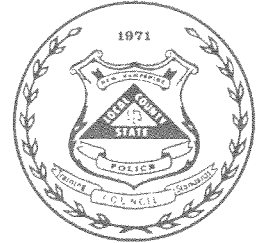




Sheriff Michael L. Prozzo, Jr.  
Chairman

State of New Hampshire  
**POLICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COUNCIL**  
ARTHUR D. KEHAS  
LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FACILITY & CAMPUS  
17 Institute Drive — Concord, N.H. 03301-7413  
603-271-2133 FAX 603-271-1785  
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Donald L. Vittum  
Director

*Minutes*

*May 26, 2009*

***Call to Order***

The 384th meeting of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chairman Michael L. Prozzo Jr., Sheriff of Sullivan County, in the John D. Morton conference room at the Arthur D. Kehas Law Enforcement Training Facility and Campus in Concord, New Hampshire.

***Members Present:*** Commissioner William L. Wrenn, Jr., New Hampshire Department of Corrections; Associate Justice Norman E. Champagne, Manchester District Court; Major Susan Forey, designee of Colonel Frederick H. Booth, New Hampshire State Police; Chief Michael J. Magnant, Portsmouth Police Department; Chief Peter Morency, Berlin Police Department; Chief Timothy Russell, Henniker Police Department; Richard A. Foote, Sheriff of Cheshire County; Attorney General Kelly Ayotte; and, Associate Justice Stephen H. Roberts, Dover District Court.

***Members Absent:*** Chief Gregory C. Dodge, Epping Police Department; and, Vice Chancellor Charles Annal, New Hampshire Community College System.

***Staff Present:*** Director Donald L. Vittum, Major Robert B. Stafford, Jr., Chief (ret.) Timothy Merrill, Captain Benjamin Jean, Lieutenant Mark Bodanza, Investigative Paralegal Anne Paquin, and Council Secretary Kathryn Day.

***Guests Present:*** None.

***Approval of Minutes***

Chief Morency moved for the Council to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 28, 2009. Following a second by Chief Russell, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor, 7-0. (NOTE: Attorney General Ayotte, Judge Champagne, and Commissioner Wrenn were not present for this vote.)

***Director's Report***

There were no questions and the Director had no further comment.

***Previous and/or Unfinished Business***

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Council considered the staff recommendations on the following requests:

**PT&E Requests:**

**Chief Merritt D. Salmon, New Hampton Police Department**

(DOH as FT: 04/10/09) requests consideration for full-time certification based upon prior training and experience. Entrance fitness test not required because of his continuous service in New Hampshire from full time to part time to full-time police certification. Staff recommends granting certification. CPR/First Aid certification, if lapsed, should be updated.

**Officer John W. Sunderland, Somersworth Police Department**

(DOH: 03/23/09) requests consideration for full-time certification based upon prior training and experience. Staff recommends granting certification upon successful completion of the entrance fitness test, medical exam, the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, and CPR/First Aid certification, if lapsed.

**Chief David B. Goldstein, Franklin Police Department**

(DOH: 03/23/09) requests consideration for part-time certification based upon prior training and experience. Staff recommends granting certification upon successful completion of the entrance fitness test, medical exam, the Law Package of the Part-Time Police Officer Academy, and CPR/First Aid certification, if lapsed.

**Requests for Extensions**

Note: Extensions granted until fitness testing for requested Academy and, if testing is successful, through the end of the requested Academy.

**Full-Time Police Officer**

**149<sup>th</sup> Academy 04/27/09 – 07/31/09 (fitness test 04/13/09)**

**150<sup>th</sup> Academy 08/31/09 – 12/04/09 (fitness test 08/17/09)**

**Officer Nicholas R. Drew, Northwood Police Department**

(DOH: 03/25/06 **Part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 150<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension.

**Officer W. Ryan Durrance, Somersworth Police Department**

(DOH: 02/17/09 **Not part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 150<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Durrance continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified police officer.

**Officer Adam C. Govoni, Northwood Police Department**

(DOH: 10/01/08 **Not part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 149<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Govoni continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified police officer.

**Officer David R. Hersey, Seabrook Police Department**

(DOH: 10/31/08 **Part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 150<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension.

**Officer John W. Sunderland, Somersworth Police Department**

(DOH: 03/23/09 **Not part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 150<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Sunderland continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified police officer.

**Conservation Officer Josiah R. Towne, NH Fish and Game Department**

(DOH: 08/29/08 **Not part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 149<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Towne continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified law enforcement officer.

**Officer Dustin R. Walker, Nashua Police Department**

(DOH: 12/16/08 **Not part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 149<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Walker continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified police officer.

**Officer Colin L. Wheeler, Farmington Police Department**

(DOH: 01/06/09 **Not part-time certified**) requests extension through the end of the 150<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Wheeler continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified police officer.

**Part-Time Police Officer**

**256<sup>th</sup> Academy 08/08/09 – 11/13/09 (fitness test 07/25/09)**

**Officer Aaron Hildreth, Nelson Police Department**

(DOH: 01/02/09) requests extension through the end of the 256<sup>th</sup> Part-Time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Hildreth continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified police officer.

**Officer George W. Sanborn III, Raymond Police Department**

(DOH: 01/12/09) requests extension through the end of the 256<sup>th</sup> Part-Time Police Officer Academy. Staff recommends granting the extension with the stipulation that Officer Sanborn continue to work only in the direct presence of a certified police officer.

**(END OF CONSENT CALENDAR)**

Chief Magnant moved for the adoption of the Consent Calendar as presented. After a second by Sheriff Foote, the Council voiced their unanimous approval, 7-0. (NOTE: Attorney General Ayotte, Judge Champagne, and Commissioner Wrenn were not present for this vote.)

**Status of Training Grant Funds and Requests for Specialized Training Grants**

Chairman Prozzo noted that there were no current requests for training grant funds for training taking place before June 30, 2009, and as such, the balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year will lapse. That amount, however, is expected to be minimal and the Chairman commended the Director for managing the funds effectively during the current fiscal year.

Chief Morency inquired if there were any expectation for unexpended funds to be returned from local agencies. Director Vittum said there would be no more funds returned, although there are still agencies that need to submit complete paperwork for officers who participated in Council approved SWAT/SOU training by the NTOA in November and December 2008 at the Northfield Police Department.

### ***Other Business***

#### **Discussion: Alternative Meeting Sites**

The Council considered the feasibility of a suggestion made at the April 6, 2009, planning session for the Council to periodically convene a meeting at an alternative site. The reason for doing so would be to make meetings more accessible to police chiefs and others interested in observing a meeting of the Council. The Council was mindful of the need for Police Standards and Training to reduce overhead costs and agreed that any off-site meetings should take place at one of the agency's regional locations for in-service training: Littleton, Keene, or Pease Tradeport in Portsmouth.

Chief Magnant asked if it would be appropriate for a Council member to attend a Council meeting by videoconferencing from a remote site. In particular, what effect would videoconferencing have on requirements for a quorum? Attorney General Ayotte advised that even though there are provisions in the law for videoconferencing, it can potentially become legally complicated in practice and raise issues relative to the Right-to-Know statute.

The Council supported the concept of promoting openness in conducting their official business, but other than the suggestion made at the recent planning session there did not appear to be any notable interest or "groundswell" of demand from local agencies, public officials, or the general public for holding regional meetings. Commissioner Wrenn felt that if there were an item on the Council's agenda that "is resonating with the chiefs in that (regional) area or with the chiefs overall," this might prompt them to attend; otherwise, there seemed to be little interest in observing a routine Council meeting. Director Vittum agreed this appeared to be the case.

Chairman Prozzo commented that the issue was not a lack of transparency, and even though the agenda for each Council meeting is published in advance on the Police Standards and Training Council internet site and, until recently, mailed to each agency, this does nothing to generate attendance at the Council's meetings held in Concord.

Chief Morency was doubtful that the Littleton location would draw significant numbers unless the chiefs were somehow strongly encouraged to attend or were motivated, as Commissioner Wrenn stated, by interest in an issue included in the Council agenda. Chief Russell recommended contacting police chiefs in the vicinity of one of the alternative sites to publicize the place and date of a pending Council meeting to make them aware of the opportunity and perhaps that would generate interest in attending.

In lieu of setting a date certain, the Council agreed it would be appropriate to hold off-site meetings only in Littleton, Keene, or at Pease Tradeport and only when a future agenda item or items may generate interest and attendance.

### **Status of Budget Proposed for FY 10 & 11**

Chairman Prozzo asked the Director to update the Council on the status of the budget proposed for the next biennium. Although a final version of the operating budget has yet to be adopted, the Director has received assurances from Governor Lynch and others that it will include sources of revenue for funding Police Standards and Training. Director Vittum has had ongoing contact with Governor Lynch and his staff as the bills move through the Legislature. Chairman Prozzo remarked that others he has spoken with that have contact with Governor Lynch about our agency's budget have received the same assurances that resources for our agency will be taken care of.

Thus far, alternative revenue sources proposed by the Director have not been well received, including fees on licenses and insurance policies. The most recent revenue source proposed is attached to legislation relative to expanding gaming operations and would direct that one half of one percent of the net income generated by all video lottery machines be paid to the Police Standards and Training Council training fund. It was noted this bill and others related to gambling have in fact been opposed by representatives of New Hampshire law enforcement and others.

Director Vittum, Attorney General Ayotte, and Commissioner Wrenn encouraged the members of the Council to seek out an opportunity to address the Governor directly in the next several days to learn the details of where revenue sources for Police Standards and Training are included in the current budget process. Chairman Prozzo stated that he would be willing to try to see the Governor to attempt to exact these details and find out if our concerns will be addressed in a Committee of Conference or some other way. Commissioner Wrenn and Attorney General Ayotte agreed to participate if an appointment with Governor Lynch can be arranged.

The Director stated that he has already taken steps to reduce the agency's costs by \$25,000, including eliminating contract instructors at regional sites for in-service training, developing alternative methods for delivery of training, restricting LETSs to working no more than 160 hours in a 28-day cycle, and reducing the hours for a staff member assigned to the Littleton regional site from 40 hours to 32 hours per week. Additionally, the Community College System has agreed to waive the rent charged for leasing facilities for regional training for six months.

Prompted by a question from Chief Morency, the Director noted that enrollment in the Part-Time Academy has been declining. Also, there are currently 30 applicants for the next Full-Time Academy and this number is expected to increase. Chief Morency inquired further about in-service training and Director Vittum stated that enrollments have declined as local budget cuts impact the departments' funds for training. With the cooperation of the Manchester Police Department, Police Standards and Training has already begun to provide an alternative delivery of in-service training classes.

Director Vittum explained that he will visit local agencies during the coming month to communicate the changes that will affect in-service training and the Academy and to discuss what agencies' expectations and interests are and how Police Standards and Training can serve and satisfy those needs. Specifically, during the early part of June the Director will meet with police chiefs – "one on one" or in small groups -- in Manchester, Rochester, Keene, the Lakes Region, Concord, and Nashua to follow up on issues brought forward at the planning session on April 6. The Director will discuss the changes he anticipates over the coming months and how the reorganization that is underway will result in a more flexible, efficient, and effective operation of Police Standards and Training.

### **Presentation to Chief Timothy Russell**

On behalf of the Council and Police Standards and Training staff, Chairman Prozzo presented Chief Russell with a framed certificate commending the Chief's contributions to Police Standards & Training as a member of the Council and as a domestic violence educator in the Academy and throughout the state. The commendation reads as follows:

**Timothy Russell  
Chief of Police  
Henniker Police Department**

*IN APPRECIATION of your years of dedicated service to  
the State of New Hampshire  
and for making this state a safer and better place in which to live, and*

*IN RECOGNITION of your support of the  
New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council  
and its training programs.*

*Your leadership in domestic violence education extended well beyond the boundaries of this state and made a  
long-lasting impact on the law enforcement community.*

*THIS COMMENDATION is presented to you  
from the Council members and staff of the  
New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council.*

Chief Russell thanked Governor Lynch for appointing him as a member of the Council. He complimented all of the Council members and staff for their professionalism and dedication to the core values of the Academy.

Chief Russell said his most lasting impression of his service on the Council will be the honorable conduct of the members as they fairly and consistently apply high standards for achieving and maintaining law enforcement certification in New Hampshire and the belief that the Council upholding these high standards is what sets New Hampshire law enforcement officers apart from those in all other states.

Warm wishes and a hearty round of applause for Chief Russell followed his remarks.

### **On-Line Training**

Director Vittum confirmed to the Council members that Mr. Bradley Naples of The Response Network would attend the June 30 Council meeting to discuss the programs his organization has to offer. The Director indicated that Mr. Naples intends to follow up on the material he presented at the April 7 planning session, namely to enroll New Hampshire officers in the on-line program he demonstrated and to confirm that the Council agrees that courses completed through the **policecommunity.net** web portal are acceptable for satisfying annual requirements for in-service training.

***Next Meeting Date/Adjournment***

The next meeting of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council will be held on **Tuesday, June 30, 2009**, at nine o'clock in the morning in **Concord**. Please note that the date of the meeting has been moved from June 23, 2009, because a quorum will not be available on that date.

Upon a motion by Sheriff Foote, seconded by Chief Russell, the Council voted 10-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Chairman Michael L. Prozzo, Jr.