

DEPUTY SHERIFFS' EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

Minutes of the March 7, 2014 Meeting

Members Present

Carmen C. DeLuca
David M. Godfrey
Mark Kellam
Todd A. Martin
Wayne E. Nothstein
Eric Weaknecht

Members Absent

Linda Dale Hoffa
Ronald C. Nagle
Margherita Patti-Worthington

Commission Staff Present

Doug Hummel
Jen McConnell
Bob Merwine
Don Numer
John Pfau
Deborah Williams

Others Present

Pennsylvania State University
Robert Stonis
Don Zettlemyer

Pennsylvania State University – Fayette
Kirk Hessler
Ted Mellors

Temple University
Anthony Luongo
Christie Willard

PA Deputy Sheriffs' Association
James Lee
Harry McKinney
Paris Washington

The March 7, 2014 meeting of the Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Board (DSETB) was called to order by Chairman Carmen DeLuca, at 8:00 a.m., at the Toftrees Golf Resort and Conference Center, One Country Club Lane, State College, Pennsylvania 16803.

The meeting began with the election of officers. Mr. Donald Numer, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), asked for nominations for the position of Chairman. Commissioner Wayne E. Nothstein nominated Chairman DeLuca. Sheriff Todd A. Martin seconded the nomination for Chairman DeLuca. Nominations for Board Chairman were closed after no other nominations were made.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to re-elect Chairman DeLuca as Board Chairman. Sheriff Martin seconded the motion and it was passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Chairman DeLuca nominated Sheriff Martin for the office of Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Nothstein seconded the nomination. No additional nominations were made.

Chairman DeLuca made a motion to elect Sheriff Martin as Vice-Chairman of the DSETB. Commissioner Nothstein seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Numer stated that we did not have a quorum of members at the December 17, 2013 meeting. He explained that the DSETB would need to approve the minutes from the December meeting and vote on all the action items that were discussed during the meeting. Mr. Numer asked if everyone had the opportunity to review the minutes. He stated that if there were no questions, then he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes.

Chairman DeLuca made a motion to approve the DSETB minutes from the December 17, 2013 meeting. Lieutenant David Godfrey seconded the motion and it passed the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Numer stated that during the December meeting Deputy Mark Kellam made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2013 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nothstein. The motion received three affirmative votes and no opposing votes or abstentions. Mr. Numer asked for a motion to approve the September 18, 2013 meeting minutes.

Chairman DeLuca made a motion to approve the September 18, 2013 meeting minutes. Commissioner Nothstein seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Numer stated that during the December meeting Lieutenant David Godfrey made a motion to approve the fiscal report for the state fiscal year 2013-2014, period ending September 30, 2013. The motion was seconded by Deputy Kellam. The motion received three affirmative votes and no opposing votes or abstentions. Mr. Numer asked for a motion to approve the fiscal report for the period ending September 30, 2013.

Deputy Kellam made a motion to approve the fiscal report for the period ending September 30, 2013. Sheriff Eric Weaknecht seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

During the December meeting, Lieutenant Godfrey made a motion to approve four Partial Training Waiver Requests. The motion was seconded by Deputy Kellam. The motion received three affirmative votes and no opposing votes or abstentions. The requests were for Deputies Gregory Heiston and David Junkins, Franklin County; Rudolph Hansen, Adams County; and Gregory Tischler, Sullivan County. These requests were for the approval of their prior law enforcement training and experience obtained from jurisdictions not within Pennsylvania. Mr. Numer asked for a motion to approve the Partial Training Waiver Requests.

Chairman DeLuca made a motion to approve the Partial Training Waiver Requests. Sheriff Martin seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes.

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

During the December meeting, Lieutenant Godfrey made a motion to approve the instructor applications for Nancy Clemens, Professional Development; Gregory Bowers, Firearms; Daniel Clark, Firearms and Defensive Tactics; Ralph Varrato, Firearms, Defensive Tactics, and Officer Safety; Hugh Ferrill, Active Shooter Training; and William Schmid, Active Shooter Training. Deputy Kellam seconded the motion and it received three affirmative votes and no opposing votes or abstentions. Mr. Numer asked for a motion to approve the instructor applications.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to approve the instructor applications for Ms. Clemens, Mr. Bowers, Mr. Clark, Mr. Varrato, Mr. Ferrill, and Mr. Schmid. Sheriff Martin seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Chairman DeLuca asked Mr. Numer to provide the DSETB fiscal report. Mr. Numer reviewed the fiscal report for the state fiscal year 2013-2014, for the period ending December 31, 2013. The balance from the previous year was \$14,131,838.61. Fee collections for the fiscal year were estimated at \$4,669,605.00. The estimated total funds available were \$18,801,443.61. Expenditures and commitments totaled \$14,752,762.45. The balance as of December 31, 2013 was \$4,048,681.16.

Sheriff Weaknecht made a motion to approve the fiscal report for the state fiscal year 2013-2014, for the period ending December 31, 2013. Commissioner Nothstein seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Numer provided the supervisor's report. Mr. Numer reminded everyone that the tour of the Basic Training Academy would begin at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Robert Stonis, Penn State University, handed out the tour schedule and was available to answer questions. Mr. Numer explained that bus transportation would be provided for the tour. Board members, staff and sheriffs were to enjoy lunch together at the campus dining facility used by the

deputies attending the academy. The tour included visits to the class room, fitness facilities, firearms range, and simulation complex. The simulation complex was recently equipped with Lasor Shot technology. Mr. Numer stated that this is a firearms simulation system that will be used in Basic Training.

Mr. Numer reported that the current Basic Training class has 40 deputies. This is the first time we reached the maximum student enrollment. Mr. Numer stated that a meeting was held yesterday, March 6, 2014, with academy staff and the curriculum development staff from Penn State Fayette. The meeting was to discuss the proposed changes to the Waiver Training Program. Penn State Fayette surveyed all the sheriffs and any deputies that attended the waiver training. A lot of positive comments were provided. One theme of the survey was that deputies want more “hands-on” training. Mr. Numer stated that the amount of hours will not change, but how the instruction is presented will be different. Mr. Numer informed the DSETB that the Continuing Education Program was receiving positive evaluations from attendees. There was an issue with one instructor that Temple University addressed. The instructor was no longer going to teach for the program. Mr. Numer stated that if the DSETB desired more information, then he recommended the Board take a recess and conduct an executive session. No one requested an executive session. Mr. Numer stated that the 2014 on-line courses are available. In addition, the 2014 Train the Trainer (TTT) Firearms Instructor Classes were announced. Mr. Numer stated that Training Bulletin 128 was released last week. This Bulletin announced the TTT Court Security Instructor Training. This is a new addition to the TTT Program. The first course was scheduled for June 2014, in State College, PA.

Mr. Numer updated the DSETB regarding the proposed legislation to include sheriffs in the Training Act. Senate Bill 1158 was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 14, 2014. House Bill 1772 was approved by the House Local Government Committee on January 29, 2014. Both Bills contain the same language. They were introduced in both the House and Senate. Mr. Numer stated that if the proposed changes are enacted, there will be several issues that staff and the DSETB will need to address. The proposed changes include training for sheriffs and provisions for the decertification of training. Any deputy that has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor of the first or second degree would be decertified. Mr. Numer stated that if the proposed legislation is enacted, he would recommend forming a committee to create policy and regulation to implement the legislation.

Mr. Douglas Hummel, PCCD, reviewed the time waiver request for Deputy Shannon Leslie, Beaver County. Sheriff George David requested a time waiver for Deputy Leslie. Deputy Leslie recently was certified through Act 120 and obtained full time employment with the Allegheny County Probation Department. She was unable to obtain leave to attend the Waiver Training Program until the March 2014 class. The request was for Deputy Leslie to be granted a time waiver so she could continue serving as a part-time deputy until she was able to attend the required certification training. The time waiver request did not comply with the DSETB Policy.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to deny the time waiver request. Lieutenant Godfrey seconded the motion and the time waiver was denied with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the time waiver request for Deputy Heather Armagost. Sheriff Jeffrey Krieg requested a time waiver for Deputy Armagost. The request was for Deputy Armagost to be granted a time waiver so she could attend the supervisors training. This time waiver request complied with the DSETB Policy.

Sheriff Weaknecht made a motion to approve the time waiver request for Deputy Armagost. Sheriff Martin seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the instructor applications submitted by Temple University for Mr. Roger Gunesch, Security, Civil Law, Officer Safety, and Professional Development; and Ms. Christie Willard, Criminal Law, Security, Physical Conditioning, Civil Law, Officer Safety, Crisis Intervention, Professional Development, and Investigations.

Sheriff Martin made a motion to approve the instructor applications. Deputy Kellam seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the list of Partial Training Waiver Applications approved by the Training Supervisor. This was for informational purposes and did not require DSETB action. Mr. Hummel explained that these waivers are in accordance with the Training Policy.

Chairman DeLuca asked for the report on Basic Training. Mr. Donald Zettlemyer, Penn State University, reminded everyone about the academy tour.

Chairman DeLuca asked for the report on the Curriculum Development Contract. Mr. Ted Mellors, Penn State Fayette, stated that five on-line merit courses for 2015 are being developed. The continuing education training curriculum for the 2015-2017 training

cycle is being developed. In addition, staff is reviewing the basic training modules for updates.

Chairman DeLuca asked for the report on the Continuing Education Delivery Contract. Mr. Anthony Luongo, Temple University, informed the DSETB that the 2013-2015 training cycle began in October 2013, in Bethlehem, PA. Mr. Luongo reported that course evaluations have been favorable. He acknowledged that one instructor was terminated for unprofessional behavior.

Mr. Luongo reported that approximately 50 deputies have registered for the 2014 on-line merit courses. He stated that the first Active Shooter Merit Training was recently held at the Ambler Campus of Temple University. The program consisted of one day of class lecture and two days of “hands-on” training. A vacant dormitory building was used for the scenario-based training portion of the class. Course evaluations were positive.

Ms. Christie Willard, Temple University, reported that the continuing education program evaluations were positive. Continuing education is currently being offered in Monroeville, PA and Allegheny County.

Chairman DeLuca announced that the next meeting of the DSETB was scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2014, at 9:00 a.m., at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Chairman DeLuca asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Sheriff Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deputy Kellam seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m. with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members DeLuca, Godfrey, Kellam, Martin, Nothstein, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None