Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission
Thursday, March 9, 2017
held at the
Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy
1650 State Route 56 SW
London, Ohio 43140

Minutes

I. Opening

Call to Order

Chair Vernon Stanforth called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m.
Sheriff Heldman led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Ms. Donna Long called the Roll Call.

Chair Stanforth introduced Dr. Emily Passias who joins the OPOTC as the representative for
the Ohio Department of Education.

Commission members present

Chair, Sheriff Vernon P. Stanforth
Chief Clayton Harris
Sheriff Michael Heldman
Chief Kimberley Jacobs
Dr. Emily Passias
Mr. Stephen Schumaker
Dr. Reginald Wilkinson

Commission members absent

SAC Stephen Anthony
Colonel Paul Pride

Guests and Staff

Attorney General’s Office

Ms. Sarah Pierce
Ms. Mary Davis
Ms. Donna Long
Mr. Louis Agosta
Ms. Julia Brinksneider
Mr. James Burke
Ms. Brenda Butler
Ms. Bridget Coontz
Ms. Courtney DeLong
Ms. Arienne Fauber
Mr. Justin Hykes

OPOTC Counsel, Attorney General’s Office
OPOTC Executive Director
OPOTC Secretary, OPOTC Staff
OPOTA Deputy Director
Attorney General’s Office
OPOTA Director of Advanced Training
OPOTA Deputy Director
Attorney General’s Office
OPOTC Staff
OPOTC Staff
OPOTC Deputy Director

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION
Mr. Tony Ortiz                      OPOTC Staff
Mr. Eric Schaefer                   OPOTC Staff
Mr. Joe Sidoti                     OPOTA Staff
Mr. Jim Seaman                      OPOTC Staff
Ms. Lori Wachtel                    OPOTC Staff

Guests
Capt. Art Combest                   Ohio State Highway Patrol
Mr. Brad Copeland                   North Central State College
Mr. Dan Engelman                    Metro Health Public Safety
Captain Lee Graf                     Springfield Police Department
Mr. Andy Hoch                       Akron Fire Department
Ms. Catherine Kieley                Kent State University
Mr. Jerome T. Kluie                 Metro Health Police Department
Mr. Theodore J. Lesiak              Roderick, Linton, Belfance, LLP
Mr. Julio Mateo                     361 Interactive
Lt. David Matthews                  Dayton Police Department
Mr. Ron Morenz                      Lakeland Community College Police
Ms. Lisa Murray                     Columbus Police Department
Mr. Ernie Oergel                    Polaris Ranger Academy
Kevin Reardon                       Central Ohio Technical College
Mr. Tim Sansbury                    Columbus Police Department
Lt. Darren Thomas                   Ohio State Highway Patrol
Ms. Miranda Volmer                  Columbus Police Department
Mr. Paul Webber                     Clark State Police Academy
Mr. Matt Wells                      Department of Education
Lt. Steven Wilkinson                 Columbus Police Department
Mr. Dave Wiseman                    Delaware County Sheriff Office

II. Chair Report                     Sheriff Vernon Stanforth
                                         Chair
Chair Stanforth welcomed the guests and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves and then moved for approval of the minutes.

MOTION
Dr. Wilkinson moved that the minutes of the January 12, 2017, meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Heldman. No discussion was forthcoming; a vote was taken and passed unanimously. Yes-7 / No-0

Chair Stanforth reminded the commissioners of the scheduled 119 hearing after the May 11th meeting. Commission members were advised the hearing could take an hour or it could take the afternoon and were asked to adjust their calendars.

There was nothing further to report, concluding the Chair report.

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION
III. Curriculum Committee

Chief Jacobs and curriculum committee met at 9:00 a.m. prior to the commission meeting. Changes to programs’ curriculum were reflected in handout 1.

Due to the work of the staff they were able to present a number of changes to the peace officer basic training program. There were eight lesson plans impacted with legal update revisions and with no change in the program hours.

There were two lesson plans reviewed and updated for the private security basic training program with no change in the program hours. A video was also added to additional resources and is available through OHLEG.

The humane agent basic training program had two legal updates with no changes in the program hours.

Chief Jacobs and curriculum committee recommended approval of the changes.

MOTION:

Chief Jacobs made the motion to approve the changes to the curriculum in all three programs. The motion was seconded by Chief Harris. No discussion was brought forth and a vote was taken. The vote passed unanimously, motion passed. Yes-7/No-0

Chief Jacobs advised the Job Task Analysis (JTA) is still underway. Mr. Hykes will continue to review preliminary results and will report to the commissioners at a later date. Mr. Hykes added, staff have the results and are working with the Office of Criminal Justice Services, which provided us with a preliminary report last week. Once we get a more detailed report, we will meet with our law enforcement advisory panel and will be able to report the results to OPOTC soon.

That concluded the Curriculum report.

IV. Legislative Committee

Committee Chair Harris stated there was nothing new to report. That concluded the Legislative Committee report.

V. House Committee

Committee Chair Pride was absent from the meeting. It was determined there was nothing new to report. That concluded the House Committee report.
VI. Continuing Professional Training Committee

Sheriff Michael Heldman
Committee Chair

Committee Chair Heldman stated there was nothing new to report. That concluded the Continuing Professional Training Committee report.

Staff Reports

VII. Commission And Academy Updates

Mary Davis
Executive Director

Introduction of new staff

Ms. Davis introduced the new Richfield campus Deputy Director, Brenda Butler. Ms. Butler came to OPOTA from BCI, where she was crime scene agent and prior to that a local law enforcement officer. Ms. Davis encouraged northern Ohio to reach out to Ms. Butler for their training needs. Also, introduced was new staff member Tony Ortiz, Diversity Liaison, who will split his time between OPOTC and the Attorney General’s Office downtown. Mr. Ortiz will be working on minority outreach initiatives and research for OPOTC/A and for downtown will work with recruiting and other outreach initiatives.

2016 Advanced Training Statistics

Ms. Davis provided handout 2, the statistics of advanced training numbers for the Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy from 2011 through 2016. The five year comparison was broke down in terms in-person courses, where the training is face to face with the students, and the distance learning courses, with the new webcast and our reported eOPOTA courses.

The total for the past 5 years, reflect an increased training of almost 250 percent. Our organization has grown and there are a lot more officers coming to us for training. The distance learning is one of the biggest increases, which shows us this is where we need to turn our attention to. Many of the eOPOTA courses have been available for years; they are an older style of on-line learning with some of their exercises or lack of exercises for interaction. We need to see if the courses are still relevant, if they are legally sound. This reinforces an update contract entered into with our current vendor. The contract is to create the 8 new eOPOTA courses for 2017 CPT and to review the first 16 older eOPOTA courses.

We are also exploring for a new system that will work for both our internal records, new eOPOTA learning management system, and provide web-based interaction for agencies. We are trying to find a system where we can incorporate everything into one system on our side. Technology doesn’t always work when you have 3 systems interacting and every individual agency has limits of technology.

Chair Stanforth stated it’s amazing to see the advancement in our training through the years he has been on the commission and the push back of going to electronic training wasn’t considered. We are reaching a lot of people who wouldn’t be in the classroom, or not have the availability of a classroom.
QUESTION: Dr. Wilkinson asked when talking about eOPOTA, what was meant by old style training?

ANSWER: Ms. Davis responded new techniques allow for more interaction between the course and student, there are also options for going outside the course to research or learn more during a course. The older electronic training courses at the time of their development these techniques were unavailable or unthought-of.

QUESTION: Dr. Wilkinson asked if she was referring to the webcasting?

ANSWER: Ms. Davis responded, no, the eOPOTA courses are all pre-recorded; there’s no way for interacting with instructor. On eOPOTA courses they try to put in techniques that keep the attention of the student, keeping them engaged, allowing for self-guided study were the student can click outside of the course and do reading and research on their own. The webcast allows students to interact with the training instructor while at a computer listening to the training instructor live.

QUESTION: Dr. Wilkinson asked if this training could be used for CPT credit?

ANSWER: Ms. Davis replied, yes it could be used for CPT credit.

QUESTION: Chair Stanforth clarified there are courses that wouldn’t be CPT credit on eOPOTA?

ANSWER: Ms. Davis responded they could be for CPT credit, but would not be for reimbursement.

COMMENT: Chair Stanforth commented the courses are auditable you can audit the course; if the course is an hour long and it’s completed in 10 minutes you know it wasn’t studied.

2017 Fallen Officer Memorial Ceremony

Ms. Davis announced the 2017 Fallen Officer Memorial Ceremony on May 4th. This year we will be honoring a total of 5 officers and 1 K-9 who were lost in the line of duty last year. There are also historical inductees. Ms. Long will be sending out an email with information for the commissioners who are part of ceremony.

Immersive Training Village Overview

Ms. Davis stated over the past 5 months, they have been working with the Attorney General and senior staff on a training village concept. As it’s happened so fast, it’s not mentioned to the commission.

Mr. Burke gave an overview of the training village and our intended uses. It will be at the back of the main campus, utilizing some of the current buildings. We have merged technology, scenery, and live role players to create really immersive environment for the officers. Mr. Burke referred to handout 3 which showed some of the changes to take place.
A fully matted room, to conduct subject control training where they can go safely hands on to force on force.

A 180 degree simulator that we purchased from Milo, a leader in Simulator Technology area, to fully immerse the officer. The location will allow a vehicle to be pulled in and have officers engage from their car as approaching, using car for cover.

Both the scenario house and the technology building will utilize two separate Milo Shoot House systems.

Scenarios will go from screen to screen, but also building to building.

Steps will be added to the current scenario house to give officers a feel for an up/down duplex.

Converting top of scenario house to an actual apartment setting.

Officers can be training in the lower part and also have officers working on entry points for straight line stairs into apartment building.

Will roll out the STEP Program (Scenario Training Equipment Program), holding courses in the village.

Joe Sidoti, LETO from Richfield, discussed STEP, a program being developed to get high level training out to the local area. This program’s instructor course will be one the main courses of training when the village opens. Mr. Sidoti shared that the program was a collective ideal with much support from management. The program is a cost effective way to bring scenario training to a large number of officers and agencies across the state. The basic idea is that OPOTA will manage an inventory of scenario based training equipment, primary simunition equipment. It will be managed like a library, so that agencies who qualify can borrow this equipment, free of charge, which includes:

- Training pistols
- Protective gear
- Less lethal options
- Everything needed for good scenario based training
- Ammunition

In order for an agency to qualify at least one instructor who is involved in the training needs to attend the OPOTA scenario based instructor course for STEP and:

- Agency instructor will submit lesson plan with scenarios, and safety plan – a high quality standard is expected and will work with agency to bring them up to standards, if needed.
- Once agency training is approved, OPOTA will lend equipment to that agency
- Agency conducts the training
- OPOTA would be available to stop at training sessions

This mirrors a lot of the strengths that OPOTA has, and a lot of the things we bring to the table with a lot of the things agencies bring to the table and their strengths.

OPOTA’s strength:

- Full time trainers
- Expertise
- Broad perspective of what goes on across the state and nation for law enforcement training and best practices

Agencies bring together:
- Knowledge of local issues
- Knowledge of their individual officers and if they
  - Need to be pushed
  - Need to be more assertive or needs to be pulled back
  - Knowledge of agency policies. We can only train the constitutional standard; they can train their agency policy.

When training and management are mirrored up, it really helps enforce that policies are being trained on. It gives agency management more teeth to enforce their policy. The program will be cost effective because in each kit will be about $8,500.00 worth of equipment, not including the ammo which is significant, about 3 times the normal round cost. Normally, when an agency purchases this equipment, it will sit on shelf for 10-11 months out of a year. In this case the tax payers will get a lot of bang for their buck out of this equipment. It will be cost effective on the agency side because the agency will have flexibility to solve their own travel and overtime issues. There are many things they do that we can't do in the traditional class. This program will really compliment the training we already do here. It won't replace scenario based training OPOTA does. People will always come to us. There are things we offer and there are also advantages to getting outside training. But, there are also advantages to internal training. We want to help make those advantages more logistically possible for agencies across the state.

Mr. Burke continued to explain the submitting of lesson plans and scenarios, which would be kept in a library at OPOTA. If an agency had an instructor, who has been through the class and ask for ideas for a good de-escalation scenario, or traffic stop scenario, etc. By collecting these scenarios, we could provide to departments that could be revised to meet their individual agency needs. This will be a good way for us to support scenario based training to the many agencies in the state. We understand the concerns of budgets, travel time, and other issues that it's very expensive to send multiple officers to training. Our hope is through this program the majority of officers will be able experience scenario based training in a cost effective way by their agency.

**QUESTION:** Chief Jacobs stated their agency strongly believes in scenario based training. She asked would the instructor training course guide the smaller agencies in writing their safety plans? So agencies, who've had no prior use of this equipment, would know how to prepare the people and surrounding areas for the training scenarios. With simunition training comes danger, they look like reals guns, make load noises, and the risk of someone feeling they have to take action with a real gun is something you want to avoid. The agency needs to know to include checking everyone for ammunition, weapons, and that sort of thing in the safety plan.

**ANSWER:** Mr. Sidoti responded that is a huge part of the instructor course, the best practices. That is what is going to be required in the safety plans in addition to other issues like notifications being made, and signs are used. All the industries best practices and standards are going to be mandated in the training. If there's anything someone feels should be included they are asked to contact Mr. Sidoti. We want to be sure this is a workable program for everyone. The goals make it workable for us and for agencies of all sizes.
Mr. Burke followed up with safety is the focus of the instructor course. Not necessarily putting them through a scenario, but how to do it based on the space and area you have. The driving force behind the instructor course is making sure it is done correctly and safely utilizing all the best practices.

**QUESTION:** Chief Jacobs asked Mr. Burke to explain about the biometrics integration in the village.

**ANSWER:** Mr. Burke responded it would measure pulse, heart rate, and stress rate. We have been in contact with a couple universities to research stress levels and how they affect decision making. We all understand that decision making is affected under stress, but the question is where it is affected; at what point do errors begin to occur? Part of the Milo System is the biometrics, we can actually go through and replay the scenario, let the officer watch a video of themselves, and ask what was going on?

During the demo with Milo, Mr. Burke was hooked up and going through the video, Ms. Davis was running the scenario – pushing buttons making guns shots go off in the background, horns honking and you could see his heart rate jump. You could actively see where the heart rate dropped showing at that point he had made the decision of what he was going to do, and he was confident in that decision. Once the decision is made in your head, the stress level went down, and the heart rate goes down.

We want to be able to walk all the students through all the scenario training we do, debriefing is a huge part of it, letting the officer see their actions under stress and hear what was going on in the background and how it affected them during the scenario. This really brings a lot of understanding to the stress, the training, and how it affects our actions.

Chief Jacobs responded she felt it was tremendously important and getting officers to recall what happened after it’s over. Someday it could be compared to a video of what they did, getting them to understand their ability to recall, and know when things happen chronology. We need to help them to improve their ability to recall and understand how the adrenaline is affecting them and how to control it. Columbus is working on teaching officers to tactically breathe, and how big of a difference it can be. Monitoring their heart and breathes, when do you start taking those deep breathes and calming yourself down when you recognize that you are in the stage of an adrenaline rush.

Chief Jacobs would like to hear how this goes. If you have the tools then we can do the research to learn how this scenario can play out into improving their abilities under stress.

Mr. Burke replied another thing we have just like the biometrics with the 180 Theater is the scent machines. If they are responding to a car fire, we can put the scent in the air, engaging not only what they see and hear, but the smell as well. With the trauma informed policing this year, an officer shared that when he smells a scent from an accident years earlier his mind goes back to that accident. That could affect his stress levels.

Mr. Schumaker responded an officer could step into a dark building and immediately realize they are in a building with a decaying body. There are any number of things you can do with the scents and in combination with the heart monitor it will be interesting to see how it works out.
QUESTION: Chief Jacobs asked how soon will it be up and running in that respect?

ANSWER: Ms. Davis responded the target date for the first phase, which would have the 180 degree simulator and one building of the shoot house up and running is the beginning of May. Since December, we have been working on some of the infrastructure, buildings, and controlling board. The simulators systems are on order and scheduled for install the first week of April.

Chair Stanforth asked if there was any other discussion. Hearing none, that concluded the Executive Director’s report.

VIII. Old Business

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth
Chairperson

Fair & Impartial Policing (VT) Policy

Chair Stanforth stated we have one item, the Fair and Impartial Policing (VT) Policy to discuss. In January, Dr. Wilkinson requested this information by emailed to commissions. Ms. Davis asked if any of the commissioners had any comments regarding it?

Dr. Wilkinson responded it was from the State of Vermont, where they are really pushing that concept. He doesn’t know if it’s different than anything we are doing, he felt it was similar to ours, but felt we could at least look into it. It was a commission like this one which implemented it. He suggested contacting the Vermont commission and asking how it was implemented into the law enforcement community. It could be different then what we are thinking about. Vermont is interested in our implicit bias training among other training.

Dr. Wilkinson wanted to introduce it to the commission. Ms. Davis will reach out to them. She questioned if Vermont was a true post state in terms that they have full oversight of all agencies, where Ohio is more certification regulatory and provides advanced training. We need to see if we have a parallel or not; are they similar to us and if it’s something they put out as a best practice requirement or recommendation. Ms. Davis stated it puts her in mind of the Ohio Collaborative working on the agency accreditation standards. She could share with Ohio Criminal Justice Services (OCJS). Dr. Wilkinson responded Vermont is probably closer to us, probably have similar authority with certification and decertification, but he believes it’s pretty much related to training. It also sounded like some of the procedural justice that we do.

Chair Stanforth asked if there was any other old business, with none forthcoming, that concluded the old business report.

IX. New Business

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth
Chair

Revision of private security examination rule

Chair Stanforth asked Mr. Hykes to discuss the revision of private security examination rule. (Handout 4)

Mr. Hykes started off by recalling our desire to get our Administrative Code provisions similar in all programs across the board. The proposed change to remove this sentence in the language of rule 109:2-3-09, Examination brings it in line with other program exam language. Only in the
private security program, it says "we can’t test for special skill topics such as first aid, firearms, and unarmed self-defense.” This limits us from evaluating students on the written exam.

**MOTION:** Chief Jacob made the motion for the language in rule 109:2-3:09 excluding some skill topics from being included on the private security examination to be removed as presented. The motion was seconded by Chief Harris. With no discussion forthcoming, a vote was taken and passed unanimously. Yes-7 / No-0

Chair Stanforth asked if there was any other new business. Hearing none, that concluded the New Business report.

**X. Guest Forum**

Chair Stanforth asked if any guest had anything to discuss. Chair Stanforth stated three individuals had contacted Ms. Davis requesting to speak.

**Chief Jerry Klue, Metro Health Police Department – CPT Reimbursements**

Chief Jerry Klue, Metro Health Police Department stated hospital police officers are identified under ORC 109.71(A)(9), which was not included in the definition of public appointing authority under OAC 109:2-18 for continuing professional training. Chief Klue was at the commission meeting representing not only himself, but several other departments within the city of Cleveland area in regards to getting the CPT reimbursement for their departments. They believe being held to the same standard as every other department in completing CPT’s, they should get reimbursement.

Hospital police work very similar to and in coordination with the City. Their powers and authority all come from the city of Cleveland. The Chief of Police gives us the authority to be police officers within the city of Cleveland. There are 10 other agencies within the city of Cleveland, U.H., Cleveland Clinic, and several of the other departments that are not hospitals that also work under the memorandum of understanding or proprietary agreement with the City. They give us the opportunity to be police officers within the City and perform their job functions for them within the jurisdiction they give us. On a daily basis they do the same job as any other police officer. Chief Klue provided that his officers are working as City of Cleveland police officers every day. They handle every gunshot wound that comes in, every stabbing that comes in, and all the evidence that comes in, they work the streets and do the exact same thing under their authority provided by their appointment. So again, he asked that they be included in that same CPT reimbursement.

**Discussion – Chair Stanforth opened discussion for the commissioners.**

Chief Jacobs asked is this something that we have the ability to change as the commission or is this something that has to be legislative? Chair Stanforth replied the commission can make the recommendation, but it would take legislative change. Ms. Davis clarified it would have to go through Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR). Mr. Hykes stated the Revised Code doesn’t actually define public appointing authority; it’s defined in the Administrative Code. It is something that would have to go through the JCARR process like any other rule.
Sheriff Heldman stated Chief Klue spoke about the number of agencies in the Cleveland area, does the 1300 police officers and 49 agencies currently not defined as public appointing authorities represent the state of Ohio? Chief Klue stated that would be the entire state. Ms. Davis also believed the numbers are statewide. If the commission would want to re-look at reimbursement and reimbursement of non-public law enforcement agencies it would impact a little over 49 agencies that would then be eligible for reimbursement, between 1200-1300 officers. Mr. Hykes stated the 49 agencies includes hospitals, campus private universities, King Island, Cedar Point, and also since the Administrative Code as not been updated, it includes BCI, Casino Control Commission, the House and Senate Sergeant-at-Arms, but the majority are the private universities and hospitals.

Mr. Schumaker asked if the department was funded strictly by the hospital? Is there any public money? Chief Klue said there were some public monies, about 6 percent. Their budget is like everyone else is very tight.

Dr. Wilkinson stated we just heard about the number of people that could be affected and doesn’t know what the budgetary concern might be if we were to reimburse all organizations like the hospital and law enforcement.

Mr. Hykes shared his rough estimates for the cost if the 49 agencies currently not reimbursed were reimbursed. For 2016, assuming every officer that was eligible at those agencies got the reimbursements it would have been just under and additional $300,000.00. For 2017, assuming they were all eligible it would be around $500,000.00.

Chief Klue stated after speaking with some of the hospital chiefs that work out of proprietary agreements with major cities, they are not interested in reimbursement. For them it would be better to not be reimbursed. But for his agency their mandate with the city of Cleveland is that they have to have the same training as Cleveland Police Division.

Ms. Davis added Chief Klue is not alone in his sentiments. A few weeks ago, the Chief of Summa Health brought up the same concerns and desires to be included in the CPT reimbursement. Ms. Davis has also received a few emails from agency chiefs that are not reimbursed and would like to be.

Chief Jacobs commented the reserve officers aren’t getting reimbursed as well, which means officers on the road, whether through the hospital system, sheriff’s office, or somewhere else aren’t getting reimbursements. Ms. Davis clarified the reserve and auxiliary officers are reimbursed for the first 11 hours, but not for the last 9 hours.

Dr. Wilkinson asked Chief Jacobs if she authorized anything similar with the hospitals in Columbus? Chief Jacobs stated she hasn’t signed any agreement. Ohio Health Hospitals have their own police agency. We’ve talked about jurisdictional things, but there’s no agreement with them to her knowledge.

Chief Klue responded Ohio Health is not actually running under proprietary agreement with the City, so they wouldn’t be entitled to any reimbursement. They are using the ordinance under 4973.17 to commission their officers, but the officers aren’t carrying guns and their not police officers at work, they’re security officers.
Sheriff Heldman asked Mr. Hykes if he knew how many law enforcement agencies did not seek reimbursement that were eligible this year? Mr. Hykes stated no. Ms. Davis explained the agency can be eligible for reimbursement even if one of their officers isn’t eligible. Reimbursement is by individual officer now; we could run a count on how many didn’t seek reimbursement at all, even if their officers met the CPT reimbursement requirements.

Chair Stanford asked if there are more than these 49 agencies out there that aren’t eligible for reimbursement or are we just specifically talking about those mentioned. Mr. Hykes stated the 49 agencies were based off of every appointing authority not considered a public agency under our Administrative Code. These 49 are the ones who would not be eligible. Chair Stanford stated out of 34,000 peace officers, there is only an estimated 1300 that are not eligible for reimbursement period. Mr. Hykes responded that was correct. Assuming they don’t have another appointment somewhere else with an agency that would give them reimbursement, that 1200-1300 officers is the total. It would be 49 agencies out of 960 agencies. Public university police get reimbursement, the private university police departments do not.

Chief Jacobs asked if we know the origins or why this was an exception? Ms. Davis replied no, it would have been a rule created around 2006. Chair Stanforth believes the issue was the fact it wasn’t a public unity. Chief Klue stated “we are.” Chair Stanforth continued, they weren’t receiving tax dollars and this is tax dollars we are reimbursing with. The idea was not putting public tax money in a private institution or a for profit institution.

Chief Klue stated we need to discuss the category private verses public. Because we are a public entity, again we are our own jurisdiction and we fall under a different category then they do. Mr. Hykes responded the way you get your jurisdiction is the same; the private universities go through the same process, the same agreements with local municipalities. But, he would agree with Chair Stanforth, especially since its public appointing authority in the Ohio Revised Code is where the money comes from. Mr. Schumaker stated what is difficult right now is we have no indication as to what the legislature is going to do here by July as far as setting any mandates for CPT and just as important, how much money, if any they are going to put in. Whatever it is going to be, it will be a limited pool of money.

Dr. Wilkinson suggested tabling the topic until we can do more research into the background, crunching some numbers, and see what legislature might do. Chair Stanforth agreed more study needed to be done. He doesn’t want to open a door that can’t be closed. They’ve already started putting restrictions with this money, and we don’t know what 2018 will bring. We know the special deputy and auxiliary police are being limited. We need to take a closer look at the entire topic once we have a better idea of what’s coming up next year.

Chief Harris stated Chief Klue said 6 percent was the tax base for your budget, but thought it was run by the County? Chief Klue stated it is run by the County, but they still have to run on its own funds and what it makes every day. Chief Harris confirmed it is considered a County hospital, which is tax payer’s money. Chief Klue, responded yes, we are the hospital, and the main trauma center, we’re cut out of that. Chair Stanforth asked how big is your agency? Chief Klue stated 100 officers complete; he probably has 50-60 sworn police officers and about 30 security officers.
Chair Stanforth stated it would be sent back to start crunching some numbers, and topics and let
the staff work on it, then bring it back and give the committee assignments to work out what we
can do next.

Mr. Hoch and Attorney Theodore J. Lesiak – Extraordinary Medical Hardship Extension

Mr. Lesiak who represents Andew Hoch advised they asked for an extraordinary medical
hardship extension to complete his testing and was denied. Mr. Hoch, is a firefighter who is
attempting to become an arson investigator. They submitted medical information and had some
communications between Ms. Davis and Mr. Hoch’s commander at Kent State.

They feel the question comes down to if Mr. Hoch was injured during training, because
extraordinary medical hardship extensions have been granted in the past. They have
subsequently submitted a medical letter from his physician, basically stating the injury did occur
during training. The diagnosis was Chronic SI Joint Dysfunction and Iliopsoas Tendon
Syndrome, all in the right hip.

Originally, Mr. Hoch began his training in January 2016. His test was in May 2016. The injury
occurred in April 2016, which at that time he went to see his physician and received a cortisone
injection. During the training the injury became exasperated. Mr. Hoch asked for a medical
extension at that time and was granted an extension until August 2016, and then another until
November 2016, and then another until January 2017, which would have been his year date to
have completed his testing. At the time in January 2017, Mr. Hoch was unable to complete the
testing. Mr. Hoch has completed the basic training and also completed all of his testing
successfully, with the exception of the sit-ups, which he missed by two sit-up’s when he tested
in May 2016. Ms. Davis had granted him medical extensions, but stated she was unable to do so
past the 1-year academy start date. Ms. Davis responded in a letter that there was a question as
to if the injury occurred during the training and if Mr. Hoch had submitted documentation from
Doctor McLaughlin that the injury did occur during training and it wasn’t an acute injury at the
time, but has become chronic.

Mr. Lesiak asked the commission to address this issue and determine whether or not Mr. Hoch
can receive an extraordinary medical hardship extension beyond the 1-year period provided in
Code. Mr. Lesiak asked if there were any questions of the commissioners, which opened up the
discussion.

Discussion

Chief Harris asked extended to what [date]’? Mr. Lesiak responded that in a letter from Doctor
McLaughlin on February 7th it stated Mr. Hoch was in a physical therapy program for another 10
to 12 weeks, and then would be released to take the test again, which would be in late May 2017.

Sheriff Heldman asked if Mr. Hoch was still working as a full-time fire fighter? Mr. Hoch
responded yes, but in the fire investigative unit. He placed a bid on the spot and received the bid
in August of 2015; part of their policy is that they commission all of the investigators, so they
can do their own investigations and arrest for arson. He has continued to work in that capacity
but, he has to use commissioned officers still in the unit. The department wasn’t proactive in
looking at retirements, so Mr. Hoch was put into the class at the last minute without much
notice. The department is hurting on arson investigators who are commissioned at this point.
Mr. Schumaker asked if this was the 4th extension? You’ve already had 3 extensions? Mr. Lesiak responded there have been three extensions, which Ms. Davis took care of earlier, which were available under code. The issue is if it’s beyond 1-year. Mr. Schumaker asked if those extensions did the doctor indicate they thought those extensions would be sufficient? Mr. Lesiak responded at the time they did and at that time Mr. Hoch also saw a chiropractor. The chiropractor’s treatment wasn’t effective. At the time he saw Doctor McLaughlin he received 3 cortisone injections in December.

Mr. Hoch stated prior to wanting to take the test in January before that 1-year date, he went back to get another injection, but he was having additional symptoms; it seems it starts feeling good; then I starting running and it flairs up again. The doctor told Mr. Hoch he didn’t want to give him another injection, he wanted him to go to physical therapy without injections masking the pain. He wanted to get to the issue with the nerve and joint. The problem is causing pressure on the nerve which is causing numbness down his leg when he is running. Mr. Lesiak stated he has been in physical therapy since February.

Chair Stanforth asked if this was related to his academy work? Mr. Lesiak stated the injury occurred in April 2016, which is when he saw Doctor McLaughlin. Chair Stanforth asked if he specifically knew when the injury occurred? Mr. Hoch stated it was prior to the state physical test. Mr. Lesiak stated the [initial] physical test Mr. Hoch took was on May 12th.

Dr. Wilkinson asked if the injury was exasperated by the training or caused by the training? Did you have symptoms of this before? Mr. Hoch stated he had never been treated for this before, he doesn’t know if this was an issue that he had, he had never been a runner, doesn’t know if it was all the running or as his body gets older, if it’s the physical demand it has on your body. Dr. Wilkinson asked what happens if he is given the extension and still can’t pass the test, then what? Mr. Hoch stated he is either looking at trying to complete an entire academy again or go in a different direction and go out on the line in the truck. Dr. Wilkinson asked if all arson investigators have to be sworn? Mr. Hoch stated yes, he’s had all the investigative training.

Chair Stanforth asked what makes this extraordinary? Mr. Hoch responded from his understanding from what he has reviewed of the correspondences, is that extraordinary extensions have been granted beyond the year period for injuries before. Ms. Davis confirmed that the extraordinary extensions granted were for a female that had become pregnant during the academy. She provided she’s had other requests for extraordinary medical hardships from injuries that very clearly happen during the academy. Many of them couldn’t be healed in that 1-year time frame set in the code. That’s tough news to give someone, it’s an unfortunate situation; I have been requested to grant those in the past and I have denied them.

Ms. Davis’ view of extraordinary is not an injury that many cadets suffer to different degrees. For her, other than pregnancy, she has not come across a request that she has considered extraordinary. Chair Stanforth stated he doesn’t see an extraordinary exception, no broken bones. Ms Davis stated broken bones do happen, and students can’t continue. The cadet waits for another academy to come around after they’ve healed. Chair Stanforth stated he figures that is the norm, you stop and then when healed start again. He could see pregnancy being the exception.
Mr. Hoch stated with his injury it has taken different forms of treatment and it's just finding the one that is going to work. He just needs a little extra time; the physical therapy does seem to be effective. Chair Stanforth stated his extra time began last May. So from last May to this February the injury still isn't corrected. Mr. Lesiak stated they were requesting the commission find this as an extraordinary extension for the injury that occurred during training, not outside of training. As Ms. Davis has stated, it obviously as occurred before for pregnancy issues, basically when someone is submitting themselves to the training to become a certified officer and becomes injured on that particular training, we believe that should be taken into consideration if there are going to be exceptions, this should be an exception to the code.

Sheriff Heldman asked can you say for sure that Mr. Hoch was injured during training? He didn't say that. Dr. Wilkinson agreed, Mr. Hoch suggested there was something more before the training by several weeks. Mr. Hoch stated he doesn't know when it was. Dr. Wilkinson responded Mr. Hoch didn't know that it wasn't either right? Mr. Lesiak stated Mr. Hoch's physician believes it was.

Chair Stanforth asked what was the position of the academy? What are their records, training documentation or the injury claim within the academy itself? Ms. Davis first provided background as to the medical extension process which is not in any Administrative Rule or Code. Medical extensions are a concession that the executive directors have made within the confines of the administrative rule which says an academy shall be completed within 1-year. So in this particular case the academy ran from January to May, the one year anniversary date wasn't until the following January; so when the cadet asked for a medical extension, it was granted up through preamble of the code. It is something past executive directors and Ms. Davis think are very reasonable to give the student the second chance and some extra time when unfortunate injuries happen. The extraordinary hardship is the second non-documented procedure that started about 3 executive directors ago, for conditions that could not be remedied within that one year preamble. Other executive directors have viewed these differently than Ms. Davis, and they have approved one for a heart attack, which is more of an extraordinary hardship then a broken bone, etc. I view it has pregnancy. That's the background of the two extension processes; neither the medical extension, nor the extraordinary medical hardship extension is required. The commission could take the stance, if this is your test date, regardless of what's happened you will test on that date or you fail the test, and offer no medical extensions.

Dr. Wilkinson clarified Ms. Davis had already denied the request, so they are asking the commission to reconsider. Dr. Wilkinson asked where Mr. Hoch took his basic academy and is it considered an open academy? Mr. Hoch stated Kent State, and Ms. Davis confirmed it was an open academy.

Chief Jacobs stated in her academy, they pay them their salary for 5-6 months, when someone is injured and towards the end with the more physical demands injuries are up there, if they don't heal within that year they decide if they want to go back through the academy again. Those are the options, they can get reinstated on the eligible list and go through our medical again and get permission to participate. Dr. Wilkinson stated it seems so unfortunate. Both Chief Jacobs and Ms. Davis agreed it is unfortunate.

Dr. Wilkinson stated we also have a process to follow. Who's to say what other requests will come in similar to this. Ms. Davis provided a lot of requests are received.

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION
Mr. Schumaker asked what the rationale is that an academy must be completed within 1-year? I know earlier in the meeting we revised basic curriculum, which was a six month review. Ms. Davis stated she couldn’t say when that standard was activated, but there has to be a time standard; we can’t allow academies run for two, five years, etc. With our current revision cycle we look at curriculum every 6 months, the ramifications of that is there are different curriculum codes every 6 months; every time curriculum changes the written state certification examination can and usually does change. We know what test to provide students by the curriculum code. Depending on when you start an academy, dictates what state examination you would take. The longer the academies run, the more curriculums we have and the more out dated the information is. They have to have the corresponding curriculum to the test they went into the academy under.

Chair Stanforth stated, if you haven’t passed the physical examination, you can’t take the written examination. Which mean Mr. Hoch, hasn’t taken the written examination.

Mr. Lesiak stated the actual policy of the commission is to obviously grant medical extensions during the year period, and to grant extraordinary medical extensions for conditions beyond the year period. The code does actually say within 1-year, however, in practice the actual policy of this commission is to allow for those particular extensions, and that’s why we are here, to get one today.

Chief Harris stated the commission also has the ability to deny. Chair Stanforth asked what the proper procedure is for this type of appeal. Dr. Wilkinson stated a motion. Chief Harris asked Mr. Hoch if he was prepared to hear a motion, to either grant or deny at this time. Mr. Lesiak responded they were ready.

Chief Harris asked would a motion be in the form of granting or denying in one motion. The Chair said the motion could be to consider through our discussion after the motion. Dr. Wilkinson moved that the commission empower the executive director to make that decision. He agrees with her decision to deny the extraordinary medical extension.

**MOTION:**

Dr. Wilkinson made the motion to confirm with the denial of the Executive Director’s decision. Sheriff Heldman seconded the motion. After the discussion below a roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously. The record of the vote per commissioner is listed below. Yes-7 / No-0

**DISCUSSION:**

Ms. Catherine Kieley from Kent State stated she viewed Andrew Hoch’s records yesterday. She saw the extensions he had. She stated they have had other people who have had issues before with injuries that had taken them over the one year date and because of the injury they weren’t able to come back and finish and they actually came back and repeated the academy again. For Mr. Hoch that date was January 2017. Ms. Kieley reported Kent State does have a policy when something like that happens and somebody does come back to no fault of their own, they are given an $800.00 discount on their tuition. If the commission allows this, you open the door to those denied in the past.
Chief Jacobs asked in this case their public agency paid for the tuition as well? The response was yes.

Chair Stanforth stated there would be a roll call vote. A yes vote is to confirm the Executive Director’s decision and a no vote is to oppose the Executive Director’s decision to deny.

Roll Call - Vote

Sheriff Vernon Stanforth – Yes
Sheriff Michael Heldman – Yes
Chief Kim Jacobs – Yes
Chief Clayton Harris – Yes
SAC Stephen Anthony – absent
Colonel Paul Pride – absent
Mr. Stephen Schumaker – Yes
Dr. Reginald Wilkinson – Yes
Dr. Emily Passias – Yes

The vote passed unanimously with the 7 commissioners present. A total of 7 Yes votes and 0 No votes was recorded.

Mr. Lesiak and Mr. Hoch thanked the commission for their time. Dr. Wilkinson asked Ms. Kieley from Kent State if it was possible to audit or give credit for the previous training? Ms. Kieley responded no.

Mr. Dimoff – Expired basic instructor certification

The Chair asked if Mr. Dimoff was present to address the committee. Mr. Dimoff was not present for the meeting.

Chair Stanforth asked if there were any other issues before the commission or any other comments from the guests. That concluded the guest forum.

The chair entertained the motion to adjourn.

MOTION

Chief Harris moved to adjourn the meeting. Sheriff Heldman seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned. Yes-7 / No-0

Time: 11:22 a.m.

Chair, Vernon Stanforth

These transcripts are not verbatim. Audio recordings are available upon request.
Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission
1650 State Route 56, SW • P.O. Box 309 • London, Ohio 43140
Phone: 800-346-7682 • Fax: 866-393-1275

Basic Training Program Changes

July 1, 2017
Commission Meeting Curriculum Changes for July 1, 2017

March 9, 2017

➤ Includes 3 programs and 11 lesson plans

Peace Officer Basic Training - Curriculum Code BAS037

➤ 8 lesson plans revised; no change in program hours

  2-2A Crimes Against Persons
  • Legal update due to HB 410 (changes to unruly and delinquent children definitions)
  • Worksheets updated

  2-2K Crimes Against the Administration of Safety & Justice
  • Updated worksheets

  2-20 Other Offenses
  • Legal update due to SB 199 (CCW changes, and change to 2923.122)
  • Worksheets updated

  3-7 Juvenile Justice System
  • Legal update due to HB 410 (changes to unruly and delinquent children definitions; changes to truancy definitions)

  3-8 Responding to Victims' Rights and Needs
  • Legal update due to SB 227 (removed time limit for filing for reparations)

  10-2 Motor Vehicle Offenses
  • Legal update due to HB 154 (bicycle passing and malfunctioning traffic lights) and HB 388 (OVI penalties)

  10-8 NHTSA SFST
  • Legal update due to HB 388
Private Security Basic Training – Curriculum Code PSA035

➢ 2 lesson plans reviewed; no change in program hours

  1-1 Orientation
  • Updated content and SPO(s)

  5-1 Loss Prevention
  • Updated content and SPO(s), one video added to additional resources

Humane Agent Basic Training – HA

➢ 2 legal updates; no change in program hours

  Topic 2 Legal Issues
  • Legal update due to SB 331 (added bestiality and modified definition of county humane agents)

  Topic 3 Investigations
  • Legal update due to SB 331 (changes to animal fighting Revised Code section 959.15)
Interoffice Memorandum

TO:      OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION MEMBERS  
FROM:    MARY DAVIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
DATE:    MARCH 9, 2017  
RE:      CY 2016 ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE STATISTICS – 2011-2016 COMPARISON

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De-Escalation & Judgmental Force Immersive Training Village

...another national model
Immersive Training Village – additional physical features
Immersive Training Village - simulator systems
Immersive Training Village – technology features

• 2 shoot house de-escalation simulators
  – 6, up to 10 interactive training rooms

• 180° theatre simulator
  – Situational awareness
  – Perspective field of view

• Live environment
• Immerse technology and role-playing
• Verbal & body movement response
• Focus on de-escalation scenarios
• Multiple distractions & threats
• Lowlight training
• De-briefing recording and data
• Feedback sensations
• Biometrics integration
• Supports verbal commands, hand combat, spray, taser, baton, and recoil weapons
109:2-3-09 Examination.

(A) The Ohio peace officer training commission will prepare, conduct and score a final examination for each person successfully completing the private security academic training course. Each student recommended for certification must pass the final examination with a minimum score to be determined by the commission. Special skills training such as first aid, firearms, and unarmed self-defense, which are tested through practical demonstrations, will not be covered on the final examination.

(B) No student shall participate in the final examination who has not successfully completed first aid or unarmed self-defense, or has failed to submit a satisfactory student notebook.

(C) No student shall participate in the final examination who has failed to meet the minimum attendance requirements established by the commission.

(D) The results of this examination shall be made known to the commander within five business days of the date administered. Persons failing to achieve the designated minimum score shall be given one retest. This retest shall normally be given within two weeks of the date the commander is notified of the initial examination results. The results of the retest shall be made known to the commander within five business days of the date administered. Students who fail the retest shall not be permitted to take the final examination again until they successfully complete another private security academic training course.