**K9 Committee Meeting**

**February 22, 2023**

**Members in Attendance:**

Richard Slusser

Mark Redmond

Dustin Snyder

Scott Dunlap

Robert Ryan

Christopher Brickell

Emily Leinoff (minutes)

**Virtual Members:**

Robert Giolito

Michael Carifio

William Dodge

Jeremy Perkins

David Dewey

Meeting called to order at 12:30

Robert confirmed there are enough members for a quorum.

Dewey asked if members had a chance to review the draft minutes from January. Slusser advised he was not listed as a member present, and Redmond advised his name was spelled wrong. Dewey said he will correct them. A motion to approve the minutes by Giolito and a second from Redmond, all in favor, no opposed.

K9 Specialist Dustin Snyder from the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife was present to speak about the gun dog standards. He introduced himself and explained the changes regarding powder dogs now being called gun dogs for simplicity. He explained that when he was originally trained, there wasn’t an extensive imprinting process. He explained that he and Rob Sterling had gone to the Hits Conference and learned more of the science behind what they were doing. Snyder talked about how gun crimes have been on the rise and he has been called numerous times to agencies in Chittenden County to try to locate evidence in gun related crimes. Snyder went into detail regarding the science surrounding the gunpowder. Snyder said that the gun detection school is the same as the narcotics school at 240 hours. He developed a standard, and explained these are administrative finds, not for establishing grounds for a search warrant, they are more of an assist to agencies for a public search. Discussion ensued.

Dewey explained to the members that the reason he wanted Snyder to discuss this training was regarding the standards that are being written. Snyder said he reviewed the standards and there were powder detection and gun dogs listed, but that powder detection is going away and now it is now the gun dog standard. The members discussed how this mimics the other detection certification for testing areas. They discussed which areas would be mandatory and that vehicles would not be mandatory. Discussion continued about the specifics for the standards.

Members agreed to keep the areas to 3 so all detection teams are the same. The areas are warehouse, interior, and open air.

Dewey moved the discussion to the standards. He said the only changes he made were items they talked about. He rearranged items so it was in the same order. He also made terms more consistent. He will have someone make formatting changes for consistency when they are done revising the content.

Snyder left

Slusser said he hasn’t had time to go over the document in depth. He brought up two items that he saw that hadn't been changed that they had discussed. Dewey will make the changes and resend.

Dunlap also asked to have some items rearranged, which Dewey will do.

Discussion ensued about voting via email once these changes were made. The members agreed that they would meet before the annual meeting to discuss awards and these changes. The Annual Meeting is March 8th.

Dewey left

Slusser asked if anyone had anything else to discuss, which nobody did.Redmond made a motion to adjourn and Dunlap seconded the motion

Adjourned at 1306.