



RICHARD CORDRAY
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION

MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010

HELD AT THE

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING ACADEMY

IN

LONDON, OHIO

MINUTES

I. OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Vernon Stanforth called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
Chief Robert Williams led the pledge of allegiance.
Ms. Gaye Gossard called the Roll.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth
Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Chief Robert Williams
Mr. Jeffrey Patzer
Chief Paul Denton
Mr. John Lenhart
Colonel David Dicken
Ms. Linda O'Connor
SAC Keith Bennett

B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STAFF

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Attorney General Richard Cordray
Mr. Jeffery Clark

Attorney General's Office

GUESTS AND STAFF

Mr. Robert Fiatal	OPOTC Executive Director
Ms. Gaye Gossard	OPOTC Secretary
Ms. Donna Long	OPOTA Staff
Mr. Fred Wolk	OPOTA Deputy Director
Ms. Amy O'Grady	Attorney General's Office
Mr. Bill Walker	OPOTC Deputy Director
Major Chris Minter	OSP Academy
Mr. Ty A. Brust	Columbus P.D.
Staff Officer Doug Johnson	ODNR
Chief Gary Obermiller	ODNR
Ms. Sarah Thomas	OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer
Ms. Mary Davis	OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer
Ms. Mary Broyles	OPOTC Certification Officer
Mr. Jerry Zacharias	OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer
Mr. John E. Foy	OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer
Mr. James D. Daniels	OPOTA Law Enforcement Training Officer
Ms. Lori Wachtel	OPOTC Staff
Mr. Claire Marvin	Private Security School Commander
Mr. Wesley Ward	Mid-West Technical Schools
Officer Chelley Seibert	Dayton P.D.
Ms. Eloiza Domingo-Snyder	Miami University
Mr. Louis Agosta	OPOTA Deputy Director
Commander Kip Wright	Wright State University/Lake Campus/L.E. Academy
Mr. Jon "Jay" Wohrkamp	Wright State University/Lake Campus/L.E. Academy
Mr. Mark Ernst	Wright State University/Lake Campus/L.E. Academy
Ms. Jill Gregory	OPOTC Certification Officer
Ms. Phillis Patridge	OPOTC Staff
Mr. Scott Weimer	OPOTA Business Manager
Ms. Erin Sainato	OPOTC Staff
Ms. Hope Stout	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

Sheriff Maurer motioned the minutes of the July 21, 2010, meeting be approved. SAC Keith Bennett seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed favorably.

III. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Chief Paul Denton
Committee Chairperson

Chief Paul Denton complimented the staff because there had been a lot of work done both on the curriculum and firearms training course evaluation. Concerning the firearms proposal, he reported there were misperceptions in the field that the reduction in the number of rounds proposed were based on several things such as budgetary cuts or less time at a range, but clarified this had nothing to do with the intent and design of the course for firearms. At that time, Chief Denton called upon Mr. Bill

Walker to summarize the outcome of the Curriculum Committee meeting held prior to the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) meeting.

CURRICULUM REVIEW UPDATE

Mr. Walker recognized Ms. Sarah Thomas and Ms. Mary Davis, who are the new law enforcement training officers assigned to the curriculum section. He also recognized Attorney General Cordray for his support of the academic and educational elements of the OPOTC office. Mr. Walker reported his staff had reviewed approximately 109 topics in the peace officer basic training curriculum resulting in nearly all needing minimal revision. The staff will go through the update process with the current content before moving on to the next step of exploring other techniques.

Mr. Walker reported 14 revised lesson plans were previously submitted to the Curriculum Committee for review. Out of the 14, 6 were discussed at the Curriculum Committee meeting and the remaining 8, along with approximately 23 additional ones, would carry over for review, striving for completion by the January 2011 publication target date. Mr. Walker reminded the intent was to uphold the previous decision of the OPOTC to 1) never let the curriculum get in the neglected state it currently was by insuring every single one was reviewed at least every 2 years, and 2) advise commanders of new curriculum updates through 2 releases each year, in January and July. Also to be included in the January update is potential instructor updates for the people teaching the changed curriculum and also clean up some testing issues.

MOTION

Chief Denton and the Curriculum Committee motioned for the OPOTC to approve the revised updated lesson plans for the following:

- 1.1 Introduction to Basic Training
- 1.5 Ethics and Professionalism
- 2.4 Search and Seizure
- 2.5 Legal Aspects of Interview and Interrogation
- 8.8b L.E.A.D.S. (in the Communications chapter)
- 10.7 Traffic Direction and Control

Mr. Jeff Patzer seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed favorably.

FIREARMS WORKING GROUP UPDATE

Executive Director Robert Fiatal had distributed to the OPOTC a supplement to earlier evaluations and comments concerning the proposed firearms qualification standards for both basic peace officers and recurring qualifications for on-board peace officers. He stated the group tried to make the process as transparent as possible by soliciting comments and constructive criticism to make it agreeable to all effected. Executive Director Fiatal summarized the proposed firearms qualification standards criticisms were as follows:

1. There were concerns the qualification course should remain in its current state as a training course as opposed to a qualification standard, and then use the balance of time to train in basic skills, tactical issues, combat issues, etc. The OPOTC needed to decide whether to maintain a qualification course which gave officers training once a year or a qualification course to give way to time, money and resources to improve law enforcement's firearms skills and operations. He felt the firearms working group provided the OPOTC their feelings on the proposal to

include the study of other states' systems which seemed to be a qualification standard, and supplementing that with comprehensive lesson plans on how to build up basic, combat and tactical skills. Executive Director Fiatal reported the group planned to, if the proposal went forward, supplement with new lesson plans.

2. The second criticism was, because many pilots of the firearms proposal had been conducted throughout the state, it was final and there would be no further discussion. Executive Director Fiatal advised that assumption was completely inaccurate. Many people stated it was too difficult of a standard. The working group discussed the criticism and Executive Director Fiatal and Chief Denton took executive discretion and made the following adjustments to the states of fire of proposed qualification standard:

- Stage 1 – changed time period to 5 seconds from 3 seconds
- Stage 2 – changed time period to 6 seconds from 4 seconds
- Stage 3 – changed time period to 4 rounds in 8 seconds from 12 feet on strong hand and 4 rounds in 7 seconds on weak hand
- Stage 4 – changed to 6 rounds in 12 seconds
- Stage 5 – changed to 3 rounds from the holster from 30 feet in 8 seconds
- Stage 6 – changed to 2 rounds from the holster from 50 feet in 8 seconds

Executive Director Fiatal stated all of the standards were attainable.

In addition, Executive Director Fiatal reported a new target had also been proposed to accommodate a more anatomically correct scoring area. The working group took in account the criticism that the scoring area was too restrictive and after review expanded the scoring area in several places. The proposed target was not much different from the current standard. The working group sought direction from the OPOTC whether to proceed with the proposal. Executive Director Fiatal proposed scheduling after the next OPOTC meeting a demonstration and provide an opportunity for those on the OPOTC to avail them of the new proposed firearms course. That way the OPOTC can personally assess the course.

Chief Denton commended the staff and firearms working group for their hard work. Mr. Patzer proposed the revisions maintain officer and community safety as the core principal in the endeavor of firearms training. Executive Director Fiatal stated the skills were some of the most important skills an officer should have. He added the working group agreed the qualification course supplemented by the lesson plans were the best ways to prepare officers for dangerous encounters in the field. Mark Leach from Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) had been very instrumental in adding his own antidotal experiences but also employing some of the changes at the OSP training academy. Executive Director Fiatal stated the revised proposal was the recommendation and product of the working group and he suggested continuing with the proposed firearms standard. After lengthy discussion, it was determined additional pilots would be conducted using the new targets and the results reported back to the OPOTC at the January meeting.

IV. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Committee Chairperson

Sheriff Maurer addressed the packets with the draft proposals for the definition changes in the bailiff rules and reviews. Due to the number of changes, Mr. Jeff Clark was asked if he seen any problems with the proposed changes. Mr. Clark replied that he had reviewed it and saw that condensation streamlining. He could not speak for the substantial points of view, but the deleting of the requirements for a gymnasium and so forth are in the mix with a lot of streamlining. Mr. Fiatal replied

that the changes were needed in response to the Supreme Court's request. Due to the varied responsibilities of bailiffs it is difficult to complete the required training. We tried to take the current roles which require a myriad of subjects which takes up to about four weeks in training, and essentially turn this into a forty-hour firearms course. Any other training duties that are needed in other subject areas will be presented in modules from either the Supreme Court or the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. These rules have been vetted not only with our own staff, but also with the Supreme Court Legal Counsel, as well as head of security William Holland and Jim Rhoades who worked closely with staff as well. These changes were supported by the Commission staff at OPOTA and the Supreme Court staff. Upon the Commission's approval a public hearing will be scheduled.

MOTION

Sheriff Maurer motioned the OPOTC accept the changes to OAC 109:2-5 be approved. Chief Denton seconded the motion. The motion was passed by vote.

V. HOUSE COMMITTEE

**Mr. John Lenhart
Committee Chairperson**

Mr. John Lenhart advised that the House Committee met prior to the meeting and polled the Commissioners soliciting their opinions as to the appointment of the Commission Chairperson for 2011. The consensus of the Commissioners was to maintain continuity and a stable environment within the Commission and the best way to accomplish this was to maintain Sheriff Vernon Stanforth as Chairperson.

MOTION

Sheriff Maurer motioned the OPOTC accept that Sheriff Stanforth be maintained as the Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Chief Robert Williams. Sheriff Stanforth abstained from the vote. The motion was passed by vote.

VI. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COMMITTEE

**Sheriff Thomas G. Maurer
Committee Chairperson**

Sheriff Maurer announced that four hours would be on the agenda for 2011 with no mandated topic. Attorney General Richard Cordray advised the office would be ramping up and doing training as the casinos come on line. Reports vary on when that would be, but there are indications that there would be some revenue flowing in late 2011 and becoming more significant in 2012. Prior to the election the Attorney General was willing to commit himself to making sure that there would be funding to cover the four hours. The funding is not coming from the crime victim's funds, therefore not limiting the training to the crime victim's area which has been a problem in the past. Casino revenue as it comes on line in 2011 will make up some or maybe all of that funding for the four hours. The Attorney General's office will be working with the new administration's transition team to discuss the commitments that have been made.

STAFF REPORT

VII. COMMISSION AND ACADEMY UPDATES

Executive Director Robert Fiatal

Mr. Fiatal gave updates to the committee. Private Security Academic School lesson plans are being updated by volunteers Jim Copeland, Rocky Hill and Eric Windbergler.

OPOTA staff members Gaye Gossard, Hope Stout and Phillis Patridge who will be retiring at the end of December were recognized for their many years of service to the OPOTA and OPOTC. Donna Long was introduced as the recommended replacement for the position of the Administrative Assistant / Secretary to the Commission. In November OPOTA received Flagship status with CALEA.

Accomplishments at OPOTA:

- The POBT Commanders Manual was revised using basic commanders, field agents, and staff input and knowledge. The new commander's manual will be reviewed yearly and incorporated with the commander's conference.
- Attorney General's Office web site has been updated. OPOTA's home page has been totally revamped and all the forms have been revised with fill-in capability. The OPOTA catalog was one of the most hit sites on the website. We now have a maintained interactive catalog on the web site which allows us to post newly developed courses and to post canceled courses on daily bases.
- The Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference was a success in 2010 and the dates and location are already scheduled for 2011.
- OPOTA is now responsible for all the DARE grants this year. Appropriated over \$4 million record disbursements.
- Statistics have not reduced in the economic times. A handout was distributed showing the number of certifications and schools that are regulate and audited by the OPOTC.
- eOPOTA had a banner year with 12,500 accesses to the free eOPOTA training courses. Including human trafficking awareness; human trafficking response; encountering dangerous animals; operation street smart; de-escalating special populations; motorcycle offensives; graduated driving license issues; updated legal courses; SB 77 and OVI update. New courses are being created for 2011 and the same response is expected in those 2011 eOPOTA courses; with courses like civil liability; testifying in court; sex assault; first responders and also already scheduled are two, three-day gang investigator training courses.
- SB 77 formation of the Biological Evidence Task Force (BERTF). The task force met every two weeks at OPOTA and was headed up by Steve Green from BCI&I. The task force has almost completed their assignment; in fact it is ready to employ it's results with other eOPOTA courses which will probably result in two one-hour courses.
- The number of students trained with free regional training (including the Richfield campus) in 2010 was a total of 6,000 officers, which is up by 3,000 officers from last year.

- The Supervision in a Nutshell training was conducted at several regional training sites with enrollments in the hundreds at all locations. Attorney General Cordray stated that the drop program created a need for supervision training, but also increased a pool to choose expert instructors from.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

There was no old business to discuss.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

MOTION

Jeffery Patzer asked for Executive Session for discussion of personnel.

X. GUEST FORUM

Chairperson Vernon P. Stanforth

Chairperson Stanforth opened the meeting to public comments and/or concerns. Attorney General Cordray commented that he didn't previously know much about OPOTC, but had become very impressed with everything that OPOTC had accomplished. The OPOTC had advanced the ball in training, and he would see that the transition team knew.

He also recognized the OPOTC for its CALEA flagship status, and he was proud of what he seen.

Chairperson Stanforth commended the work and the availability that Attorney General Cordray had done for law enforcement.

Ms. Linda O'Connor announced for the Department of Education that on February 3, 2011, the Criminal Justice students have a criminal scene committee for the Skills USA and last year OPOTA participated in selecting judges and setting up some of the crime scenes. They are seeking OPOTA assistance again this year.

Mr. Wes Ward, Mid-West Technical School, congratulated the OPOTC for their activity. It seemed everyone was earning their position and working together. He asked if there were any changes in the private security activity in the near future.

Mr. Robert Fiatal addressed the question, stating the OPOTC would be looking into the private security academic lesson plans. However, the certification issues were all handled by the Department of Homeland Security at the Department of Public Safety. Private security cadets would now be vetted ahead of time before taking firearm courses. The OPOTC would set up the process and anyone who obtained a web check, the results would be sent electronically to the OPOTC. A lot of staff time is put into this process. There are no future changes in private security with OPOTC. It had been rumored that Homeland Security would like to go into the rat back program for their firearm candidates. There have been long going talks on this over the past six years. It has not been determined if there are any relief or changes coming from the OPOTC, unless the Commission had another agenda.

Mr. Lenhart added that having come from the private sector, there is a lot that public law enforcement can't do and encouraged the private security sector to push Homeland Security to institute changes.

Mr. Fiatal also stated that nothing had been mentioned regarding the lesson plans for the private security academic areas, including terrorism. Claire Marvin a Private Security Commander asked who would private security put pressure on at Homeland Security. Chairperson Sheriff Stanforth directed them to Bill Vedra, Homeland Security Director.

Wes Ward applauded the OPOTC for the institution of background checks. But, objects to the time frame that was instituted.

MOTION

Mr. Jeffery Patzer requested the OPOTC go into Executive Session for the purpose of appointments and employment of personnel. Mr. Cordray, Jeff Clark and Robert Fiatal were asked to stay. Roll call was taken with all members in favor.

At 10:10 a.m. entering into Executive Session. At 11:05 a.m. the OPOTC came out of Executive Session. Motion was approved by Chief Paul Denton and Mr. John Lenhart.

The commission discussed setting up the OPOTC 2011 meeting. Maurer expressed the increased activity and Denton suggested every other month worked well. Patzer agreed and extra sessions could be scheduled if needed. All meetings would meet on the third Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

The following dates were approved for 2011: January 20th, March 17th, May 19th, July 21st, September 15th, and November 17th.

Depending upon need a meeting for December 2010 may be scheduled.

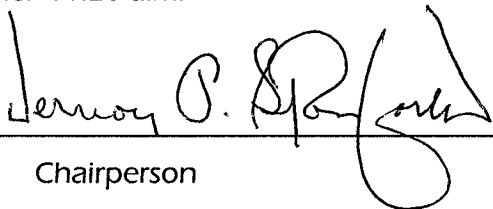
MOTION

Chairperson Stanforth set the meeting dates as prescribed – Denton seconded.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. John Lenhart motioned to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Time: 11:20 a.m.



Chairperson

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