



*Sheriff Christopher D. Connelly
Chairman*

State of New Hampshire

POLICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COUNCIL

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*John V. Scippa
Director*

April 26, 2022

Minutes

Police Standards and Training Council

In attendance:

Vice Chairperson, Commissioner Helen Hanks, New Hampshire Department of Corrections

Sheriff Massahos, Rockingham County Sheriff's Office

Mr. Edward Lecius

John Formella, Attorney General,

Judge Sawako Gardner, Circuit Court Judge

Chief Steven Russo, Keene Police Department

Judge Melissa Countway 3rd Circuit District Division, Ossipee

Chief Allen Aldenberg, Manchester Police Department

Dr. Maureen Sullivan

Mr. Jason Bishop, Community College System of New Hampshire

Colonel Nathan Noyes, New Hampshire State Police

Chief Joseph Hoebeke, Hollis Police Department

Not attending: Chairman, Sheriff Christopher Connelly, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office;

Chief Michael Ho-Sing-Loy, Sugar Hill Police Department

Staff Present: Director John Scippa, (via Zoom), Major Max Schultz, Major David Parenteau
(Ret.) Captain Adam Hawkins, and Anne Paquin, Investigative Paralegal.

Guests Present: Chief Michael Stark, Allenstown Police Department with candidate Elijah Boyle; Sergeant Aaron Daigneault with candidate, Jason Johnson; Sergeant Jordan Kopko with candidate Ryan Harkonen; and Captain Nathan Roy with candidate Michael Webster.

Vice Chairperson, Commissioner Helen Hanks called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Dr. Sullivan, seconded by Chief Hoebeke to approve the public minutes from March 22, 2022, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion, with Colonel Noyes abstaining from the vote.

Motion by Judge Gardner, seconded by Chief Hoebeke to approve the nonpublic minutes from the Nashua Police Department request of March 22, 2022, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion, with Colonel Noyes and Mr. Lecius abstaining from the vote.

Motion by Mr. Lecius, seconded by Judge Countway to approve the nonpublic minutes from the

Gorham Police Department request of March 22, 2022, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion, with Colonel Noyes abstaining from the vote.

Director's Report (copy attached)

Director Scippa had provided his report prior to the Council meeting, there were no questions on the report from the Council members, however the senate bill referenced in the Director's report was confirmed by Commissioner Hanks as SB 376FN.

Financial Report

Major Schultz noted that the psychological fund balance was \$169,287.00, and we have reimbursed \$23,4020.00. We have transferred funds from various lines with approval of the Governor and Council and Fiscal. The boiler project will begin on May 9, 2022 in the Tactical Center, the hot water will not be available there. When that is completed they will begin the rest of the building. We have a new wireless internet system, it's working very well. This week there will be a meeting about upgrading the air conditioning with the ARPA funds.

The current projects include replacing the stairwell treads in the Tactical Center as both sides are in poor condition. The floor in the firearms waiting area will also be replaced. There will be carpeting installed in classrooms one and two, new carpet installed in the women's dorms, and installing three new fire doors. This summer the parking lot will be seal coated for a cost of approximately \$26,000. We will have new first aid equipment throughout the building. We have recently purchased a new lawn tractor, a new salt/sander/spreader, and there are three new vehicles on order.

When asked, Major Schultz confirmed that the psychological fund was a non-lapsing fund. He was asked about surplus funds from previous years. Major Parenteau noted that staff at PSTC has advocated several times to notify agencies that the psychological fund was available to any agency interested. There are a lot of agencies not taking advantage of the reimbursement.

Chief Hoebeke stated that he would put a notice out to the Chief's Association.

Administrative Rule Pol 403.01

Major Parenteau explained that the Council had voted to approve the final proposal for Pol 403.02, the in-service requirements rule in March. After the meeting the rule was forwarded to the Office of Administrative Services, Office of Administrative Rules, where it was approved and returned to PSTC for a council vote on adoption.

Motion by Mr. Ed Leccius, seconded by Chief Hoebeke to adopt administrative rule Pol 403.01. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

New Business

Allenstown Police Department Pol 301.05 (g) (9) waiver

Chief Stark was present with a candidate for Allenstown Police Department. Chief Stark requested a nonpublic session as the candidate has not been hired as of yet.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Colonel Noyes to initiate a nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II-b.

Vice Chair Hanks took the Council's roll call vote:

Judge Countway	yes
Sheriff Massahos	yes
Chief Aldenberg	yes
Chief Russo	yes
Dr. Sullivan	yes
Mr. Lecius	yes
AG Formella	yes
Mr. Bishop	yes
Colonel Noyes	yes

Vice Chair Hanks voted yes.

At 9:11 a.m. the Council began a nonpublic session.

Motion to exit the nonpublic session by Colonel Noyes, seconded by Mr. Lecius.

Vice Chair Hanks took the roll call vote.

Chief Hoebeke	yes
Judge Countway	yes
Judge Gardner	yes
Sheriff Massahos	yes
Chief Aldenberg	yes
Chief Russo	yes
Dr. Sullivan	yes
AG Formella	yes
Mr. Bishop	yes

Vice Chair Hanks voted yes

At 9:29 a.m. the Council members were back in a public session.

Motion by Judge Countway, seconded by Colonel Noyes, to approve the request for a waiver of Pol 301.05 (g)(9), the voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

New Hampshire State Police

Sergeant Jordan Kopko was present with Ryan Harkonen, who has accepted an offer of employment with State Police.

Sergeant Kopko noted that Mr Harkonen was scheduled to be sworn in on May 6th as a New Hampshire State Trooper. He graduated from the 176th academy. New Hampshire State Police is requesting a waiver for Mr. Harkonen to become certified without having to take the law package. He hasn't worked in New Hampshire law enforcement since April 2020 when he was employed by the Thornton Police Department. There has been a two-year and one month gap in employment for law enforcement.

He has completed the hiring process for New Hampshire State Police. In the gap of two years he has done a lot in the military and volunteer fire service in Connecticut. He has been with the US Army since 2013, he had three years active duty. When he began law enforcement, he was in reserve status with the U.S. Army. He has recently been promoted to sergeant in the reserves; in October 2021 he was in California for one month for a leadership course where he earned the promotion to sergeant. From January to March this year he attended drill instructor school in South Carolina. During the schools he's kept proficiency at firearms, leadership, tactics, first aid and cpr certifications. On the administrative side he's worked with the Trumbull Connecticut Fire Department as a volunteer fire fighter. One of the lieutenants from the fire department wrote a letter referencing Mr. Harkonen's report writing skills and responding to over one hundred calls for service during the two year gap in time since leaving the Thornton Police Department. Mr. Harkonen did provide a packet containing certifications that he has earned during the two year gap in employment. It has been two years and one month since he has been a New Hampshire Certified police officer.

Major Parenteau confirmed that the packet Mr. Harkonen provided contained many certifications from military training. He is only one month over a two-year lapse.

Motion by Mr. Lecius, seconded by Chief Hoebeke to approve the waiver request from New Hampshire State Police allowing Ryan Harkonen prior training and experience certification after two years and one month lapse in law enforcement employment without the requirement to attend NH law package classes at the academy. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion, with Colonel Noyes abstaining from the vote.

Mont Vernon Police Department

Major Parenteau explained that Mont Vernon's request was for their officer to skip over the next scheduled full-time academy in June, and attend the fall academy.

Sergeant Aaron Daigneault of Mont Vernon Police Department was present with Officer Jason Johnson who is currently certified as a part time officer.

Officer Johnson was recently appointed to a full-time position with Mont Vernon, and is currently scheduled to attend the June academy. This poses a scheduling problem for the agency as they are understaffed, and for Officer Johnson, as he is a full-time single parent.

When asked, Officer Johnson confirmed that the August start date would not be a problem if the academy continues as a day program.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Chief Aldenberg, to allow Mont Vernon's Officer Johnson to skip the June academy and begin the full-time academy scheduled for August. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Berlin Police Department

Captain Nathan Roy was present with Michael Webster, a candidate for the Berlin Police Department. The Berlin Police Department is requesting a waiver from the Council's requirement that any officer who has been out of law enforcement employment for more than three years must attend the entire academy.

Major Parenteau explained that Michael Webster was a retired officer from the state of Connecticut, where he worked for twenty-three years. He has not worked in law enforcement for eight years. However, during that time he has held positions that used many of the skills he had as a police officer.

Mr. Webster, when asked, reviewed his resume for the Council members. The position with the Berlin Police Department is for a School Resource Officer.

Discussion ensued amongst the Council members. Major Parenteau confirmed that the Council has allowed this type of request in the past, minimally, and that Mr. Webster would be required to attend the law package classes for the full-time academy.

Motion by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Chief Aldenberg to grant the waiver request by the Berlin Police Department contingent upon the Law Package. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion,

Consent Calendar

Benjamin Adams, Campton Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (March 6, 2022), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Luis Arias, Woodstock Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (February 17, 2022), and the entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Kristen Cournoyer, Salem Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (February 23, 2022), and entrance fitness test with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Vicente Estrella-Reyes, New Ipswich Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (June 6, 2021), entrance fitness test with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

William Graham, Bradford Police Department Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (April 11, 2022), entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Ryan Harkonen, State Police

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (January 3, 2022), entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

James J. Hodgdon, IV NH Department of Justice

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Brendan Hurley, Bedford Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test (March 23, 2022), and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Brian Jenkins, Gorham Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (October 21, 2021), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Graham Jensen, Keene Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (February 9, 2022), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Richard Lipinski, State Police

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, (March 4, 2022) entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy, (as a sit in student) with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Gregory Miller, Mason Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Jeffrey Santa Cruz, State Police – NH Hospital

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (February 1, 2022), entrance fitness test, and the Law Package of the Full-Time Police Officer Academy (as a sit in student), with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Timothy Stevens, Colebrook Police Department

Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam, entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Shawn Walmsley, Strafford County Sheriff's Office Will be granted certification upon successful completion of the medical exam (March 31, 2022), entrance fitness test, with the stipulation that the officer must work in the direct presence of a certified officer unless the officer completes the agency's FTO program and then may work under normal supervision.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar by Mr. Lecius, seconded by Chief Hoebeke. The voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion, with the following abstentions:

Attorney General Formella with the DOJ officer,
Colonel Noyes on all of the New Hampshire State Police officers
Chief Russo. on the Keene Police Department officer.

Motion to adjourn at 9:48 a.m. by Chief Hoebeke, seconded by Dr Sullivan, the voice vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2022.

May 24, 2022

Respectfully Submitted


Christopher D. Connelly
Chairman

To: All NHPSTC Council Members

FROM: Director John Scippa

DATE: April 26, 2022

RE: Director's Monthly PSTC Council Report

Academy and In-Service Training:

1. 187 Full Time Police Academy graduated on April 22, 2022.
2. 188th Full Time Police Academy is in session with 49 recruits.
3. The Corrections Academy preparing to form its next session to start on May 31, 2022.
4. COVID impact has been minor since our last Council meeting.
5. In-Service/On-Line Bureau reports in-person in-service classes are running smoothly, and Benchmark is live and running smoothly as well.

Budget:

1. We were approved by G&C to transfer funds in our operating budget on March 23rd. We have begun the process of addressing numerous facility repairs that have been needed for some time such as new flooring in the firearms range waiting, stairways from the Tac Center to the Range, classrooms 1-2, and the female dormitory. We were able to replace our lawnmower that failed at the end of last fall, we purchased a salt spreader and we have begun to secure estimates on having the entire driving pad seal coated. Major Schultz has been instrumental in this process and continues to lead facility upgrade projects.

Outreach, Education and Legislation:

1. Both Senate Bill 456 and House Bill 1682 (identical bills) regarding major re-write of RSA 106-L, to include the creation of a committee to review and investigate allegations of misconduct, were approved on their respective sides, crossed and then continued through. HB 1682 reduced the finances to cover the position costs, (one FT Attorney and two FT LETS), from 350,000 to 175,000. SB 456 was tabled at cross-over. It appears that HB 1682 will go to the Governor's desk with wide bi-partisan support. The PSTC Rules sub-committee will keep HB 1682 in mind as we continue to address POL rule changes.

2. SB XXXXX to study the creation of a committee to review all police and corrections UOF events that lead to death or SBI of people who are mentally ill and to provide funding (1.2 million at this writing) for NH PSTC to provide CIT training to one officer from every NH agency, to include managing the reimbursement costs to each agency for back fill, overtime, travel, lodging and meals to obtain such training and to provide for a part time Admin at PSTC to manage the program, is making its way through the legislative process. I have made it clear that the part time position must be included or I couldn't support the bill.

3. We submitted four Capital Budget requests in March. We will be requesting all four to be considered during the next budget cycle. Three will be directed at creating more classroom space and one will be to increase security measures for the facility.

a. Addition to the Tactical Center to create two 150 seat lecture halls, create more office space, add two new classrooms to the second floor and double the length of the track.

b. Reclaim Classrooms 3 and 4 and move the VirTra from those classrooms to one of the storage garages at the rear of the facility.

c. Re-construct the existing break room to create a 50-person lecture hall and add two additional staff offices.

d. Reconfigure the entire facility's security access and surveillance systems to address our present and future needs

4. We continue to address 91-A requests for regulatory documents and curriculum. We continue to work with our civil attorney to respond to these requests.

Staff and Operations:

1. We are sad to announce, (although happy for her!) that our Full Time Recruit Academy Administrative Assistant, Elizabeth McGill, is resigning her position with us to take on a new position within the State at DHHS. Elizabeth has been outstanding in her role here and we thank her for her time here and for her service to support NH Law Enforcement. This position has been posted and we will be working to get it filled quickly.

2. We just closed the outside posting for the FT Instructional Design position, classified as an Administrator II position within the state classification system, and we are very impressed with the number and quality of the applications we have received. We plan on interviewing applicants in the next two weeks.

3. We will be conducting a review with the LETS and admin staff on how the overlapping academy delivery worked and will provide a summary report of the council on the findings.

Pending Action Items:

1. State Level Accreditation Program: Meetings continue with members of the executive board of the NH Association of Chiefs of Police in the development of Articles of Organization for a State Level Accreditation body that will develop and deliver a voluntary accreditation program for NH Law Enforcement.

2. Curriculum Review: JTA is being refined by UNH Justice Works. I have met with the UNH staff and grad student who is conducting the 2nd phase of the project.

3. Boiler Replacement Project: This approved project will be starting very soon. During this project, both water and heat to our facility will be directly impacted at times and may necessitate operational changes as needed.

4. ARPA Capital Projects: The NH Department of Public Works is working with our facilities staff to move the two capital projects from our last budget cycle, the AC replacement project and the Range Remediation Project, both being completed using ARPA funds.

5. Administrative Rules Committee: We continue to meet as a sub-committee and continue to draft amendments as we feel appropriate for final council review and approval.

6. Discussion on Part Time Certification: A second subcommittee's meeting was held this past month. I will be preparing a summary report to the Council on the subcommittee's position and suggested recommendations moving forward.

7. Conference: I will be attending the IADLEST Conference in Fort Worth TX from May 14 through May 18th

Discussion Items:

1. None