

State of New Hampshire POLICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COUNCIL ARTHUR D. KEHAS

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TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964 Approved Minutes



Donald L. Vittum Director

Financial Crisis Special Meeting October 13, 2015

A special meeting of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council was called to order at 9:17 a.m. by Chairman, Chief Anthony F. Colarusso, Jr. in the tactical center at the Arthur D. Kehas Law Enforcement Training Facility and Campus in Concord, New Hampshire.

Members Present: Chairman, Chief Anthony Colarusso, Jr.; Deputy Attorney General Ann Rice; Major Russell Conte, New Hampshire State Police; Sheriff Douglas Dutile, Grafton County; Dr. Ekaterina Hurst, DHHS; Ms. Paula Wall, Crisis Center of Central New Hampshire; Chief William Hart, Londonderry Police Department; President Susan Dunton, Community College System of New Hampshire; Chief David Cahill, Sunapee Police Department; Sheriff David Dubois, Strafford County.

Members Absent: Vice Chairman, Commissioner William L. Wrenn, New Hampshire Department of Corrections; Judge Sawako Gardner, 10th Circuit District Division, Portsmouth; Judge James Carroll, 4th Circuit District Division; Laconia.

Staff Present: Director Donald Vittum. Chief Timothy Merrill, Captain Benjamin Jean and Captain Mark Bodanza.

Guests Present: Members of the New Hampshire Police Chief's Association; Senator Hosmer, Senator Forester, Representative Tholl, and Representative Avellani.

The meeting began with the Council members introducing themselves to members of the New Hampshire Police Chief's Association and to the members of the New Hampshire Legislature that were in attendance.

Captain Benjamin Jean explained the current financial crisis facing Police Standards and Training Council in a power point presentation (attached).

Council members voiced their support of New Hampshire's Police Standards and Training Council's one academy where police, probation/parole and correction's officers all receive training. They appreciated the relationships that were built between officers during their training at the academy and that the relationships were maintained over their careers in law enforcement. The residential academy, and the paramilitary environment is very important for training. The Council members asked all the chiefs in attendance at the meeting for their help in approaching the legislature about the financial crisis at PSTC and means to recover funding and look for future funding.

Chairman Colarusso reiterated part of Captain Jean's summary of the budget, there have been many cuts in programs, satellite facilities and in employees at PSTC.

Senator Hosmer asked about operational expenses and replenishing the 1.3 million dollars taken from PSTC in 2009 and 2010. Captain Jean referred to the power point presentation, the biennial deficit, if the 1.3 million dollars was transferred back to PSTC it would cover that there is a \$700,000 shortfall for both fiscal year 2016 and 2017. Captain Jean stated that PSTC is in need of a long term solution. Captain Jean affirmed Senator Hosmer's question about the legislative intent that PSTC maintain one year's operational cost held in a fund. He explained that PSTC is self funded, and pays fees to the state. Chief Colarusso then commented on an ongoing Worker's Compensation claim that would have to be paid for out of the PSTC budget.

Representative Tholl presented information on two LSR's that are currently introduced to legislature regarding the penalty assessment fund; subtracting victim assistance and also court modernization from penalty assessment; and making penalty assessment on the entire fine (not just the portion that is suspended). He also stated that if a person was assigned community service only; that two dollars per hour for community service should be charged as penalty assessment.

Chief Mark Doyle, Merrimack Police Department, Chief Andrew Lavoie, Nashua Police Department, Chief Ken Fifield, Wakefield Police Department, Chief David Goldstein, Franklin Police Department, Chief Robert Cormier, Tilton Police Department, Sheriff Gerald Marcoux, Grafton County, Chief Russell Lary (Ret), Chief Andrew Shagoury, Tuftonboro Police Department, Chief Vincent Baiocchetti (Ret), Chief Richard Crate, Enfield Police Department and Colonel Quinn all showed support of the Council for the quality, consistent training of officers and for their dedication. The consensus was that they were all behind the efforts of the Council to maintain the current academy model as independent, residential and paramilitary.

Director Vittum explained the cuts that were made and asked for help from all of the chiefs. He summarized that PSTC was in need of funding the current biennium, long term funding, and that the academy remain independent.

Motion by Sheriff Dubois, seconded by Chief Cahill to draft a letter to the Governor's Office and to State Legislators for their guidance and feedback on how to fund the Police Standards and Training Council. The Council's vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Chairman Colarusso thanked everyone in attendance.

Motion to Adjourn at 10:34 by Sheriff Dutile, seconded by Chief Cahill, council vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Vice Chairman William Wrenn

NH Police Standards and Training

Financial Status and Projection for Fiscal Years 2016 - 2017

History

- PSTC continues to be significantly challenged by declines in revenue from the Penalty Assessment which makes up approximately 98% of our revenue.
- During lean times, the Legislature has transferred funds from the Training Fund to the General Fund
 - A total of \$1.3 million was transferred during the period of 2009-2010.

History

- In order to sustain the agency and not run out of money, PSTC made significant cuts to full-time staff in 2011, eliminating 4 full-time positions.
- Recently, for sustainability PSTC made further reductions
 - Some full-time positions were demoted in lieu of layoff
 - Part-time hours were reduced
 - A LETS position remains unfilled
 - Regional video-conferencing was eliminated
 - Specialized Training Grants were eliminated
 - In-Service contracts were eliminated.

FY2015 Final Numbers

• Revenue \$3,214,902.20

• Penalty Assessment \$2,848,865.97 Supervision Fees \$62,946.07 Other sources \$16,662.00 Homeland Grant \$286,428.16

• Expenses \$3,478,810.82

• PSTC Fund starting balance

\$591,705.19

PSTC Fund Drawdown

-\$263,908.62

PSTC Fund ending balance

\$327,796.57

Revenue

• Revenue for FY15 was \$2,928,474

Fiscal 2016/2015 Year to Date Revenue Comparisons		
	FY16	FY15
1st Quarter	\$663,604	\$693,739

• Revenue for FYTD 2016 is down \$30,135 (-4.54%)

Authorized Budgets

- Authorized Budgets
 - FY16 \$3,426,298
 - FY17 \$3,557,141
- Projected Revenue (based upon current -4.54% trend)
 - \$2,795,521
- Shortfall between Revenue and Budget
 - Fy16 -\$630,777
 - FY17 -\$761,620

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Authorized Budgets

- Current Authorized Council Reductions
 - Fy16 -\$359,366 (10.5% reduction of FY16 budget, services and people)
 - FY_{17} -\$489,642 (13.8% reduction of FY17 budget, services and people)
- Remaining shortfall
 - Fy16 -\$271,410
 - Fy17 \$271,978
- Available Fund Balance to cover above shortfalls
 - \$327,797

Current Changes taking place

- Adjustment of State fines and the fine schedule.
 - Estimated increase of revenue of \$28,000 \$36,000 per month
- Changes are being made currently, not expected to impact FY₁6 until the second half.
- Potential Revenue Increase
 - FY16 \$168,000 \$216,000 (assumes 6 months)
 - FY17 \$336,000 \$432,000 (assume full year)

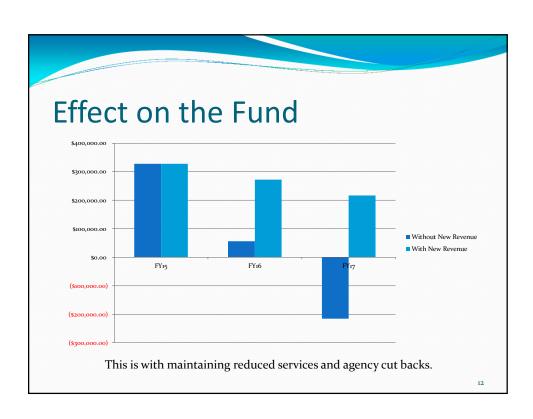
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HB2 amended RSA 188-F:31, I

• I. Every court shall levy a penalty assessment of \$2 or 24 percent, whichever is greater, on each fine or penalty imposed by the court for a criminal offense, including any fine or penalty for a violation of RSA title XXI or any municipal ordinance, except for a violation of a municipal ordinance relating to motor vehicles unlawfully left or parked. Notwithstanding any law or rule to the contrary, the penalty assessment shall be levied in addition to the amount of the fine or penalty imposed by the court.

New Revenue

- Historically, we have learned that projected revenue increases do not tend to materialize quickly and may fall significantly short.
- Most recently, the increase percentage of the Penalty
 Assessment for PSTC to 66.66% was expected to provide a
 23% increase in revenue, but only materialized to 13% the first year.
 - It has fallen each year since that increase.



In-kind

- In 2009 we calculated the cost savings that PSTC receives with adjunct and volunteer instructors.
- Full-Time Academy
 - \$214,347 per year (assumes three 14 week sessions)
- Part-time Academy
 - \$110,284 per year (assumes two 14 week sessions)
- Corrections Academy
 - \$ 58,414 per year (assumes two 9 week sessions)
- Total in-kind savings
 - \$383,045 per year

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Possible revenue sources

- Amend 188-F:31 to require penalty assessment to be paid on total fines including suspended amounts or any amounts diverted by community service or other actions.
- Assessment on inspections stickers
- Assessment on vehicle registrations
- Assessment on driver's licenses
- Assessment on insurance policies (vehicle/home)
- Portion of, or increase to road tolls
- Portion of, or increase to the beer tax
- Portion of, or increase to the gas tax