

VERMONT CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COUNCIL

March 27, 2019

PITTSFORD, VERMONT

9:00 AM

Members in Attendance

Chief Christopher Brickell, Chair, Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police
Heather Simons, Vice Chair, Proxy for Commissioner Lisa Menard, Vermont
Department of Corrections

George Scribner, Proxy for Commissioner Louis Porter, VT Dept of Fish &
Wildlife

Michael Major, Vermont Police Association

Major Ingrid Jonas, Vermont State Police

Sergeant Timothy Gould, Vermont Trooper's Association

Colonel William Elovirta, Proxy for Interim Commissioner Wanda Minoli, Vermont Dept of Motor Vehicles
Gary Moore, Public Seat

Sheriff Stephen Benard, Vermont Sheriff's Association

Silas Loomis, VT Constables Association

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

Missing

Erica Marthage, Bennington County State's Attorney

Other Attendance

Executive Director Richard Gauthier, Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council

Director Cindy Taylor-Patch, Vermont Police Academy

Jacob Humbert, Assistant Attorney General

Trevor Whipple, Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns

James Park, Vermont Police Academy

Chief Brickell: Called the meeting to order at 9:11.

Addition to or Subtraction from agenda: CRI-TAC Update has been added to the agenda.

Approval of Prior Minutes: Silas Loomis made a motion to accept prior minutes, second by Sheriff Benard.
All in favor, motion passed.

Executive Director's Report:

- **Legislative Update:**
 - Several bills regarding Fair & Impartial policing were withdrawn, at this time it is unclear how or if this will affect mandated training.
 - S273 appears to have been resurrected in almost the exact form that it was struck down in before.
- **Entrance Test Workgroup:**
 - After looking into what other academies are doing across the country the group has decided to further investigate what Florida academies are doing. They appear to be working closely with the DOJ and IOS to develop a test and it could be a promising route to follow.
- **Waiver and 2E Application Updates:**

- Executive Director Gauthier asked the council to review the Waiver application for an out of state applicant. They only have two years of fulltime service with an out of state agency but believe that they will meet the requirement if they can also use the time they have working part-time with an instate agency.
 - Council reaffirmed that three (3) years of fulltime service is the requirement for the waiver program. The department is welcome to appeal that decision to the council if they wish.
- Executive Director Gauthier presented a letter in addition to previously submitted documentation for Steven Thiersch's Level 2E application. The council found this additional documentation to also not meet the needed specifications for Level 2E certification.
 - *Gary Moore made a motion to deny this Level 2E application, Motion seconded by Sheriff Benard.*
 - *Motion Passed unanimously.*
- **Alternate Path Workgroup Update:**
 - The workgroup has decided to focus on looking at ways to get someone from Level II to Level III, at the moment they are looking at the CLEP method where someone acquiring enough training hours would qualify them for the increased certification.
 - *No requirements have been set, and no decision has been made.*
- **DRE Update:** Money that was once thought to be available for this position has become unavailable for the time being.
 - Talks will continue with NHTSA to see if the money is truly unavailable and meetings to see if alternative funding is available have been set up.

CRI-TAC Update: Heather Simons gave an update to the Council. The request has been approved, and she will soon be in contact with them to set up visitation and to figure out what documentation will be needed. She is expecting this to be a six (6) to eight (8) week process.

Missing Time at the academy: Chief Christopher Brickell on behalf of the Chief's Association asked the council to talk about ways, if there are any, that someone can miss time at the Level II Academy and continue with the process.

- While the council does feel the pain of the smaller agencies and sympathizes with them outside of increasing the resources and time commitment to the Level II program there is no way to accomplish this. Academy staff will whenever it is possible arrange for make up time for missed courses but with what they currently have available to them in terms of recourses it is not always possible to do so.
 - While no action was needed, the council believes that these decisions are best left in the hands of the Academy staff.

Executive Session:

- Council entered executive session to discuss the contract with Tris Coffin

Additional:

- Gary Moore made a motion to allow the Executive Director and Jacob Humbert to be able to negotiate contract with legal representation in a simplified bid process in regard to the Dan Troidl contract. Seconded by Sheriff Stephen Benard.
 - Motion passed unanimously.

Heather Simons made a motion to adjourn, second by Mike Major

Meeting adjourned at 11:25