

**COUNCIL ON LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REGULAR MEETING
OSBI Forensic Science Center, Classroom A, 800 E. 2nd Street, Edmond, OK
October 16, 2013
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Director Norman McNickle, DPS City of Stillwater
Sheriff John Whetsel, Oklahoma County
Major Todd Blish, Oklahoma Highway Patrol
Dr. James Burke, East Central University
Chief Byron Cox, Weatherford Police Dept.
Director Stan Florence, O.S.B.I.
Chief Bob Ricks, Edmond Police Dept.
Chief Michael Robinson, O.S.U. DPS
Chief Randy Wesley, Chickasaw Nation Lighthouse
Police Dept.

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Emmons, Executive Director
Charles Gerhart, Assistant Director
Laurie Schweinle, Recording Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chief Bill City, Oklahoma City Police Dept.
Sheriff Ken Grace, Carter County
Asst. Chief Jason Smith, Mounds Police Dept.
Director Darrell Weaver, Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics

GUESTS:

Senator Susan Paddock
Bob Horn, OSBI
Bob Harshaw, OSBI
Richard Goss, OSBI

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman McNickle called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Roll was called, and nine members were present, representing a quorum.

2. Approval of Minutes

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff Whetsel made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2013, regular meeting as written. Chief Ricks seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish abstained. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 8-1.

3. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Action Taken: Chief Cox made a motion to nominate Director McNickle as Council chairman. Sheriff Whetsel seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

Major Blish made a motion to nominate Sheriff Whetsel as Council vice-chairman. Director Florence seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

4. Advisory Council Report

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff Whetsel made a motion to receive the Advisory Council report. Chief Cox seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

5. Advisory Council Composition

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Chief Robinson made a motion to reappoint Chief Brenda Dudley, Prague Police Department; Chief Rex Eskridge, Muskogee Police Department; Chief Danny Ford, Duncan Police Department; and Director Jeff Harp, University of Central Oklahoma. Major Blish seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

6. Private Security Advisory Committee (PSAC) Report

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Sheriff Whetsel made a motion to accept the PSAC report. Chief Cox seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

7. Curriculum Review Board Composition

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Chief Cox made a motion to reappoint Mr. Craig Maile to the Curriculum Review Board. Chief Ricks seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director

Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

8. **160 Hour Reserves Basic Training**

Senator Susan Paddack began by explaining that the bridge academy legislation had been passed for the 240 hour reserves, but there are many of the 160 hour reserves that are interested in this training to obtain their full-time certification as well. She asked Council members to consider this and decide if it may be worthy of further consideration.

Council members discussed their concerns and possible solutions to this question including what classes would be required for the 160 hour Reserves, how to add 80 extra hours to the bridge academy, or if any continuing education they have taken could be used to help them obtain their full-time certification. Also discussed was the possibility of mandating continuing education for Reserves.

Chief Ricks then brought up the possibility of all pensions being combined, including law enforcement pensions. Senator Paddack encouraged him and all law enforcement to contact their legislators with their concerns.

Senator Paddack left the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

9. **OSBI Firearms Instructor School**

Director Emmons explained that the OSBI would like to conduct Phase II of the firearms instructor school at their facility rather than CLEET. Bob Horn, OSBI, advised that he had spoken with CLEET staff and was told to request a waiver to accomplish this. He added that OSBI firearms instructors would still work closely with CLEET staff throughout the process. He explained that the OSBI is in need of twice as many firearms instructors as they have currently to continue to serve the state's needs.

Council members then discussed potential problems with this including CLEET possibly losing responsibilities and becoming irrelevant, lowering standards of instruction, and the dangers of granting waivers. Members came to a consensus that it would be better to set a standard rather than grant a waiver.

Bob Horn also advised members that the firearms instructor students would still be sent to CLEET to do their apprenticeship at the Basic Academy.

Action Taken: Sheriff Whetsel made a motion to allow any state law enforcement agency with at least ten firearms instructors and at least one hundred commissioned law enforcement officers to conduct their own CLEET firearms instructor school. Major Blish seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted no. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 8-1.

Bob Horn, Bob Harshaw, and Richard Goss left the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Chairman McNickle adjourned the meeting for a break at 11:01 a.m.

Chairman McNickle resumed the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

10. CLEET Financial Report

Director Emmons advised members that the budget request had been prepared and that he had heard agencies could expect a flat budget again.

Action Taken: Chief Cox made a motion to accept the CLEET financial report. Director Florence seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

11. Divisional Reports

There was no discussion.

12. Actions Against Peace Officers

There was no discussion.

Action Taken: Director Florence made a motion to move to Item 17, New Business. Chief Wesley seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

13. Legislative Update

Director Emmons advised members that if they had legislative changes for CLEET, they would need to submit those by December. Sheriff Whetsel asked that Reserves be required to obtain continuing education each year.

Director Emmons passed out a summary of Title 70 statute changes (Attachment A) to members. He then gave a brief overview of the changes, and members had a general discussion about these.

14. CLEET Rule Changes

Director Emmons advised members that the biggest changes to the rules would be the addition of the Bail Enforcement Act. He added that any suggestions needed to be forwarded to CLEET General Counsel, James Wilson, by December 1, 2013.

15. Director's Report

Director Emmons updated members on the recent interview he had given to Oklahoma Watch regarding actions against peace officers. He also advised the first bridge academy would be held in March, 2014. He then told members about the next training initiative CLEET would be holding at Northeastern State University in Broken Arrow on December 3-6, 2013. He advised it would be similar to the training initiative held in Norman in September, but on a smaller scale.

16. Proposed 2014 Council Meeting Dates

Sheriff Whetsel advised that January 22, 2014, was the start of the national sheriff's conference.

Action Taken: Chief Cox made a motion to accept the 2014 proposed meetings dates with the only change being to move the January 22, 2014, date to January 29, 2014. Sheriff Whetsel seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

17. New Business

Council members had a general discussion of past waivers and if the policy regarding waivers needs to be changed.

Chairman McNickle advised that the action taken earlier in Item 3 regarding a new chairman and vice-chairman would have to be reconsidered as he and Sheriff Whetsel had both reached their term limits and could not serve in their current positions again.

Action Taken: Both motions made earlier in Item 3 for Council chairman and vice-chairman were withdrawn.

Chief Cox made a motion to nominate Chief Robinson for Council chairman. There was not a second, and Chief Cox withdrew his motion.

Director Florence made a motion to nominate Sheriff Whetsel for Council chairman. Major Blish seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

Chief Cox made a motion to nominate Chief Robinson for Council vice chairman. Chief Ricks seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

Sheriff Whetsel then advised members that Sheriff Ken Grace, Carter County SO, would be taking over as the new Ardmore PD chief as of January 1, 2014, and would no longer be on the Council. Director Florence advised that the OSPOA was aware and prepared to appoint a new member.

18. Adjournment

Action Taken: Director Florence made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Ricks seconded the motion. Chairman McNickle voted yes. Sheriff Whetsel voted yes. Major Blish voted yes. Dr. Burke voted yes. Chief Cox voted yes. Director Florence voted yes. Chief Ricks voted yes. Chief Robinson voted yes. Chief Wesley voted yes. The motion carried 9-0.

The meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.