Meeting Date and Time: September 24, 2024 (11:30am – 12:30pm)

Meeting Physical Location: 317 Academy Rd. Pittsford, VT 05763

Meeting Remote Location: Teams Meeting Information below

Members present: Trevor Whipple, Mike O’Neil, James Whitcomb, Tucker Jones, Karen Tronsgard-Scott, Chrsitopher Brickell, Mark Anderson, Tom Chenette

Staff present: Kim McManus

No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order: Chair Whipple called the meeting to order at approximately 11:36am.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

 No additions or deletions.

3. Approval of August 20, 2024 meeting minutes

O’Neil moved the committee to accept the August 20, 2024 meeting minutes; motion seconded by Whitcomb, approved by all members present.

4. Review Feedback re Code of Conduct

Subcommittee reviewed the documents submitted prior to the meeting that contained feedback. Documents included an email from Council member Chapman, RDAP meeting notes, and VLCT labor attorney mark up.

No other feedback was submitted.

5. Discuss and Edit Code of Conduct

Subcommittee reviewed each clause of the Code of Conduct with the respective feedback and either accepted or rejected the

1. The untruthfulness standard was intentionally drafted to address untruthfulness under official circumstances. Other acts of lying or untruthfulness may impact an officer’s employment but this clause is focused on whether an officer maintains their certification. After discussion, the subcommittee decided to leave the language of clause one as previously drafted.
2. The subcommittee processed feedback that this clause appeared bloated and unwieldy. Subcommittee discussed whether this clause could be simplified, and at what cost. Subcommittee acknowledged that the state mandated FIP Policy covers the intention of this clause. However a shortened statement with a reference to the Fip policy was too vague. After much discussion, the subcommittee decided to leave this clause as originally drafted.
3. Subcommittee decided clause as written encompassed the suggested edits so clause 3 remained as is.
4. Clause 4 language was taken directly from existing statute. Leave as is for consistency sake for officers.

5 and 6. Left as is, no feedback

7. while suggested edits were appreciated, subcommittee found its drafted language was more than adequate to capture sexual misconduct violations. Subcommittee agreed to keep language as drafted.

8. subcommittee agreed to add “without authorization under policy” prior to “convert to my own use….” This clarification was added to make clear that if an officer comes to possess a piece of property as a result of an agency’s policy to dispose of old property, that scenario would not be a basis for a category B code of conduct violation.

9. “official” was added before “conduct”

10. “assist in” was added in two places

7. *Action Item:* Motion to Approve the Code of Conduct as edited during today’s meeting made by Anderson, seconded by Whitcomb, all members present voted yes.

8. Public Comment

 No member of the public present for comment.

Appreciations made for the committee’s work and patience in going overtime.

9. Motion to Adjourn the meeting made at 12:58 by Anderson, seconded by Tronsgard-Scott, all present in favor of adjourning.