

Use of Force Committee Meeting

18 July 2018

Prepared by James Park, Technology and Program Clerk

Members Present: Corporal Michael Akerlind, Sergeant Eugene Duplissis, Warden Russell Shopland, Corporal Raymond Lopes, Wade Johnson – VT DOC, Trooper Paul Sokolowski

Members Absent: Officer Scott Fisher, Sheriff Donald Keeler, Sergeant Matthew Murano, Chief Robbie Blish

Other persons present: Officer Jason Williams

Academy Representatives: Executive Director Richard Gauthier, Director of Training Cindy Taylor-Patch, Training Coordinator Jacob Hansell, Technology and Program Services James Park.

Pre-meeting announcement: Executive Director Gauthier announced that based on recommendation from the committee Chair Corporal Michael Akerlind, Trooper Paul Sokolowski has been added to the Use of Force and Tactics Committee, replacing Lt. Walter Smith.

Meeting called to order: 10:05 am

Old Business

- **Approval of the 11 October 2017 meeting Minutes**
 - Motion to accept the minutes as is was made by Sergeant Duplissis, Motion was seconded by Corporal Lopes.
 - **Motion passed unanimously**
- **Approval of the 30 March 2018 meeting Minutes**
 - Motion to accept the minutes as is was made by Wade Johnson, Motion was seconded by Trooper Sokolowski.
 - **Motion passed unanimously**
- **Patrol Rifle Course sub committee report**
 - Warden Shopland, Sergeant Duplissis, and Corporal Lopes reported that they agreed that adding three days to the current firearms instructor course was the best way to handle this issue.
 - They have decided to create a course curriculum to present at the next committee meeting. This will include shotgun as well.
 - **Informal no action needed**
- **Report on 2018 Firearms instructor course status**



- Training Coordinator Hansell gave a brief update on the status of the 2018 firearms instructor course – everything is proceeding smoothly, and the testing will start in August.
- **Informal no action needed**
- **Report on recent Use of Force and Tactics Instructor School**
 - Corporal Akerlind let the committee know that the completion of the most recent school 27 new use of force and tactics instructors were added to help meeting the increased demand.
 - **Informal no action needed**

New Business

ISSUE 1: Regional Vermont Specific CEW Training

- Executive Director Gauthier spoke to the committee on allowing Vermont Specific CEW training to be held regionally.
- While no action was taken, the committee stressed that it would be a logistical quagmire and would like to see concrete numbers and demands before they were comfortable making a decision.
- **Informal no action needed**

ISSUE 2: Removing PEDDA from Use of Lethal Force block of instruction.

- Officer Williams spoke to the committee on removing PEDDA from the time allotted to his Use of Lethal Force course, it is a discipline that is taught in multiple courses and the time it takes up in Use of Lethal Force could be better spent on other topics.
 - Warden Shopland made a motion to remove it. Motion was seconded by Corporal Lopes.
 - **Motion Passed Unanimously**
- After Officer Williams left, the Committee recommended expanding the time limit on Use of Deadly Force instruction to eight hours.
 - Sergeant Duplissis made the motion to support the increase the time limit, Corporal seconded the motion.
 - **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Meeting Adjourned: 11:30

