OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 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.  
Ms. Donna Long called the Roll Call.  
Sheriff Michael Heldman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth, Chairperson  
Mr. Stephen Schumaker  
Sgt. Troy Mineard  
Sheriff Michael Heldman  
Chief Paul Denton  
Chief David Wiseman  
Mr. Willis Amweg – arrived at 10:18 a.m.  
SAC Stephen Anthony

B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STAFF

Captain Shawn Lee  
Mr. David J. Dillon  
Mr. Jeff Clark  
Mr. Brodi Conover  
Ms. Mary Davis  
Ms. Donna Long  
Mr. Justin Hykes  
Ms. Jessica Didion  
Mr. James Burke  
Ms. Alice Robinson-Bond  
Mr. John Green  
Ms. Arienne Fauber  
Ms. Sarah Thomas  

Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy  
Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy  
Attorney General’s Office  
Attorney General’s Office/AAG  
OPOTC Executive Director  
OPOTC Secretary  
OPOTC /AAAG  
OPOTA Deputy Director  
OPOTC Deputy Director  
OPOTA Deputy Director  
OPOTA Deputy Director  
OPOTC Staff  
OPOTC Staff
II. **CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

Chairperson Stanforth stated he had nothing to report and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from September 18, 2014.

**MOTION**

Sheriff Heldman motioned that the minutes of the September 18, 2014 meeting be approved, Sgt. Troy Mineard seconded the motion. No discussion was forthcoming; a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Chairperson Stanforth acknowledged two deaths in the law enforcement community, Akron Police Officer, Justin Winebrenner and Warren County Corrections Deputy, Ciera Greene. Our thoughts are with their families, departments and communities.

That concluded the Chairperson’s Report.

III. **CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair, Chief Paul Denton reported the staff continue to work on routine lesson plan reviews and updates with the standard schedules. Work continues through the subject matter experts developing the new police chief training course. Chair Denton thanked Deputy Directors James Burke and Alice Robinson-Bond for their work with the SME’s. That concluded the curriculum committee report.

IV. **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair, Chief David Wiseman stated there was nothing new to report. That concluded the Legislative Committee report.

V. **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Acting Committee Chair, Stephen Schumaker and the house committee meet prior to the OPOTC meeting. One item discussed was scheduling conflicts with the commission meetings currently held on the third Thursday of every other month beginning in January. It was suggested to move the meetings to the second Thursday of every other month beginning in January 2015 to alleviate some of those conflicts. The suggested change would need to be discussed by the full OPOTC. The dates for the 2015 meetings would be:
2015 – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Thursday 10:00 a.m.

January 8\textsuperscript{th}
March 12\textsuperscript{th}
May 14\textsuperscript{th}
July 9\textsuperscript{th}
September 10\textsuperscript{th}
November 12\textsuperscript{th}

MOTION:

Mr. Schumaker made the recommendation for the approval of the second Thursday, of every other month, beginning in the month of January, as the 2015 meeting dates. The motion was seconded by SAC Stephen Anthony. After a brief discussion the motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Schumaker asked if any other OPOTC members had conflicts with the third Thursday meetings. SAC Anthony and Captain Lee, who spoke on behalf of Colonel Paul Pride, both spoke up regarding schedule conflicts. After a brief discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

The second item of business was to submit to the OPOTC, in the form of a motion, to choose the 2015 OPOTC Chairperson.

MOTION:

Mr. Schumaker made the recommendation for the nomination of Sheriff Vernon Stanforth for the 2015 OPOTC Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Sgt. Troy Mineard. After a discussion, a vote was taken and passed unanimously, with chairperson Stanforth excusing himself from the discussion and vote.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Schumaker lead the discussion asking if anyone else was interested in chairing the commission, with nobody showing any interest, a vote was taken and passed unanimously for Sheriff Vernon Stanforth to continue as OPOTC Chairperson for 2015.

Another issue was brought to the committee’s attention by OPOTC staff. There was some concern as to rather there were bi-laws or commission rules requiring the commission to name a vice-chairperson to act in the absence of the chairperson. Mr. Schumaker asked Mr. Hykes to give us a history on the vice-chairperson position and opened it for discussion.

Mr. Hykes explained in looking through the minutes in 1965 the OPOTC did not have any requirements for a vice-chair. In 1972 the minutes do reflect a vice-chair position. However, there was not vice-chair position listed again in the minutes until 1982 through 2009, and
from 2010 until current there is once again no vice-chair listed. In 1998 the rules show a proposal for a vice-chair, but those rules were not ratified.

Mr. Schumaker stated the House committee is making the recommendation to keep the current process. But, given the fact that the concern was raised, we wanted the OPOTC to hear the history regarding it. After a brief discussion, the OPOTC agreed to continue on as they are currently do.

With no further questions or comments that concluded the House Committee report.

VI. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COMMITTEE

Sheriff Michael Heldman
Committee Chairperson

Committee Chair, Sheriff Heldman stated that he had nothing to report.

Chair Stanforth asked how many phone calls the staff was getting to reset OHLEG passwords. Ms. Davis stated CPT and eOPOTA questions go through BCI’s OHLEG help desk and it’s pretty high. The increased security settings are because of the data bases now housed in OHLEG requiring high security. So, if you aren’t active, in 90 days your password has to be reset by the helpdesk and in 120 days your user account is locked and you have to resubmit a new application.

With no further questions or comments that concluded the Continuing Professional Training Committee report.

STAFF REPORTS

VII. COMMISSION AND ACADEMY UPDATES

Executive Director Mary Davis

Ms. Davis introduced Mr. Rick Amweg as the newly appointment OPOTC member to the OPOTC members and guest. Mr. Amweg replaced Ms. O’Connor with the Department of Education.

Ms. Davis gave an update on the 2014 Attorney General’s Law Enforcement Conference. The final attendance count was 843. The 2015 conference dates are set for October 8-9, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency.

Chair Stanforth stated there was a lot of positive feedback regarding the conference. Ms. Davis stated that we are looking at some different ideas for the conference next year, if you have any suggestions, please let us know.

The next item discussed was the Peace Officer Training Academy’s Annual Report which is a fiscal 2014 report and also the Attorney General’s Calendar Year Annual Report. Ms. Davis referred to Addendum 1 a general statistics report which each commission received. The commissioners went briefly over the handout and discussed some of the changes that were put into effect during the past year and reviewed the outcome of those changes.

Ms. Davis asked Ms. Robinson-Bond to discuss where they stood with the rosters.
Ms. Robinson-Bond stated that the rosters are due at the end of January. So far, we have paid 71 public agencies approximately $115,000; 7 public agencies submitted their rosters, but didn’t want the CPT monies; 5 private agencies submit their roster, but aren’t eligible for CPT monies; and there are 885 more agencies who need to submit their information over the next couple months.

Ms. Davis asked James Burke to discuss the Close Call Reporting. Mr. Burke stated Close Call Reporting rolled out at the 2014 Law Enforcement Conference and was brought to our attention by Columbus Police Department who had been using it in their department for several months. They were looking for a database to make this available to agencies across Ohio. The Attorney General’s Office created a database that is live on its website. It’s a non-punitive program; it encourages officers to talk about situations, allowing agencies to come up with solutions and submit them to the database. Once submitted, the data base is reviewed by OPOTA staff as to training opportunities, resources for agencies and data for quarterly reporting to all law enforcement.

Ms. Davis stated Columbus Police Department is using it as a risk management tool; they found that officer time off work due to injury was reduced significantly. They are encouraging other agencies to look at the program and are willing to help them implement. People can learn from the close calls of others.

Ms. Davis asked Mr. John Green to discuss the updates to the scenario house. Mr. Green explained the scenario house consisted of a series of movable panels to allow us to move and arrange the configuration to meet training needs; it is primary used by S.W.A.T., crime scenes and turn-key training, where outside agencies can reserve and use it for training.

Mr. Green went on to say, all the old furniture has been replace with tactical furniture and there is a breeching door. We are in the process of adding camera’s to capture training which can be reviewed and technique the training.

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

Mr. Jeff Clark introduced Assistant Attorney General, Brodi Conover who will be working with him and will represent Mr. Clark in his absence. The OPOTC welcomed Mr. Conover.

In lieu of Officer Winebrenner, whose death was a result of an off duty encounter with an assailant, questions were raised in recent discussions on how much off duty training is offered to officers. Chair Stanforth asked himself, do we the commission/academy have a curriculum for off duty encounters, is there classroom instructor on what to do if an officer is off duty and called upon to do his duty in an off duty capacity, what training is available.

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Ms. Davis stated there probably isn’t any curriculum to responding when off duty, because that would most likely be agency specific on the authority that the chief or sheriff gives rather full time, part-time or auxiliary and what they require of them. Chair Stanforth agreed it wasn’t the commissions place to set policy but it may be ours to provide a generic training or guideline for instruction.

There was a discussion about backup weapon requalification verses the ability to conduct yourself, the ability to deal with things off duty, when people look for help, knowing you are an police officer and even more, you knowing you are a police officer. As a police officer, you aren’t trained to walk away. Off duty officers in school situations are also a concern.

Ms. Davis asked Mr. Eric Schaefer who recently updated the basic training lesson plan that briefly touches on this subject. Mr. Schaefer stated that the Subject Matter Expert committee that they put together reviewed the “Role of the American Police Officer Training” which was changed to “Introduction to Policing”. The expert committee thought it was a good idea to include a piece of off duty situations, reacting, witness, make phone calls, getting involved. These have been covered since July 2014.

Offering training would have liability issues as well as insurance, range of topics, it would be more at an advanced training level than a basic. Ms. Davis agreed to have staff look into this matter further.

Chairperson Stanforth asked if there was any other new business, hearing none that concluded the new business.

X. GUEST FORUM

Chairperson Vernon Stanforth

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.

Mr. Schumaker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sheriff Heldman seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Time: 10:50 a.m.

Chairperson

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

TO: OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION MEMBERS
FROM: MARY E. DAVIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2014
RE: FY 2014 COMMISSION AND ACADEMY STATISTICS


Basic Training

Effective July 1, 2013, and Jan. 1, 2014, two sets of curricula were released, encompassing changes within the peace officer basic training program, refresher, private security, humane agent, and corrections training programs. Lesson plans covering 85 topics and 449 training hours were released to the field.

State certification exams 3,485
Academies opened 652
Certificates issued 7,207
Open enrollment letters issued 1,178
Instructor certificates issued 1,556
Prior equivalency determinations 56

Advanced Training

The Academy held 601 advanced training courses, for 15,011 students.
The mobile academy held 208 courses using the simulators, training more than 6,600 officers.

Course completions of eOPOTA 45,109

Professional Certifications

Ohio's 962 agencies held commissions for 33,939 peace officers.

Update training determinations 4,744
Peace officers decertified 22
Firearms requalification instructor certificates processed 1,069
Canine unit certifications 984