

**COUNCIL ON LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REGULAR MEETING
K. O. Rayburn Training Center, 2401 Egypt Road, Ada, OK 74820
January 18, 2012
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Director Norman McNickle, Dept. of Public Safety,
City of Stillwater
Chief Byron Cox, Weatherford Police Dept.
Director Stan Florence, O.S.B.I.
Chief Jason O'Neal, Chickasaw Lighthorse Police
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

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Emmons, Executive Director
Chris Sutterfield, Chief of Operations
Rick Amos, Asst. Academy Coordinator
Norma Floyd, Administrative Assistant
Kelly James, Field Representative
Natalie McDonald, Private Security Clerk
Ron Mitchell, Field Representative
John Parker, Comptroller
Laurie Schweinle, Recording Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sheriff John Whetsel, Oklahoma County
Major Todd Blish, Oklahoma Highway Patrol
Chief Bill Citty, Oklahoma City Police Dept.
Dr. Steve Turner, Northeastern State University
Sheriff Bob Wilder, Marshall County

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Norman McNickle called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Roll was taken; eight members were present representing a quorum.

2. Approval of Minutes

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Chief Byron Cox made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2011, regular meeting, the November 22, 2011, special meeting, and the December 20, 2011, special meeting, as is. The motion was seconded by Chief Michael Robinson. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Chief Cox voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; and Director

Weaver voted yes. The motion carried 8-0.

3. Council Composition

Chairman McNickle welcomed Chief Cox to the meeting.

4. Advisory Council Report

There was no discussion.

5. Private Security Advisory Committee Report

Chairman McNickle asked if Mr. Jim Carroll needed to be reappointed as chairman. Laurie Schweinle, Recording Secretary, asked Natalie McDonald, PSAC Recording Secretary, if Mr. Carroll needed to be reappointed. Ms. McDonald responded that, no, he did not. There was no further discussion.

6. Curriculum Review Board Report

Director Emmons advised the Council of action taken by the Curriculum Review Board in their latest meeting, held January 17, 2012. He reported that prior to defensive tactics beginning in the Basic Academy, there would be physical fitness training from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. After defensive tactics begins, however, the physical fitness training would cease. Rick Amos, Assistant Academy Coordinator, gave further explanation as to why the physical fitness training could not be held in the morning. Chief Robinson inquired if it would be possible to give advance notice to cadets about what they could do before entering the Academy to improve physical fitness. Director Emmons responded that CLEET could post something on the website or send out information in the Basic Academy packet. Director Emmons then advised that adding the daily physical activity into the Basic Academy was voted on and approved by the Curriculum Review Board.

Director Emmons also advised the Council that the Curriculum Review Board had voted to adjust four hours of the Basic Academy to include emergency response to hazardous materials. Rick Amos explained that this would eliminate the downtime during radar training. He also added that the hazmat training consisted of three modules: approaching the scene, recognizing containers and evacuation distances.

Chief Ricks inquired about having an apprenticeship program for Basic Academy students at CLEET in order to be able to train for more than forty hours per week. Director Emmons responded that had been looked at in the past but was not pursued because the cadets are not CLEET employees and there were issues with overtime. Chief Ricks suggested accomplishing this may take a statute change. Director Emmons then mentioned the possible issues with the cafeteria and scheduling meals. Chief Robinson suggested selecting a fitness leader for each academy to help encourage cadets with physical fitness. Director Emmons responded that he did not see a problem with that.

Director Emmons then advised the Council of action taken on OC Spray by the Curriculum Review Board. It was voted on to keep it as an introduction only class. Director Emmons explained this means it is the classroom portion only of the OC Spray instruction.

Action Taken: Director Weaver made a motion to accept the changes made by the Curriculum Review Board. The motion was seconded by Director Florence. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Chief Cox voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; and Director Weaver voted yes. The motion carried 8-0.

7. Less Lethal Weapons Training

Chris Sutterfield presented information regarding adding additional less lethal weapons training to the Basic Academy. He reported this would cost CLEET an extra \$15,000 annually. He also reported that, according to IADLEST, about one-third of all state run academies do less lethal weapons training, and roughly 41% do introduction only classes for OC Spray.

8. 2011 CLEET Annual Report

Director Emmons reported that Norma Floyd, CLEET Administrative Assistant, had finished the 2011 Annual Report and that it is available on the website. Director Weaver suggested that a financial section be included in future annual reports. Chief Ricks suggested including a section detailing goals for CLEET when the budget improves.

9. CLEET Financial Report

John Parker, CLEET Comptroller, reported that CLEET has currently used about 42% of the budget for this year. That is down about \$25,000 from this time last year. CLEET is above on utilities and food costs from this time last year but is training more cadets. Penalty fees are up \$40-50,000 from this time last year. Chairman McNickle asked for the status of fine revenues. Mr. Parker responded that they have been consistent from 2007, with less than a 1% difference, but had a decrease of about 5% in 2010.

Chief Robinson asked about the status of agencies that had not paid penalty assessment fees. Director Emmons responded that CLEET is collecting from agencies that are still in existence but cannot collect from those that have disbanded or have declared bankruptcy. Mr. Parker responded that most agencies are making an effort to pay those.

Director Weaver inquired how CLEET is below 50% of the budget while being in the last half of the fiscal year. Mr. Parker responded that a big reason for that is reduction in payroll by not filling vacant positions and delaying the hiring of other positions. He reported that payroll is down \$152,000 from last year and that CLEET is working to cut expenditures now as the budget is expected to remain flat, which is actually a decrease in budget for CLEET.

Action Taken: Director Florence made a motion to approve the CLEET financial report. The motion was seconded by Chief Ricks. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Chief Cox voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; and Director Weaver voted yes. The motion carried 8-0.

10. Actions Against Peace Officers

There was no discussion.

11. Divisional Reports

Director Emmons updated the Council on suspension statistics. He reported there are approximately 743 officer without the Evidence Based Sexual Assault training completed and 692 without a 2011 firearms qualification. He reported that CLEET is still entering data, which means the numbers are still vague. Director Emmons advised about 1,800 people total have not completed their mandated yearly training.

Director Weaver asked if there was a possible solution to this problem. Director Emmons responded that a notification was sent to remind officers and agencies of the requirements, but that this has been an annual challenge for CLEET.

Director Weaver exited the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

A general discussion was had about the difficulty in getting training submitted and entered.

Director Weaver returned at 10:49 a.m.

Chairman McNickle asked if there was a dedicated fax number for training records to be submitted through. Norma Floyd responded that, yes, there was a continuing education fax. She also advised that agencies are able to enter their own continuing education but that firearm requalifications must be submitted to and entered by CLEET.

Chairman McNickle suggested that the effects of the reinstatement fee be examined after this year. Norma Floyd also advised that CLEET does intend to suspend officers that are already suspended from 2010 but whose employment status still shows they are active in law enforcement and that those officers will be required to pay the reinstatement fee.

Chief Robinson asked if an administrative track training at CLEET would be possible to do again so that agency administrators could get their mandated training done early. Director Emmons responded it was done twice but was not well received and has not been done again.

12. Review of Accreditation Process

Director Emmons advised the Council this was placed on the agenda due to a complaint about a continuing education class that CLEET had accredited. He expressed concern about the accreditation process giving others the impression that CLEET is endorsing these classes even though CLEET rules specifically state that is not the case. Director Emmons then advised the process by which complaints are handled, which includes investigating the allegations.

Chief Cox asked if CLEET was done with the complaint. Director Emmons said that, no, CLEET is not finished with it. Director Emmons then offered possible courses of action when the investigation is finished, including not accrediting the training again.

Sgt. Smith exited the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Sgt. Smith returned at 11:06 a.m.

Director Emmons expressed concerns about whether the material submitted to CLEET for accreditation is what is actually being taught and how to respond if it is not. There was a

general discussion had on what actually constitutes law enforcement training. Chairman McNickle asked how many complaints had been received since 2005 when the accreditation process changed. Norma Floyd responded there had been only 2 or 3. Chairman McNickle commented that was a very low number of complaints to have in 7 years.

Chief Robinson exited the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Director Florence exited the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

Chief Ricks advised he thought the current process for handling complaints was a valid process and that CLEET should continue on with it.

13. 2012 Proposed CLEET Rule Changes

Director Weaver advised that the week of March 19-23 was spring break and could be an issue for the special meeting.

14. Legislative Update

Director Emmons advised Council members that CLEET would only be seeking legislation in two areas.

Director Florence returned at 11:23 a.m.

Chief Robinson returned at 11:24 a.m.

Director Emmons reported that CLEET would be seeking legislation to require reserve officers that had been out of law enforcement for over five years to take a legal update. The other legislation being proposed by CLEET is to help clean up problems in the financial department. Director Emmons then advised the Council on the status of Senate Bill 1135, the Evidence Based Domestic Violence bill. He reported that if passed it would require officers to receive the training by January 1, 2016, and would be mandated training similar to the way the Evidence Based Sexual Assault was mandated.

Action Taken: Chief Ricks made a motion that the Council oppose mandated training advanced by special interest groups without the understanding of what training already exists and the impact it has for officers to provide services to their communities when they are mandated to attend special training. The motion was seconded by Chief Robinson. Chairman McNickle voted yes; Chief Cox voted yes; Director Florence voted yes; Chief O'Neal voted yes; Chief Ricks voted yes; Chief Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Smith voted yes; and Director Weaver voted yes. The motion carried 8-0.

15. Director's Report

Director Emmons advised the Council that the new assistant director of CLEET would begin on February 1st. He then reported on the status of the DOC project, which is on hold for the moment as no meetings have been scheduled. Director Emmons also advised the Senator Barrington is still in favor of regionalized training and that the Chancellor of Higher Education had been contacted about the need to fill the ECU representative seat on the Council.

16. New Business

Chief Ricks suggested that some of the Council meetings be moved into the metro area as it is more convenient for the majority of Council members. Several members offered to host the meetings. Chairman McNickle asked if it would be any trouble for CLEET staff. Director Emmons advised that he did not think it would be too much trouble for staff. Chief Robinson suggested perhaps doing two regular meetings at CLEET headquarters and two regular meetings in the metro.

17. Adjournment

Action Taken: Director Darrell Weaver made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Bob Ricks seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Chairman Norman McNickle voted yes; Chief Byron Cox voted yes; Director Stan Florence voted yes; Chief Jason O'Neal voted yes; Chief Bob Ricks voted yes; Chief Michael Robinson voted yes; Sgt. Jason Smith; Director Darrell Weaver voted yes. The motion carried 8-0.

Chairman Norman McNickle adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.