

**COUNCIL ON LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REGULAR MEETING
OSBI Headquarters, 6600 N. Harvey, Oklahoma City, OK 73116
April 18, 2012
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Director Norman McNickle, Dept. of Public Safety,
City of Stillwater
Sheriff John Whetsel, Oklahoma County
Major Todd Blish, Oklahoma Highway Patrol
Chief Bill Citty, Oklahoma City Police Dept.
Director Stan Florence, O.S.B.I.
Chief Bob Ricks, Edmond Police Dept.
Chief Michael Robinson, O.S.U. DPS
Sgt. Jason Smith, F.O.P.
Director Darrell Weaver, Oklahoma Bureau of
Narcotics
Sheriff Bob Wilder, Marshall County

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Emmons, Executive Director
Laurie Schweinle, Recording Secretary
Briana Tully, Special Projects Coordinator

GUESTS:

Mr. James Carroll, PSAC
Annette Scott
Senator Ralph Shortey

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chief Byron Cox, Weatherford Police Dept.
Chief Jason O'Neal, Chickasaw Lighthouse Police
Mr. Ed Smith, East Central University

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Norman McNickle called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. Roll was taken; ten members were present representing a quorum.

2. Approval of Minutes

Sheriff Whetsel offered his apologies for not having attended any 2012 meetings as of yet.

Action Taken: Director Darrell Weaver made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2012, regular meeting and the March 12, 2012, special meeting as is. The motion was seconded by Chief Bob Ricks. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief Citty voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

3. Council Composition

Director McNickle advised that Mr. Ed Smith is to have accepted a position as chief of police at Chickasha. Director Emmons said that if so, Ed Smith is still the appointee at least through the end of the semester at East Central University and that no one at CLEET had been contacted about this matter.

Action Taken: Sheriff Wilder made a motion to accept the appointment of Mr. Ed Smith to the Council. The motion was seconded by Chief Michael Robinson. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief City voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

4. Advisory Council Report

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff John Whetsel made a motion to approve the minutes as received. The motion was seconded by Director Stan Florence. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief City voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

5. Advisory Council Composition

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff John Whetsel made a motion to approve both the reappointment of Special Agent Kurt Stoner and the appointment of Sheriff Scott Jay to the CLEET Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Bob Wilder. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief City voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

6. Private Security Advisory Committee (PSAC) Report

Sheriff Whetsel asked Mr. James Carroll, PSAC, how the private security industry was dealing with the fact that most people now have cellular phones rather than landlines. Mr. Carroll responded that an agency must have a published phone number so that anyone may find and contact that agency, and if we are not requiring that published phone number then the law is not being followed.

Action Taken: Director Darrell Weaver made a motion to accept the PSAC minutes. The motion was seconded by Chief Bob Ricks. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief City voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

7. Curriculum Review Board Report

Action Taken: Sheriff John Whetsel made a motion to accept the Curriculum Review Board minutes. The motion was seconded by Chief Michael Robinson. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief Citty voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

Director Weaver asked what measures had been taken to integrate the daily physical training into the Basic Academy. Director Emmons responded that the training takes place at 5:30 p.m. each day by shortening breaks and the lunch period but that no time was added to the academy overall. He also reported that it was making a big difference in the academy students and that they were reporting it being beneficial to them.

8. CLEET Financial Report

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Chief Michael Robinson made a motion to accept the CLEET financial report. The motion was seconded by Major Todd Blish. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief Citty voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

9. Divisional Reports

Director Emmons reported that a total of 451 letters were sent out for suspensions. He also said that a common issue is whether or not training was received by fax, so CLEET is looking for ways to improve this problem with updated technology. Director Emmons then advised that for those who say their training was done and sent in, an affidavit has been prepared for them to sign. Chief Ricks asked who signs the affidavit. Director Emmons replied that the officer suspended or training officer signs, but he feels that there needs to be a place for the agency head to sign in the future. Director Emmons also advised that the \$150 reinstatement fee had created a lot of backlash as well. Director Florence asked if the affidavit requires a notary. Director Emmons replied that, yes, it does.

Sheriff Whetsel asked what CLEET does to follow up on officers suspended. Director Emmons replied that Walt Birdsong, CLEET Investigator, does compliance for the entire state. Director Emmons said that follow up on suspensions was also done through staff at CLEET by making phone calls and finding out who is working and who is not.

Director Emmons then advised the number of actions against peace officers is also up as CLEET has hired a paralegal who is going through old files and ensuring that the legal process is complete and following through with any action that needs to be taken.

Director McNickle asked if it would be possible to submit training through e-mail. Director Emmons replied that yes, CLEET is working on making that possible. Director Emmons also said that some agencies are now entering their officers' training themselves.

Director Emmons then reported that CLEET is experiencing a shortage of adjunct instructors

during firearms training. He said that no instructors showed up to teach the current class, two CLEET employees are on medical, and CLEET is also short one instructor. Director Weaver asked why this happened. Director Emmons replied that it is typically cyclical, but CLEET is working on finding out what instructors have been invited to teach. He also reported that CLEET is preparing a letter to send to departments and ask for assistance.

Director McNickle suggested increasing the number of firearms instructor schools but that he understood there to be a rule requiring those school to take place at CLEET. Director Emmons replied that the last two firearms instructor schools were held at Oklahoma County but the plan was for the next one to be held at CLEET. He also said other agencies have been requesting to have them at their facilities, but CLEET is having difficulty making their firearms instructors available with overlapping academies. Director McNickle then asked if it would be possible to train adjunct instructors to provide the instruction. Director Emmons replied that it would take an action from the Council to give CLEET the freedom and support to do that and then CLEET could provide administrative support to the class but it has not been the history. Chief Robinson asked if there was a rule prohibiting this from happening? Director Emmons replied that no, to his knowledge there was not. Director Florence asked if Director Emmons could devise a plan for this and present it to the Council at the next meeting in an effort to advance firearms instructor needs. Director Emmons agreed that something like this needs to be considered and that he would develop a plan. Director Weaver asked if Chief City and Chief Ricks have CLEET instructors at the academy city programs to teach firearms. Chief City and Chief Ricks responded that their instructors were CLEET certified to teach firearms but were not employed by CLEET. Director Emmons then advised that agencies can hold their own instructor development classes but have not traditionally invited those from outside agencies. A general discussion was then had regarding the training of firearms instructors and how to help smaller agencies gain training for their employees. Director Emmons then discussed the possibility of sending just one CLEET instructor to the firearms instructor class while allowing the adjuncts to teach it instead of having to send several CLEET instructors to teach the whole class. Director McNickle then asked if it might be possible to present in the proposal a way to streamline the process of getting someone certified as a firearms instructor as it takes quite a long time.

Sheriff Whetsel then expressed his concern that officers are being trained at different levels and the liability associated with that. Major Blish explained that everyone is meeting the CLEET standard but some agencies go beyond that themselves. Sheriff Whetsel said that he felt we should look at enhancing the level for everyone.

Sheriff Whetsel asked Mr. Carroll if the issue with private security licenses being received in a timely manner had been resolved. Mr. Carroll responded that there had been a marked change in the division and that the issue was resolved.

Sergeant Jason Smith exited the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

10. Actions Against Peace Officers

There was no discussion.

11. Legislative / Rule Changes Update

Sergeant Jason Smith returned to the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Director Emmons reported that both of CLEET's Senate bills, 1187 and 1188, had passed through both the House and the Senate and are now waiting for the Governor's signature. Director Emmons then brought up Senate Bill 1872, the bounty hunter bill, and reported that it is moving forward. The fees generated would go to CLEET but there still was no way to know the total impact as no one knows how many bounty hunters there are. Sheriff Wilder asked who would pay the bounty hunters. Director Emmons said they would be paid by the bond companies. Jim Carroll advised Council members that CLEET would regulate the bounty hunters and that bail bondsman would not be inhibited in any way. Director Emmons then reported that there would be some continuing education requirements for the bounty hunters that CLEET would be responsible for regulating as well. Mr. Carroll then elaborated on the required training for bounty hunters.

Director Emmons then updated Council members on the status of CLEET rule changes. He advised that CLEET had removed any rule changes that included fees as they would require a joint resolution and more likely to be denied.

A general discussion was had on the status of House Bill 2522, the open carry bill, and the potential effects of its passing.

Director Emmons then advised that no mandatory training for officers was passed this year but that CLEET would assist in getting that training out and encourage officers to attend.

Action Taken: Sheriff John Whetsel made a motion to accept the withdrawn rule changes. The motion was seconded by Major Todd Blish. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief Citty voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

12. Director's Report

Director Emmons reported that the defensive tactics cameras had been received and would be installed within the week. Chief Ricks asked what the retention policy would be on the recordings. Director Emmons responded that he did not know how long after an academy the recordings would be kept. Chief Ricks then asked what format the recordings would be in. Director Emmons replied they would be digital and able to be burned onto a disc. Chief Ricks advised that CLEET would need a provision for retention as the recordings would become a government record and keep it at least the minimum that the statute requires.

Director Emmons then advised that a training summit was being planned in conjunction with OSA, UCO, and other organizations to be held at UCO on July 18, 2012, to provide information on training and also to hear from others on training needs across the state. He also mentioned this is the same date as the next Council meeting so it may need to be held at UCO as well.

Director Emmons reported that an additional \$60,000 had been received for the active shooter grant to allow the training to be expanded to campus police officers as well. He said this

money would also be used to purchase an additional kit used to teach this class.

Director Emmons then reported that cafeteria contracts are out as Chartwells indicated there would be a 5-7% increase.

Director Emmons then advised the recommendation from John Morrison, DCS, was to settle and then complete repairs on the track. He also advised that Senator Nichols was supportive of this solution.

Director Emmons reported that CLEET had asked for \$250,000 from the legislature for the next year's budget but is still not sure of the outcome for that request.

Director Emmons also reported that he would be attending the regional IADLEST conference in May and the national IADLEST conference in June as he had not been able to in years past due to the budget. He also advised he had been appointed as a board member to the Oklahoma Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association.

Director Emmons then advised that the Department of Corrections would not be coming to CLEET but would go to UCO in Edmond instead. CLEET was not able to build the building required for their training, and UCO is more centrally located.

Director Emmons reported that CLEET would be pursuing refinancing with the low interest rates. He also advised CLEET would like to add a storm shelter that could potentially also be used as a defensive tactics room. Director Emmons also advised he would like to build additional dorm rooms for adjuncts and guests that are nicer than the rooms currently used in order to make coming to CLEET more attractive for instructors and enhance their experience there. Director Emmons also reported that the Office of State Finance had approached CLEET about needing a secure location to house a bank of servers and that it could be built to serve as a storm shelter also. If so, there is the possibility that OSF could help with the construction of the room. Director Florence asked what kind of square footage would be needed for a safe room. Director Emmons replied that he was not sure of the square footage, but it would need to hold approximately 200 people. Director Weaver asked if CLEET could reinforce an existing room. Director Emmons replied the only room big enough is the multi-purpose room, but the ceiling being so high could present a problem and that the next biggest room is a classroom that can hold 100 people. Chief Ricks advised that reinforcing an existing room could be considerably cheaper. Director Emmons then advised that refinancing could provide some extra funding for this project.

Director Weaver exited the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Chief Robinson advised that he thought it should definitely be looked into. A general consensus was reached by Council members that Director Emmons should look into adding a storm shelter to the CLEET facility.

Director Weaver returned to the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

13. New Business

Chief Robinson asked about making healthier meals available through the CLEET cafeteria. Director Emmons replied that he had asked Chartwells to reduce their service away from the all

you can eat service currently received, and Chartwells replied that he would have twenty-four hours to withdraw that request or Chartwells would leave in thirty days. Chief Robinson advised that he thought a move toward nutritional training could enhance the physical fitness culture at CLEET.

Director Weaver thanked Sheriff Wilder for his fifty-five years of service in the law enforcement field as he has elected not to run for sheriff again this year.

14. Adjournment

Action Taken: Director Stan Florence made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chief Michael Robinson. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Sheriff Whetsel voted yes; Major Blish voted yes; Chief Citty voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; Director Weaver voted yes; and Sheriff Wilder. The motion carried 10-0.

Chairman McNickle adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.