Robert Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed favorably.

Executive Director Ferrell advised the staff would work closely with the Curriculum Committee when reviewing the curriculum.

OPOTA COURSE OFFERING

OPOTA is offering free Criminal Procedure Update courses at regional sites throughout the state.

Executive Director Ferrell reported the enrollment at OPOTA was down and he felt it was directly reflective of the economy. The staff was taking this down time to prepare for the future impact of the passing of Issue 3 and the DROP program.

ACADEMY ANNUAL REPORT

The Academy Annual Report that records the demographics of each school has been issued to all commanders. The report is due at the beginning of 2011 because it includes all of the activity from 2009. The OPOTC will receive reports detailing the success of each school conducted.

ISSUE 3

There has been discussion with the major stakeholders in law enforcement concerning Issue 3 concepts and how the money will be used in the future. No final decisions have been made as to how the training will be delivered to the law enforcement community, but discussions continue with the OACP, BSSA, and the FOP.

COMPLETED OBJECTIVES

As a result of the January 14, 2009, OPOTC strategic planning meeting with commanders, approximately 6 tangible objectives were determined. Executive Director Ferrell reported the staff

through a lot of hard work had met nearly all of the objectives set that day. Some of the objectives met included the scheduling of a Commanders' Conference and addressing medical extensions.

All medical extensions are now granted for one year. When the student who is on medical extension is ready to finish, all physical fitness tests are conducted in London. Statistics have revealed the number of students who have passed the physical fitness tests in London are in the single digits. Executive Director Ferrell stated a number of schools currently require entrance examinations for physical fitness and that model will more than likely be in place when the Physical Fitness Committee has completed their work.

A Commanders' Conference is scheduled in March, with the date to be announced. It is intended to require commanders to attend one conference every two years. The first conference in March is considered most important because of the proposed changes which include the update on the Commander's Manual. Ms. Lori Wachtel reported the update process of the Commander's Manual started with regional meetings with commanders. The rough draft of the manual has been completed and the forms are half completed. The process was on track to allow the manual to be complete and ready for the Commanders' Conference. Executive Director Ferrell recognized the lengthy work of the Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

- The Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference is scheduled for September 14-15, 2010, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. The Attorney General's Office is co-locating with the Law Enforcement Expo. All workshop ideas should be forwarded to Mr. Bob Fiatal.
- Mr. Dave Peters, OPOTA LETO, was recently acknowledged the Award of Excellence from the state M.A.D.D. organization for his work with the ADAP program. Mr. Peters will be recognized with an award on February 9, 2010, at a special luncheon in Columbus, Ohio.
- Staff is working with the Attorney General's Office to expedite the OPOTC appointments vacated by Colonel Richard Collins, Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP), and Dr. Kathy Sommers, Ohio Department of Education (ODE). Major Dan Kolum, OSP, reported the new Superintendent was Colonel David W. Dicken. Colonel Dicken has approximately 20 years of service with the OSP, most recently Commander in the Finance section. He is a native of Cincinnati. Ms. Joyce Boudreau, ODE, reported a replacement for Dr. Kathy Sommers had not yet been selected.
- CPT/Agency rosters are due by January 31, 2010. The two rosters have been combined to streamline the process and to allow easier compliance for the agencies. Ms. Sarah Thomas reminded for those present to urge their constituents to submit their rosters.
- Financial Disclosure forms will be mailed shortly to the Commissioners and they need to be filled out and submitted to the Ohio Ethics Commission before the April deadline.
- The DARE grant process has been moved to OPOTA. Staff is currently finishing last year's transition period. Approximately half of the checks has been distributed and it was expected the remainder would be mailed by the end of the week. Ms. Mary Broyles stated the process was being moved up to the spring rather than later in the fall to give officers enough

opportunity to let school administrations know for planning purposes they would be there the following fall. The application would be on-line in March.

- Ms. Sue Tobin, OPOTC Certification Officer, is scheduled to retire on March 31, 2010.
- Superintendent Pete Tobin, BCI, has returned to work after a non-work related accident.
- The Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony is scheduled for May 6, 2010.

Sheriff Maurer stated it was refreshing to see an Attorney General who wanted to align himself with the Academy because there had not been that type of reinforcement in the past. The support is recognized through the work product. Executive Director Ferrell gave the staff all credit for the completion of objectives and productivity.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

No report given.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Mr. Jeff Patzer stated he was compiling a future proposal for re-evaluating OPOTC academies, in particular the evaluation of individual instructors. Executive Director Ferrell advised the staff had already started this initiative of evaluating the entire instructor/instructor certification process. At the end of the evaluation process a model plan will be presented outlining what updates the instructors will be required to fulfill. Other states' models support the initiative that Ohio's process needs cleaned up. Mr. Patzer advised he would work with Executive Director Ferrell and staff on the issue.

COALITION AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE

Chief Paul Denton reported the Coalition Against Family Violence is a long-standing network of practitioners and professionals both in law enforcement and social agencies that advocate for family violence issues and contribute financial and physical resources to the community. They have created a state of the art web-based training resource that is available to law enforcement statewide. Chief Denton would like to refer an evaluation of the training to the Education and Policy Development Division for evaluation to see if the web-based training could conceivably be linked to eOPOTA. Executive Director Ferrell stated Mr. Fred Wolk headed eOPOTA and could look at the program because one of the priorities was to extend the inventory of courses on eOPOTA.

ORIENTATION OF NEW OPOTC MEMBERS

Sheriff Maurer suggested an orientation program be established for newly appointed Commissioners to educate them on the goals and mission of the OPOTC and define their expected responsibilities. Executive Director Ferrell requested Mr. Jeff Clark provide an update at the next OPOTC meeting on the responsibilities of the OPOTC. Mr. Clark stated a memo had been previously created delineating the powers of the OPOTC and he suggested it once again be circulated to the new and old Commissioners. Assistant Attorney General Matt Kanai will be assuming the responsibilities once fulfilled by Mr. Losey. Executive Director Ferrell will ask Mr. Kanai to attend the

next OPOTC meeting to provide a report on the responsibilities of the OPOTC. Mr. Patzer suggested a time be scheduled for new Commissioners to tour the Academy and then be provided an orientation of their responsibilities. Sheriff Maurer also suggested an OPOTC compliance officer invite new Commissioners to sit in a school currently being conducted to observe first hand the operation of the OPOTC.

OPOTC MEETING LOCATION

Sheriff Maurer encouraged OPOTC meetings be held at different locations throughout the state. Previously, meetings had been held at the OPOTA Richfield campus with a moderate turn out. The meeting let the people in that area know the presence of the OPOTC. Sheriff Maurer encouraged guests to inform a Commissioner if they would like to see the OPOTC meet in their area.

X. GUEST FORUM

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

POSTING OF OPOTC MINUTES

Commander Kip Wright inquired if the OPOTC meeting minutes could be posted on the Attorney General's web site in a more timely fashion. Ms. Gaye Gossard stated traditionally the minutes were approved at the following OPOTC meeting then forwarded the following day or no later than the following week to the Attorney General's Media Section for posting to the web site. Mr. Patzer inquired if there was a law, regulation or policy that determined the meeting minutes must be approved for posting. Mr. Jeff Clark advised once a draft of the minutes were circulated they were public record whether or not they have final approval. Mr. Clark recommended posting the circulated minutes because it would be a good way to cut out individual requests for the minutes. To clarify, Mr. Clark stated the Supreme Court had identified two kinds of drafts. One is a created draft one person is preparing from original notes or source material; that is not considered a record of the office yet. But, once a draft has been circulated, whether to a supervisor for approval or to a board for consideration, correction, additions or deletions, it is considered a public record as a draft. Mr. Patzer stated his concern was informing and serving constituents.

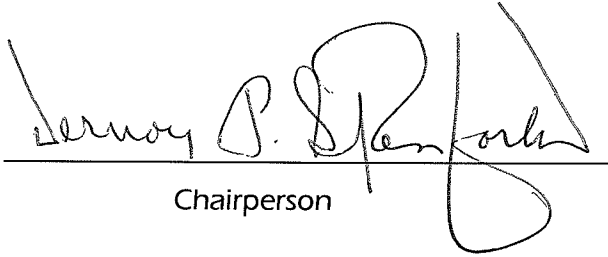
It was determined, after transcription, the OPOTC meeting minutes would be date stamped and distributed in draft form to the OPOTC members and posted on the Attorney General's web site for public viewing. Any revisions to the minutes from the OPOTC would be brought to the following OPOTC meeting for discussion. Changes would be made and the minutes would be taken out of draft form to be distributed and posted on the web site in final format.

TOPIC UPDATES

Another guest requested curriculum updates, to include effective dates, be placed on-line so changes could be found in a central location. Executive Director Ferrell assured it was the staff's desire to make sure everyone was on the same page at all times. Mr. Walker stated his intent was to release bundles of topic updates at one time as opposed to piece mailing the updates.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

SAC Keith Bennett motioned to adjourn the meeting.. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.
Time: 10:08 a.m.


Chairperson

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