

**COUNCIL ON LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REGULAR MEETING
K. O. Rayburn Training Center, 2401 Egypt Road, Ada, OK 74820
April 27, 2010
MINUTES**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chief Norman McNickle, Stillwater Police Dept.
Sheriff John Whetsel, Oklahoma County
Officer Ron Bartmier, Tulsa Police Dept.
Captain Todd Blish, Oklahoma Highway Patrol
Chief Clayton Johnson, Ponca City Police Dept.
Chief Jason O=Neal, Chickasaw Lighthorse Police
Chief Michael Robinson, O.S.U. DPS
Director Darrell Weaver, OK Bureau of Narcotics
Sheriff Bob Wilder, Marshall County

STAFF PRESENT:

Larry Birney, Ed.D. Director
Steve Emmons, Assistant Director
Kimberly Richey, Associate Director
Steven Floyd, Comptroller
Becky Johnson, Staff Attorney
Dr. Don Udell, Policy Review Officer
Chris Sutterfield, Program Manager
Shannon Butler, Academy Coordinator
Tracy Shivers, Asst. Academy Coordinator
Norma Floyd, Recording Secretary
Walt Birdsong, Investigator

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chief Bill Citty, Oklahoma City Police Dept.
Director DeWade Langley, O. S. B. I.
Chief Bob Ricks, Edmond Police Dept.
Dr. Steve Turner, East Central University

GUESTS:

Director Stacey Puckett, OACP
Ms. Annette Scott
Jim Carroll, Chairman PSAC
Chief Gregory Brooks, Wewoka P.D.
Sgt. Todd Young, Wewoka P.D.
Ms. Shanda Davis
Tammy Sharp, City of Wewoka
Trevor Blackwell, Wewoka P.D.
Sheriff Shannon Smith, Seminole County

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Norman McNickle called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Roll was taken; nine members were present representing a quorum.

Chairman McNickle asked all members of the audience to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Action Taken: Sheriff Bob Wilder made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2010 and March 17, 2010 meetings as written. The motion was seconded by Sheriff John Whetsel. A roll call vote was taken. Chief McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted yes; Chief Johnson voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes and Sheriff Wilder voted yes. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

3. Request for Assistance from Chief Gregory K. Brooks, Wewoka Police Department regarding Shanda Davis

Council members were provided with a letter from Chief Gregory Brooks, Wewoka Police Department received April 21, 2010. (Attachment A) Also provided to members was a copy of the termination form indicating Ms. Davis resigned from the Wewoka Police Department on April 1, 2010. (Attachment B) Chief Brooks addressed members, stating that he would like for Ms. Shanda Davis to receive further firearms training. Chief Brooks stated Ms. Davis is very well liked by the citizens and community and would make a great officer. He added for smaller agencies, recruiting officers who will stay with the department is a critical concern. He expects if allowed to be rehired and additional firearms training, Ms. Davis would be with the department for a lengthy time.

Chief Brooks stated that Ms. Davis has fired qualifying rounds with the El Reno Police Department, scoring a 72 and 76 and has scored an 80% with the Wewoka Police Department during annual qualifications. For some reason, when she attempts qualification at the CLEET facility, she consistently shoots in the 60's, 64 and 68. Again he stated, she would make an excellent officer, and he would like the ability for Ms. Davis to receive further training and testing.

Kim Richey, Associate Director, provided members with the CLEET timeline of Shanda Davis' employment and firearms qualification activities. (Attachment C) Ms. Richey stated that while sympathetic with Chief Brooks' dilemma and his belief that Ms. Davis is a good citizen and would be a good officer; CLEET rules and timeline indicate she has exhausted all opportunities to receive additional training and testing.

Ms. Richey stated that Chief Brooks had 15 days to petition the Director for a third attempt at training and testing. Although we did not receive such a request, Director Birney did allow Chief Brooks another 15 days to do so. That written request was never received. After a phone call request, a third attempt at qualification was scheduled for Ms. Davis, which under procedures was well outside of the scope of the rules.

Chairman McNickle provided Chief Brooks a copy of the timeline Council members received. Chief Brooks stated that he had delivered a letter to Director Birney on December 9, 2009. CLEET staff received a letter on December 16, 2009, and it did not request additional training or testing.

Director Weaver asked if we were landlocked by our own rules and statutes. Do we have the ability to allow ourselves to err on the side of the small department and officers within that department? Ms. Richey stated that she believed we are bound by our rules.

Chief Robinson stated that staff has already exercised discretion in dealing with Ms. Davis, that it is not fair the Council's hands are tied at this point dealing with Ms. Davis. With that said, he stated we must uphold our standards. Our credibility as a Council goes down if we grant exceptions and don't follow our own rules.

Sheriff Whetsel stated he believes we do have the authority to grant exceptions, and he is not sure we would hurt anyone if we allowed Ms. Davis one more time to pass the qualification by June 30, 2010. He added that it does not hurt our creditability to help small agencies hire and retain good officers.

Director Birney stated that we feel that the statute is clear in that an officer has six months to be certified. If not certified in six months, then the officer is done. Birney added that we have given Ms. Davis adequate time and attempts to qualify and that he is concerned about the citizens and other officers in regards to Ms. Davis' ability to safely handle a weapon, adding that if given enough opportunities, he is certain she will qualify with a 70% whether or not she does so consistently. Dr. Birney stated that when adding adrenaline to any given situation he is concerned about weapon and officer safety.

Chairman McNickle asked how many actual attempts at qualification Ms. Davis had received. Shannon Butler, Academy Coordinator, stated that each block of firearms in the academy is seven attempts. Then the remedial attempt is an additional three, so a total of 17 attempts.

Director Weaver stated he is troubled by the number of attempts and asked Ms. Davis if she is not nervous when firing on another range. Ms. Davis stated that she had asked to be allowed to fire on another range without sunlight interference, and Mr. Rick Amos declined to allow her to shoot on another range.

Chief O'Neal asked if all training opportunities are over at six months from hire date. Director Birney stated the statute is clear. The only exception is for medical or military training, and the time can be extended to one year. Director Birney stated he has had a phone discussion with our Attorney General Liaison regarding this issue. They concur with the six months and are willing to issue an opinion should we seek one.

Sheriff Wilder stated that he has one of the smallest departments in the state, and he would not consider keeping an employee after 17 attempts to qualify, simply from a liability standpoint.

Officer Bartmier asked at what point are we saying she can never attend the academy or work as a peace officer. Director Birney stated that is how our staff attorneys and Attorney General Representative interpret the statute.

Chief Clayton Johnson stated that he was on the Council when Representative Newport carried the legislation reducing the time to be certified to six months. He stated that he knows that was the intent of the legislation, and he doesn't feel we have any room for discretion.

Director Weaver stated that he feels the only way to be out of law enforcement for life is you are convicted of a felony. Chief Robinson is concerned that we cannot just say "don't worry about the six months."

Ms. Richey advised members that Ms. Davis had been employed for one year at the time of her termination on April 1st.

Chief McNickle asked what the downside would be of asking for an official Attorney General Opinion. Director Birney responded that it is his impression that we would be held tightly to the six months and would have no flexibility.

Sheriff Whetsel stated he is opposed to changing the law prior to asking for an Attorney General's Opinion.

Sheriff Shannon Smith, Seminole County, addressed members stating that he is a CLEET Certified Instructor, and wanted to bring to the attention of Council that Ms. Davis has qualified in the presence of certified instructors in October of 2009 with the department and in El Reno.

Officer Bartmier stated he has a problem with saying that an individual cannot go back and start the entire academy process over.

Members discussed legislation which would designate the day of employment, failure to complete and when the end of the opportunities to be trained would occur. A length of time to allow reentry should be distinguished as well.

Director Birney advised members that he had an agency wanting to rehire an individual who had committed a misdemeanor as their chief of police. Dr. Birney denied his reentrance to the academy based on him being past his six months to be trained. A call from the Governor's office was received on this individual, but no petition to the Council was received.

Chief O'Neal stated that since the law is silent on the ability to reenter the academy, it appears the intent was to stop officers who were avoiding training and certification.

Chief Johnson stated that the overall intent was to keep untrained officers off the street, adding firearms is more than just qualification. Sheriff Whetsel asked if Ms. Davis completed all other areas of the academy. Staff responded yes.

Action Taken: Sheriff John Whetsel made a motion that realizing the letter submitted by Chief Brooks in December was intended to be a request for further firearms testing; CLEET would grant Ms. Davis the opportunity to satisfactorily complete the firearms qualification by June 30, 2010. Director Weaver asked to amend the motion to include that Ms. Davis would not work as an officer until she had satisfactorily qualified and limit the qualification attempts to three times. Officer Bartmier seconded the amended motion.

Discussion: Officer Bartmier asked Ms. Davis if she would have an eye examination prior to qualification attempts. Ms. Richey stated there was nothing in Ms. Davis' file indicating she had a vision problem. Sheriff Whetsel stated he would recommend an eye examination.

Chief Robinson stated he was uncomfortable voting against our own legislation. Chief Johnson echoed this by stating that he is concerned with the Council waiving our own rules. Chief McNickle stated he certainly did not want to be in court in a few years being asked where the rationale in this decision came from.

Action Taken: The motion on the floor is to allow Ms. Shanda Davis three opportunities to successfully pass the firearms qualification course before June 30, 2010. Chairman McNickle voted no; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted no; Chief Johnson voted no; Chief O'Neal voted no; Chief Robinson voted no; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder voted no. The motion failed 3-6.

Discussion: Director Weaver asked if CLEET had a current bill we could language that would allow the Council this discretion. Director Birney responded he would have to look into it and discuss it with Legislators, as he did not want to jeopardize passage of current language. Chief Johnson stated he would rather not rush in with language, but would rather take the time to ensure it is written to our satisfaction. Dr. Birney assured him he would call a special meeting if this was to take place.

Director Stacey Puckett, Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police, stated it may be wiser to ask for an Attorney General Opinion. By the time it is received, we would be close to bill filing time for next year's legislative agenda. Associate Director Richey responded her fear would be that if the legislation did not have support, then we would be bound by the Attorney General's Opinion. Director Weaver stated he did not want to throw it in the hands of the Attorney General. Assistant Director, Steve Emmons reminded members that we need to consider reserve officers, in that if we are held to a six month completion deadline, many reserve academies last six months or longer since they are held on weeknights and weekends. Sheriff Whetsel agreed, stating Oklahoma County reserve academies are nine months long.

Chairman McNickle stated that it appears we cannot help Ms. Davis at this time, but we will attempt to get relief in a current legislative bill.

Action Taken: Sheriff Whetsel made a motion to direct staff to attempt to add legislative language in the current legislative session. The motion was seconded by Chief O'Neal. A roll call vote was taken. Chief McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted yes; Chief Johnson voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes and Sheriff Wilder voted yes. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

Discussion: Director Birney asked for clarification from the Council as to the type of legislative language staff should draft. There was a general consensus that officers should be allowed to reapply for certification one year after being terminated. No members objected. Dr. Birney said staff would draft the language and get it to key members of the legislature.

Chairman McNickle adjourned the meeting for a 15 minute break at 11:15 a.m.

Chairman McNickle reconvened the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

4. Advisory Council Report and Composition

Action Taken: Chief Clayton Johnson made a motion to appoint Jerry Mayfield to replace Lenora Jordan representing the Department of Corrections on the Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Sheriff John Whetsel. A roll call vote was taken. Chief McNickle voted yes; Sheriff

Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted yes; Chief Johnson voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes and Sheriff Wilder voted yes. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

Action Taken: Sheriff John Whetsel made a motion to reappoint Lt. Blake Green to another three-year term on the Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Chief Clayton Johnson. A roll call vote was taken. Chief McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted yes; Chief Johnson voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes and Sheriff Wilder voted yes. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

5. **Private Security Advisory Committee (PSAC) Actions**

Ms. Becky Johnson, Senior Administrative Attorney reported on the PSAC meeting conducted March 25, 2010. (Attachment D) At that meeting, she advised members that the private security licensing division may be limiting the hours of window service. She also advised that group about the proposed fee increase for security guard and investigator licenses and updated them on the online application process. She indicated that we are having some server difficulties, hence the delay in the online process being completed. Ms. Johnson advised members of the PSAC of the pending budget issues as well as provided an update on Operation Cooperation.

Ms. Johnson reported to Council members that the PSAC held elections and Jim Carroll was elected Chairman; Bill Price was elected Vice-Chair. Johnson added these seats will be taken at the next PSAC meeting.

Director Birney advised members that we currently have five fulltime employees assigned to the private security division. The annual appropriations by the legislature do not cover the costs of the five employees, nor the operating expenses. Dr. Birney reminded members this is why we sought to increase private security licensing fees. As penalty assessment fees cannot be used to pay for services to the private security division, we are at a critical crossroad. Currently, we have one attorney, who is serving as the supervisor of the division, one investigator and three licensing clerks. Birney added since Ms. Johnson has taken over the supervisory duties, we are filling the supervisor vacancy with a licensing clerk. We hope that this will help decrease the 3-4 week delay in license processing. He stated that division handles canine licenses as well, and are experiencing a delay in issuing those.

Dr. Birney added some of the reasoning behind reducing the window services or possibly closing the window is that walk-in customers sometimes take precedence over applications received in the mail. He stated we have had several discussions with legislators regarding the serious challenges the division is facing and proposed to alleviate some of the problem by the private security license fee increase bill. Birney stated most members are aware that this bill was killed by lobbyists including members of our own PSAC committee. It has been resurrected, and Senator Corn has been able to procedurally bring it back into conference. In the event this bill fails and appropriations are cut, as is expected, we will have no choice but to cut personnel.

Ms. Johnson stated that last month there were approximately 200 walk in customers and each takes approximately one hour to process. She added that recently, the division closed for one morning to conduct interviews for the licensing clerk position. In that 3 ½ hour period, the main private security division phone line had 249 calls. This does not include calls that were dialed directly to the five phone lines in the division.

6. Curriculum Review Board Actions and Composition

Action Taken: Sheriff Bob Wilder made a motion to reappoint Ed Smith and Paul Kroutter and to confirm new members Sheriff Wayne McKinney and Dr. Mike Wilds to the Curriculum Review Board. The motion was seconded by Director Darrell Weaver. A roll call vote was taken. Chief McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted yes; Chief Johnson voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes and Sheriff Wilder voted yes. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

7. Report from Firearms Curriculum Meeting

Assistant Director Steve Emmons advised members that a list of all participants at the Firearms Curriculum Meeting were included in the agenda packet. He stated that the consensus is that staff is teaching the basic academy firearms following the direction of the Council.

Chairman McNickle stated he has been contacted a number of times regarding the Council's action of removing the practice of "going to the wall." He stated that there is a lot of incorrect information out there. He also stated that many confuse training standards and qualification standards.

Chief Robinson asked about a firearms demonstration as listed in the agenda. Director Birney stated he advised staff after the meetings held with the Firearms group and the Curriculum Review Board that there was no need for a presentation. Some weapons such as the Glock have a pressure point and students are trained to take the slack out if they are using that type of weapon. Other weapons that do not have a tension point do not require that slack be removed from the trigger and students are trained appropriately for their weapon.

8. Drug Dog Advisory Council Actions

Members were provided a draft copy of the April 15, 2010, meeting minutes. (Attachment E) Becky Johnson, Staff Attorney reported that the major topics of discussion were pending online application process and the same issues we face with server limitations, and the new Drug Dog Standards and Guidelines which the Council will vote on today.

Chief Jason O'Neal commented that on Page 4, Section 5-10 evaluators cannot certify dogs that are in or owned by their agencies. He stated his agency has the ability to certify tribal officers and peace officers for firearms within their own agency and does not understand why this restriction is in place. Ms. Johnson replied that the thought process is that this will eliminate some problems in court cases and remove the appearance of impropriety. Chief Johnson stated he agrees, that DPS also brought up this issue, but is opposed and doesn't want to bring added fuel for defense attorneys in a court case.

Director Weaver stated he believes this was partially written by the staff attorney for OBNDD, and he feels that it is in the best interest of law enforcement to have the separation between the certifying officer and the employing agency and provides the ability to defend canine handlers.

Action Taken: Chief Jason O'Neal made a motion to approve the Drug Dog Standards and Guidelines with a modification to rule 5.10 striking the words "from within their own department/agency or." The motion was seconded by Sheriff Whetsel. A roll call vote was taken: Chief McNickle voted no; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted no; Chief Johnson voted no; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted no; Director Weaver voted no; and Sheriff Wilder voted no. The motion failed 3-6.

Action Taken: Chief Johnson made a motion to approve the Drug Dog Standards and Guidelines as written. Captain Blish seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Chief McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted no; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted yes; Chief Johnson voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes, and Sheriff Wilder voted yes. The motion carried 8-1.

9. Legislative Update

Kim Richey, Associate Director/General Counsel advised members that SB 1313 would allow CLEET to conduct summer camp for youth; it has passed the Senate by a vote of 96-3 and the House by 47-0.

SB 2303 confirms the requirements to establish a police department. This bill passed the Senate by a vote of 44-0 and the House by a vote of 96-2. The title has been stricken from this bill.

SB 2017 which would authorize a reinstatement fee for peace officers of \$150 has procedurally died. This would apply to those that were suspended for cause or for failure to obtain continuing education.

HB 3343 which would increase licensing fees for private security failed with a vote of 36-10. However, it was procedurally reintroduced and will go to conference committee.

HB 2277 amends state statutes and requires reserve deputies to be accompanied by a full time deputy until certification. This bill was signed by the Governor on April 20, 2010.

HB 2552 extends the right for Assistant District Attorneys, medical examiners and certain municipal employees to carry a concealed weapon. They must be CLEET certified.

HB 2631 would require eight hours of annual continuing education for reserve officers, and specify that full time officers receive 4 hours of legal update each year. That bill passed the Senate 41-0 and is headed to conference committee.

Director Birney stated with the failure of SB 2017 and the increase in continuing education for reserve officers, we can expect to continue with a high number of overtime hours for support staff in suspension of peace officers.

10. Reading and Writing Comprehension Examination

Assistant Director Steve Emmons advised Council members that the second class is underway and have tested on the Reading, Writing and Comprehension Examination. A total of 160 students have taken the test and 24 have failed on the first try. Ten retested and passed. A total of 14 have not passed or did not attempt additional opportunities.

Mr. Emmons stated we have a lengthy list of agencies currently using the Stanard and Associates examination provided by the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police. Those agencies will be allowed to continue to utilize this test. The Career Technology Centers have developed an additional test and are prepared to beta test and start the validation process. Director Birney stated it is his preference that agencies be allowed to utilize either test as meeting the minimum standard.

Action Taken: Sheriff Wilder made a motion to allow the use of the electronic examination as a second option of testing to meet the minimum entrance standards. The motion was seconded by Captain Blish. A roll call vote was taken. Chief McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Officer Bartmier voted yes; Captain Blish voted yes; Chief Johnson voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes and Sheriff Wilder voted yes. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

11. CLEET Financial Report

Steven Floyd, Comptroller, addressed members reporting through the end of March we have spent or encumbered 62% of our budget. We are spending within our means and being as conservative as possible. Floyd advised members that penalty assessment fees are down approximately \$370,000 from last year, which is a 7% decrease.

Dr. Birney advised members that staff members have met with the Joint Appropriations Committee. Members were provided a copy of the information staff provided that body. (Attachment F) Director Birney reported to the Committee, that our priority will be to continue to meet the state statutes. We do not intend to offer staff any voluntary buyouts. One possibility that has been discussed is reduction in the number of meals we provide basic academy students, which we realize may cause some backlash. Another possibility is to cancel our contract for security on the premises. Obviously, this is not a good option; at any given time, we have close to ½ million dollars in ammunition on site.

Director Birney stated that philosophically he is opposed to furloughs. Some brighter news financially is that Louisiana State University is delivering over \$300,000 worth of equipment to our facility this week in order to broadcast training around the state. This will be crucial in the event new continuing education requirements may be mandated for reserve officers. Since these reserves work full time jobs, we will have to have the capability to broadcast training in the evenings and on weekends.

Director Darrell Weaver asked if we are looking for grants. Director Birney stated we do have two grants in the works, both are from Homeland Security. One grant is for \$250,000 for a Credentialing Program. This would provide a computer system that will have the ability to issue officers with a card that can be machine read, which indicates the specific credentials of that officer. This will be beneficial in emergency situations, when a number of officers arrive at a scene that may be unknown to the agency in charge of the emergency.

The second grant is for \$300,000 to evaluate and select a standard "Response to Active Shooters" program.

Weaver mentioned the video conferencing conducted by the Department of Education. Director Birney responded that this training will be the same in that students at all facilities will be able to interact on a real time basis. LSU would like to have a minimum of 32 persons per class that is broadcasted.

Lastly, Chief Johnson asked if the state has shut down out-of-state travel as a cost saving measure yet. Director Birney responded they have not.

12. Director=s Report

Approved Academy Cities

Director Birney stated that Sheriff Whetsel had asked previously about approved academies that are no longer training officers, and CLEET's ability to require that they no longer withhold penalty fees from CLEET. Director Birney stated at this time, Tulsa Police Department is the only agency who retains penalty fees that is not currently conducting an academy. His recommendation is that we not seek return of these funds at this time.

Kim Richey, Associate Director stated that a court looking at this issue would look at CLEET's prior actions when agencies did not conduct academies. Since CLEET has not sought to collect those funds, it may be difficult to do so at this point, even though there the statutory language indicates it may be possible. Sheriff Whetsel commented that he did not think it was fair to CLEET or any other agency in the state that an agency be allowed to retain penalty assessment fees if they are not conducting an academy. He certainly doesn't think CLEET should train officers from departments that are funded to conduct their own academy.

13. Actions against Peace Officers

The certification of one officer has been completed in this report period.

14. Divisional Reports

Members reviewed reports included in the agenda packet. Chief Johnson asked the number of officers in the academy and if we have noticed a change. Director Birney responded that there are 63 in the current academy and that we are not at capacity. Director Birney stated we have taken care of the backlog of officers waiting to be trained and are not turning away any students if all paperwork and mandates have been met for entrance to the academy.

15. New Business

Staff Retirement

Members received a copy of the letter submitted by Norma Floyd, Business Services Supervisor, of her pending retirement effective August 1, 2010. (Attachment G) Director Birney stated he has about four months to talk her out of it. She and her husband have decided to sell their farm and move to a new home in the Norman area. He stated for Norma, the commute to Ada is quite a challenge. He indicated he hates to see her go, but it is an exciting time. Ms. Floyd has 30 years of experience and will be missed greatly by members of the agency. Members kindly declined to accept Ms. Floyd's retirement.

Agenda Preparation

Kim Richey, Associate Director, discussed the pros and cons of adding an item to future Council agendas allowing for public comment. An item could be placed on the agenda or a list of agenda items could be placed at the door and guests would indicate in writing which topics on the agenda they wish to speak to. Members were in agreement with allowing guests to speak at the appropriate time during Council meetings.

Small Department Concerns

Chairman McNickle stated he had received complaints regarding CLEET, but when given the opportunity to discuss them with local administrators, often times, opinions are based on incorrect information. One example Chief McNickle gave was an agency head stated he was having trouble recruiting persons over 25 because of the changes at CLEET and the strict physical requirements to attend. That administrator was pleased when Chief McNickle informed him of the physical for safe participation and advised him that the Cooper Standards for Physical Fitness are not being used.

Chief Mike Robinson stated that smaller administrators felt that they did not have a voice where CLEET was concerned. Chairman McNickle asked members to be cognizant of rumors and misinformation and alleviate it whenever possible.

Director Birney stated one of the problems could be that in 2008 we conducted regional meetings in 12 cities discussing new legislation and CLEET in general. In 2009 we did not go out and hold those meetings. He stated his plan is to conduct regional meetings again this year in August and September and update agencies on new legislation and other changes with CLEET.

16. Adjournment

Action Taken:

Motion made by Chief Robinson to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Wilder and carried unanimously, 9-0. Chairman McNickle adjourned the meeting at 12:42 p.m.