



Vermont Criminal Justice Council

Council Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2021

Members in Attendance

William Sorrell, Chair – Governor Appointed
Brian Searles – Governor Appointed
Karim Chapman – Governor Appointed
Tammy Boudah – Governor Appointed
Christopher Louras – Governor Appointed
Shawn Pratt – Governor Appointed
Michael Schirling – Commissioner of Public Safety
Heather Simons – proxy for Interim Commissioner James Baker, Dept of Corrections
Anthony Facos – proxy for Commissioner Wanda Minoli, Dept of Motor Vehicles
Col. Jason Batchelder – proxy for Commissioner Louis Porter, Vermont Fish & Wildlife
Mourning Fox – proxy for Commissioner Sarah Squirrell, Dept of Mental Health
David Scherr – proxy for Attorney General TJ Donovan, Attorney General's Office
Erica Marthage – proxy for Executive Director John Campbell, Sates Attorney & Sheriff's
Xusana Davis – Executive Director Racial Equity
Sgt. Erin Hodges - Vermont Troopers Association
Officer Michael Major – Vermont Police Association
Chief Christopher Brickell – Vermont Chief's Association
Sheriff Mark Anderson – Vermont Sheriff's Association
John Federico – Vermont State Employees Association
Trevor Whipple – Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Elaine Boyce – proxy for E.D. Chris Fenno, Center for Crime Victims Services
Cassandra Burdyshaw – proxy for E.D. Bor Yang, Human Rights Commission
E. D. Karen Tronsgard-Scott – Network DOMV/Sexual Violence

Other Attendees

Major Ingrid Jonas, proxy for Commissioner Michael Schirling, Dept of Public Safety
Major Justin Stedman – proxy for Commissioner Louis Porter, VT Fish & Wildlife
Jacob Humbert, Assistant Attorney General
Interim Director William Sheets, Vermont Police Academy
Gail Williams, Vermont Police Academy
Cindy Taylor-Patch, Vermont Police Academy



Vermont Criminal Justice Council Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order: 10:08

Interim Director Bill Sheets: Brief hello and welcome, call the meeting to order.

VCJC Chair Bill Sorrell: The Chair provided welcoming comments. The Chair underscored the need to revise the Council rules. In the interim, the outdated rules, other than those affording due process rights, will not be followed to the extent they are inconsistent with S. 124, the legislative act creating the Council.

Vermont Criminal Justice Council member/proxy introductions

Bill Sheets: Executive Director updates

Director of Administration position (Background investigation phase, interviews were yesterday)

Executive Director Search (In process, 19 applicants)

Overview of responsibilities, discussion about online reference resource

Discussion about VPA staffing/responsibility (12 Full-time members when fully staffed)

Heavy reliance on the support of our partner agencies

Brief Description of Training

Fairly unique concept for training as we all attend the same training, and we are all certified by the VCJC

There is nearly always training here on campus (provide a rough sense of schedule)
110th Basic Recruit Class graduates tomorrow after a slight delay due to COVID-19 (22 recruits)

Ongoing Disc about next steps due to COVID

Total # of training law enforcement in VT (FTE/Full-Time Equivalent)

# of FTE in VT	(1480 level III certified LE in VT)	*800 hours over roughly 16 weeks
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# of PTE in VT	(333 level II certified LE in VT)	*80/50/60 hours over 3 phases
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Act 56 professional regulation



Vermont Criminal Justice Council Council Meeting Minutes

Legislative impacts: S. 124

Sub-Committee discussion:

Will send out for options review, return by Monday the 11th

VCJC will appoint sub-committee chairs for new committees and make all assignments by Monday the 18th

List of current VCJC Sub-Committees

- Domestic Violence Committee
- Canine Committee
- Use-of-Force Committee
- Training Advisory Committee
- Highway Safety Committee
- Fair and Impartial Policing Committee

Suggested VCJC Sub-Committees:

- Professional Regulation sub-committee
- Waiver Sub-Committee (re-establish this committee)
- Comprehensive Training/Curriculum Review sub-committee
 - Should be combined with Training Advisory Committee/rebranded
- Entrance Requirements sub-committee (written exam, psychological profile)
- AD-Hoc Committees (Ex. Body Worn Camera policy)
 - VCJC work closely with the LEAB/others

Legislative reporting deadlines:

January 15, 2021: House and Senate Appropriations and Government Operations (Resource needs)

March 15, 2021: House and Senate Government Operations (verbal progress report on S. 124)

Council Rules: Need for updates/Administrative Procedures (solicit volunteers)

Open Discussion:

Next Steps:

Identify Sub-Committees of interest (form will be sent out)

Next Meeting Dates: Wednesday January 20th at 10 am for 2021 we will send out invites soon



Vermont Criminal Justice Council Council Meeting Minutes

Major Ingrid Jonas made a motion to adjourn, second by Chief Brickell. All in favor
Meeting adjourned 12:02