

**VERMONT CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COUNCIL**

**April 2, 2020**

**PITTSFORD, VERMONT**

**2:30 PM phone conference**

**Members in Attendance**

Chief Christopher Brickell, Chair, Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police

Heather Simons, Vice Chair, Proxy for Commissioner Mike Touchette,  
Vermont Department of Corrections

Jason Batchelder, Proxy for Commissioner Louis Porter, VT Dept of Fish &  
Wildlife

Sergeant Timothy Gould, Vermont Trooper's Association

David Scherr, Proxy for Attorney General TJ Donovan, Vermont Attorney General's Office

Colonel William Elovirta, Proxy for Interim Commissioner Wanda Minoli, Vermont Dept of Motor  
Vehicles

Erica Marthage, Bennington County State's Attorney

Gary Moore, Public Seat

Mark Anderson, Vermont Sheriff's Association

Major Ingrid Jonas, Vermont State Police, Proxy for Commissioner Michael Schirling

**Absent**

Silas Loomis, VT Constables Association

Michael Major, Vermont Police Association

Commissioner Michael Schirling, Vermont Dept of Public Safety

**Other Attendance**

Jacob Humbert, Assistant Attorney General

Trevor Whipple, Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns

Gail Williams, Vermont Police Academy

Cynthia Taylor-Patch, Vermont Police Academy

Drew Bloom, Vermont Police Academy

Stephen Benard

Colonel Matthew Birmingham

1. **Chief Brickell:** Called the meeting to order at 2:30.
  
2. **Executive Session:** Gary Moore made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss employment of a public officer or employee. Executive Session included Stephen Benard.
  - Council came out of Executive Session approximately 2:50
  
  - Council Members came to the conclusion in concurrence with Director Gauthier it is in the best interest of Director Gauthier, given the training challenges during the COVID-19

pandemic and the need to retool training, for him to step aside immediately and put in place a management team given his pending retirement.

- Roll call vote consisted of Chris Brickell, Mark Anderson, Gary Moore, Mike O'Neil (proxy for Tim Gould who abstained from voting), Jake Elovirta, Jason Batchelder, Heather Simons, Erica Marthage, Ingrid Jonas, and David Scherr. All were in favor. Motion Passed.
  - Sheriff Anderson made a motion for Drew Bloom, Cynthia Taylor-Patch, plus two Vermont State Police personnel to serve as an Interim Management Team for basic training. Second by Gary Moore. All in favor motion passed.
  - A motion was made by Sheriff Anderson and second by Col. Elovirta to establish a three-person Interim Management. Oversight committee consisting of Chief Chris Brickell, Ret. Sheriff Stephen Benard, and Major Ingrid Jonas. All in favor. Motion passed.
- 3. Prior Council decision of Level III provisional certification returning to level II:** Cindy Taylor-Patch explained the concerns of the prior decision and asked for the recruits in the 109<sup>th</sup> to be Provisionally certified as Level II, work under that scope of practice, and have a modified field training program. Once able to resume training, have the 109<sup>th</sup> class come back for missing training to become Level III certified. Matt Birmingham let the Council know the Commissioner of Public Safety is seeking permission from the governor to have the authority for anyone in the 109<sup>th</sup> class to come back in a self-quarantined environment to continue training. Cindy has been working on a draft memo which would allow a quarantined period (preventative quarantine) to allow recruits and trainers the ability to work together. Chief Brickell noted there would be a need to find an off-site location for this training so each person would have their own bathrooms.
- Stephen Benard advised the vote from the last meeting will need to be rescinded.
  - Sheriff Anderson made the motion to rescind the vote from the last meeting and allow the recruits in the 109<sup>th</sup> to receive Level II Provisional certification for now pending their return to finish missed training and receiving full Level III certification. Second by Gary Moore.
    - Roll call vote in favor of this motion was made by Chris Brickell, Mark Anderson, Gary Moore, Tim Gould, Jake Elovirta, Jason Batchelder, Heather Simons, Ingrid Jonas, and David Scherr.

Major Jonas informed the Council the two Vermont State personnel at this time to be part of the Interim Management Team will be Lt. Steven Coote and Sgt. Timothy Gould.

Sheriff Anderson made a motion to adjourn, second by Jason Batchelder.

Meeting adjourned 3:29