

COUNCIL ON LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REGULAR MEETING
Metro Technology Center, 4901 S. Bryant Ave., Oklahoma City, OK
October 26, 2016
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sheriff John Whetsel, Oklahoma County
Chief Michael Robinson, OSU DPS
Dr. James Burke, East Central University
Sheriff John Christian, Pontotoc County
Chief Bill Citty, Oklahoma City Police Dept.
Chief Bob Ricks, Edmond Police Dept.
Director John Scully, OBNDD
Chief Randy Wesley, Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse
Police Dept.
Sheriff Bobby Whittington, Tillman County

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Emmons, Executive Director
Charles Gerhart, Assistant Director
John Parker, Director of Administration
Shannon Butler, Training Manager
Gerald Konkler, General Counsel
Kelly James, Field Rep
Laurie Schweinle, Recording Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Director Stan Florence, OSBI
Major Pat Mays, Oklahoma Highway Patrol
Chief Ike Shirley, Bixby Police Dept.
Chief Jason Smith, Anadarko Police Dept.

GUESTS:

Ken McNair, Oklahoma Sheriff's Assoc.
Amanda English, Metro Tech
Mark Wilson, Metro Tech
Billie Smith, Metro Tech
Mark American Horse, Metro Tech

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Whetsel called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.

2. Open Meeting Act Compliance

Sheriff Whetsel confirmed that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

3. Roll Call

Roll was called, and nine members were present, representing a quorum.

4. Council Composition

There was no discussion.

5. Approval of Minutes

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Chief Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Chief Ricks seconded the motion. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington abstained. The motion carried 8-1.

6. Committee and Board Reports

There was no discussion.

7. Private Security Advisory Committee Composition

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff Christian made a motion to reappoint Mr. Alan Grayson. Chief City seconded the motion. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

8. Bomb Dog Advisory Council Composition

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff Christian made a motion to reappoint Deputy Clyde Carter. Chief Wesley seconded the motion. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

9. CLEET Financial Report

Director Emmons advised members that CLEET's main revenue source, the penalty assessment fees, had been decreasing and there is no reason to believe that the trend will reverse. John Parker informed members that the fee had been decreasing since 2011 and that it could affect the amount of cash CLEET has to spend if it falls below the appropriated level. He advised that carryover for FY '17 would be about \$250,000-\$270,000.

Chief Robinson asked why the revenue is declining. Chief Ricks said that the price of tickets is too high and many officers are not writing as many. Sheriff Whetsel added that many judges will be sure to collect the court fees but dismiss the rest. John Parker advised that there seem to be less adjudications and that CLEET has the authority to audit the courts but no staff to do that.

10. CLEET Certification for Career Techs

Attachment A was distributed to Council members.

Mark Wilson, Metro Tech, explained that the purpose of this item was to seek the Council's endorsement of credentials for students coming out of the tech centers' criminology programs. He said

that recognition of the program would help the students stay tied to the criminal justice industry during the 3 year gap between graduation and reaching the age requirement to be a police officer. He also said that Metro Tech could create an assessment for this certification with some help and attach a fee to the assessment, part of which could go back to CLEET.

Amanda English, Metro Tech, explained to Council members that the students completing the criminal justice program leave with an unarmed guard certification so they are ready to be employed upon graduation.

Chief City advised members that Oklahoma City PD is partnering with Career Techs and Oklahoma City Public Schools through this program. He advised that the courses and training are very good and allow the students to get some officer training early on. He added that there is a lot of character development included in the program and the students are required to do 16 hours of volunteer work with OKC PD.

Amanda English told members that many of the applicants in the program are minorities and that they are being put in the law enforcement pipeline before they receive charges that would eliminate their chances of being a police officer.

Sheriff Whittington asked if the students would be required to take an entire basic academy if they complete this program or if some of it could go toward those hours. Amanda English said that it's possible some things within the program could count for CLEET credit. Director Emmons advised he could see a lot of options with this program and that there are certainly some classes that can be taught ahead of attending the Basic Academy. He added that CLEET is always looking at ways to disperse training and decrease the amount of time officers have to spend in Ada. Director Emmons said that legislation may be needed since employment is required prior to attending the Basic. Sheriff Whetsel said that this program may be able to run similar to the COP which does not require employment.

Sheriff Whetsel said that he does not want this training to go to waste and would like to see the program expanded. Chief Ricks asked exactly what CLEET would be certifying. Director Emmons said that it could be recognized and approved by CLEET and that agencies would be getting advanced applicants.

Action Taken: Director Scully made a motion to allow CLEET staff to work with Career Tech staff to further develop this program and bring a plan back to the Council at a later date. Chief City seconded the motion. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

11. Meal Payment

Director Emmons began by giving a general overview of the meal payment process and explained that because we are required to pay the cafeteria weekly we have to require the agencies to pay CLEET in advance. He said that some counties claim that they are not allowed to pay in advance and that some agencies are not paying at all.

John Parker then gave a summary of how many agencies have not paid and about how much money is owed to CLEET. He said that the counties that are refusing to pay in advance have still not provided the statute they claim exempts them from this requirement. He also said that changing the language in

the statute to say this is a “registration fee” would eliminate the problem with the counties. He asked for guidance from the Council on what to do about the agencies that do not pay at all.

Members and staff then had a lengthy discussion about possible solutions to this problem including withholding certifications, removing cadets from the academy, adding a contract to guarantee payment for meals, and not allowing future enrollments in any Basic Academy by an agency that has not paid.

Action Taken: Chief City made a motion to give agencies a 30 day notice to pay for their cadet’s meals with the cadet being removed if the balance is not paid by the end of the 30 day period. Additionally the agency will not be allowed to enroll any cadets in any future Basic Academies until the balance is paid in full. Chief Wesley seconded the motion. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

12. Tactical Care Lesson Plan

Shannon Butler advised members of the tactical care lesson plan and kits provided through the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security. He said that there will be a train the trainer so that even if the grant runs out we will still have instructors to teach the material. He explained that it was not CLEET’s wish to force the Academy Cities to teach this lesson plan but that CLEET would like it to be an option to teach this or first aid.

Action Taken: Sheriff Whittington made a motion to allow all CLEET Basic Academies the option to teach either the Tactical Care course or First Aid. Sheriff Christian seconded the motion. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

13. 2017 Meeting Dates

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff Christian made a motion to approve the proposed 2017 meeting dates as presented with the January date being changed to January 11 and the April date being changed to April 12. Chief Wesley seconded the motion. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

14. Rule/Legislative Update

Attachments B, C, and D were distributed to members.

Director Emmons gave a brief overview of proposed rule changes.

Sheriff Whetsel left the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Director Emmons then gave a summary of possible legislation to be proposed by CLEET including an increase in meal costs to \$30 in order to bring back the evening meal, a \$1 increase in the penalty assessment fee, insurance surcharge for funding, and a fee on tags.

15. Actions Against Peace Officers

Gerald Konkler informed members that negligent homicide had been ruled by an administrative law judge as not being a crime of moral turpitude.

16. Divisional Reports

There was no discussion.

17. Director's Report

Director Emmons advised members that eyewitness identification had become a hot topic and that CLEET would likely be adding training in this area to the Basic Academy. He also advised that 4 off-site academies have been proposed for 2017, 2 in Broken Arrow and 2 in the OKC area.

18. Board Comments

Chief Ricks announced his retirement as of February 3, 2017.

19. New Business

There was no discussion.

20. Adjournment

Action Taken: Chief Ricks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Wesley seconded the motion. Chief Robinson voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Sheriff Christian voted yes. Chief City voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Director Scully voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. Sheriff Whittington voted yes. The motion carried 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.