

MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION

Minutes – 49th Meeting – April 19, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Arnold Downing, Chairman, MD Municipal League Police Executive Association (Vice-Chair)
Sheriff Scott Adams President, Maryland Sheriff's Association
Clyde Boatwright, Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police
Colonel Roland Butler, Superintendent, Department of State Police
W. Michael Crabbs, Community Policing Expert
Miguel Dennis, Policing Standards Expert
Richard Gibson, Maryland State's Attorneys' Association
Zenita Hurley, representing the Office of the Attorney General
Director Gary Cordner, representing Police Commissioner Michael Harrison, Baltimore Police Department
John Moses, Wor-Wic Program Advisory Committee – Criminal Justice
Thomas Sobocinski Special Agent in Charge, Baltimore Office, FBI
Chief Robert V. Liberati, Jr., representing the President, Police Chiefs Association of Prince George's County

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chief Barbara Duncan, Salisbury Police Department, Regional Representative (Chair)
Sheriff Troy Berry, Charles County Sheriff's Office, Regional Representative
Chief Russell E. Hamill, President, Maryland Chiefs of Police Association
Matthew Alonsozana, Citizen of the State
Dr. Michael Finegan, Mental Health Expert
Marcus Pollock, Citizen of the State
Vacancy, Citizen of the State

STAFF PRESENT

Wayne Silver, Executive Director, PTSC
Albert Liebno, Executive Director, PCTC
Kelly Brauning, Certification Administrator
Stephanie Cain, Compliance Administrator
Sarah Chatfield, Technical Services
Kate Gossard, Director of Support Services
Matthew Mellady, Asst. Attorney General
Joan Henard, Certification
Gina Clay, Certification
Gary Gardner, Director of Policy and Process Review
Katie Johnson, Recorder
Matthew Mellady, Assistant Attorney General
Chaka Cross, Recorder
Kevin Duerling, Certification

GUESTS

Carl Miller, Cheverly Police
Wayne Jackson, Glenarden Police
Bryant Zanders, Landover Hills Police
Dwight Forsythe, Glenarden Police
Tracey Freeman, Cheverly Police
Greg Eyler, Thurmont Police
P.A. Dronebury, Thurmont Police
Nicole Fair, Thurmont Police

Christopher Bratburd, Thurmont Police
Greg Chatfield, Maryland State Police

Chief Arnold Downing, acting Chair, called the 49th meeting of the Police Training and Standards Commission (PTSC) from the Public Safety Education and Training Center to order at 10:01 a.m. Chief Downing asked for a roll call of members. A quorum was present.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes – January 4, 2023
2. Facility Report
3. Legal Issues
4. Old Business
 - a) Training Director Objective Project
 - b) Out of State Regulation Update
5. New Business
 - a) Updated Training Objectives
6. Request for Recertification
7. Request for Recertification
8. Request for Recertification
9. Request for Certification
10. Decertification Hearing Determination

1. Approval of Minutes – January 4, 2023

Chief Downing asked members to review the minutes from the January 4, 2023 meeting.

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2023-meeting of the Police Training and Standards Commission was made by Sheriff Scott Adams: SECONDED: Director Gary Corder. The MOTION carried.

2. Facility Report

Mr. Albert Liebno, Executive Director of the Police & Correctional Training Commissions, directed members to the report, which reviewed the activities at the Center during the past quarter. He informed the members that we are continually hosting training programs with respect to the Police Accountability Board, Administrative Charging Committee, Mediation, and the Disciplinary Matrix. We are ahead of the compliance schedule for certifications and all agencies that are not in compliance have been notified. New Driver training simulators are in the final procurement process and several driver's training skills areas are being renovated over the summer. The learning management system (LMS) is in its final phase of the procurement process. Amendments to Senate Bill 110 to change the reporting process as required by House Bill 1016 (2016) for Community Policing Reporting from annual to bi-annual was presented by Senator Jackson, but was denied.

3. Legal Issues

Assistant Attorney General Matthew Mellady stated that the definition of police misconduct has been brought under question during trainings and legislature. He outlined the current definition and stated that the question is whether all three have to be involved to constitute misconduct. The Office of the Attorney General is taking the position of not presenting a formal opinion but addressing individual questions as they come based off the broad scope of the definition in the statute.

A MOTION to request an amendment to the statute to clearly define the meaning of police misconduct was made by Mr. Richard Gibson: SECONDED: Mr. Clyde Boatwright-The MOTION carried.

4. Old Business

a) Training Directors Curriculum Training Project Update

Mr. Silver introduced Lt. Gregory Chatfield of the MD State Police and the Chair of the MD Training Directors' Association (TDA). Lt Chatfield was able to present the proposal to the whole body of the TDA and concern was expressed about the multi-year timeline and to slow down the initiation and of the objectives. Lt. Chatfield is working with the TDA and they have identified that resources are limited for a program manager and curriculum experts. Baltimore City is the only agency in the state with curriculum experts, but is unable to commit to assisting with the project. Lt. Chatfield asked if financial resources were available to fund a project manager and curriculum experts to move the project forward. Mr. Silver discussed that the project may be better served by becoming a collaborative effort between the PTSC and the TDA.

Mr. John Moses stated that the current objectives don't cover juvenile interviews, implicit bias, lawful powers of arrest or the reporting of race incidents and that some objectives are not measurable. The timeline for updated objectives is slated for October 1st and an update will be given at the July meeting. If objectives are done prior to October they can be presented via a special virtual meeting.

A MOTION to postpone the implementation of the new objectives until October, unless finished earlier, was made by Mr. John Moses: SECONDED; Ms. Zenita Hurley. The MOTION carried.

b) Out of State Officer Certification

Mr. Silver called on Mr. Gary Gardner, Director, Policy, Grants & Special Projects for the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions to provide an update. Mr. Gardner advised that edits to COMAR regulations to increase the training hours minimum from 750 to 850 was submitted to AELR and returned with no comments. The edits are now with the Division of State Documents. The earliest adoption date is anticipated to be mid-July, with an effective date of July 24, 2023.

5. New Business

a) Updated Training Objectives

In conjunction with the training objectives discussion under Old Business, Mr. Silver noted that there were gaps in the job task analysis and the determined objectives. Lt. Chatfield asked if financial resources were available to fund a project manager and curriculum experts to move the project forward. Mr. Silver discussed that the project may be better served by becoming a collaborative effort between the PTSC and the TDA.

Mr. John Moses stated that the current objectives don't cover juvenile interviews, implicit bias, lawful powers of arrest or the reporting of race incidents and that some objectives are not measurable. The timeline for updated objectives is slated for October 1st and an update will be given at the July meeting. If objectives are done prior to October they can be presented via a special virtual meeting.

Chief Downing announced that the Commission would hear the next five items in Closed Session.

Recorder's Note: Ms. Cross read the required closed session statement into the record.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Richard Gibson to adjourn to a Closed Session: SECONDEDED: Mr. John Moses. The Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 10:37am.

Recorder's Note: Sheriff Scott Adams stepped out of the meeting at 10:38am and returned at 10:40 am.

7. Request for Recertification

A MOTION to deny the recertification was made by Mr. John Moses: SECONDEDED: Mr. Richard Gibson. The members were polled and the MOTION carried.

8. Request for Recertification

A MOTION to grant the recertification was made by Mr. Clyde Boatwright: SECONDEDED: Mr. Richard Gibson. The members were polled and the MOTION carried.

9. Request for Recertification

A MOTION to grant the recertification was made by Mr. Clyde Boatwright: SECONDEDED: Mr. John Moses. The members were polled and the MOTION carried.

10. Request for Certification

A MOTION to grant the certification was made by Mr. Richard Gibson: SECONDEDED: Sheriff Scott Adams. The members were polled and the MOTION carried.

11. Decertification Hearing Determination

A MOTION to not hold a decertification hearing was made by Sheriff Scott Adams: SECONDEDED: Mr. Clyde Boatwright. The members were polled and the MOTION carried

A MOTION was made by Mr. Michael Crabbs to adjourn to an open session: SECONDEDED: Mr. Richard Gibson. The MOTION carried unanimously.

Recorder's Note: This concluded the closed session. The meeting adjourned to an open session at 1:48 p.m.

Mr. Silver announced the outcome of the items heard in closed session.

Mr. Silver petitioned the Commission members to consider moving the July, 5 2023 meeting to July 12, 2023.

A MOTION to change the next meeting date was made by Mr. Richard Gibson: SECONDEDED: Mr. Clyde Boatwright. The MOTION carried.

Mr. Silver noted that membership changes were currently being considered by the Governor's office, and thanked all members for their service.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Mr. Miguel Dennis: SECONDEDED: Mr. Michael Crabbs. The MOTION carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

<p>These "minutes" are a synopsis of the Commissions' discussions and decisions and not a verbatim rendering of the proceedings.</p>
--