

MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL TRAINING COMMISSION
REDACTED Minutes – 185th Meeting – October 12, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

LaMonte E. Cooke, Director of Correctional Services, Queen Anne’s County Department of Corrections (Vice-Chair)
J. Michael Zeigler, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Lt. Daniel Lasher, President, Maryland Correctional Administrators Association
Patricia Schupple, Deputy Director, Howard County Department of Corrections
Deborah Richardson, Director, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Lynette Holmes, Deputy Secretary for Support Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Symphar R. Charles, Chief, Learning and Career Development, Federal Bureau of Prisons
Captain Michael Merican, representing Sheriff Timothy Cameron, President, Maryland Sheriff’s Association
Dr. Beverly O’Bryant, representing Dr. Maria Thompson, President, Coppin State University
Secretary Sam Abed, Department of Juvenile Services
Christopher Duffey, Correctional Officer of the State of Maryland
Ben Stevenson, President, Maryland Criminal Justice Association

MEMBERS ABSENT

Secretary Stephen T. Moyer, Chair, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Stuart M. Nathan, Assistant Attorney General representing Brian E. Frosh, Attorney General
Wallis Q. Norman, Executive Director of Residential Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Vacancy, Representative of Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

STAFF PRESENT

Albert L. Liebno, Jr., Deputy Director
Kate Gossard, Director of Support Services
Andrea King-Wessels, Training Administrator, Division of Parole and Probation
Michelle Wilson, Assistant Attorney General
Lewis Pindell, Media Specialist
Jeanne Chenoweth, Recorder
Katie Johnson, Registrar

GUESTS

Nicole Amedori, Department of Juvenile Services
Jonathon Scruggs, AFSCME
Rodney Allen, DPSCS-IID
Tisheba Haughton, DPSCS
Kelly Marzullo, Assistant Attorney General, DPSCS

The 185th meeting of the Correctional Training Commission (CTC) was called to order by Vice-Chair LaMonte Cooke at 10:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Education and Training Center (PSETC), Sykesville, Maryland. A quorum was present.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes – July 13, 2016
2. Executive Director Report
3. Legal Issues – Update on Decertification Hearings
4. Old Business
 - a) Final Approval of Amendments to Regulation 12.10.01.22 – Prior Substance Abuse by Applicants for Certification
5. New Business
 - a) Department of Juvenile Services Entry Level Training Objectives
 - b) Correctional Officer Entry Level Training Objectives – Gangs
 - c) Proposed 2017 Meeting Schedule
6. Request for Reconsideration of the Commission’s Decision to Hold a Decertification Hearing

1. Approval of Minutes – July 13, 2016

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2016 meeting was made by Lt. Daniel Lasher: SECONDED: Ms. Deborah Richardson. The MOTION carried.

2. Executive Director’s Report

Deputy Director Albert Liebno stated that a full report was in the notebook reflecting Police and Correctional Training Commissions (PCTC) activity which had taken place since the last quarterly meeting. Mr. Liebno informed the Members that the new Police Training and Standards Commission met for the first time last week. He stated that at that meeting, Secretary Moyer identified part-time positions for both the Executive Director of the Correctional Training Commission and the Police Training and Standards Commission as well as a full-time Executive Director position to oversee the PCTC staff and the Public Safety Education and Training Center. He stated Mr. William McMahon is currently the Acting Executive Director of the full-time position as well as the Correctional Training Commission.

3. Legal Issues – Update on Decertification Hearings

Ms. Michelle Wilson reminded the Commission that a decertification hearing will be held immediately following the Commission meeting. She also updated the Members on the status of the remaining pending decertification hearing.

4. Old Business

a) Final Approval of Amendments to Regulation 12.10.01.22 – Prior Substance Abuse by Applicants for Certification

Mr. Albert Liebno referred the Members to the documents in the binder and stated that the amendments to the Prior Substance Abuse regulations were approved for publication at the last Commission meeting. He explained that the proposed amendments were published in the Maryland Register and a few comments were received. Mr. Liebno allowed time for the Members to review the comments and informed them that the proposed amendments were now eligible for final adoption. He stated that the amendments to COMAR basically state that no matter what the substance is that the applicant used, as long as there was no usage within the past three years, they would be acceptable according to the new regulations. Mr. Liebno reminded the Members that an agency can impose their own stricter requirements. Mr. Liebno reviewed the Commission’s options at this time.

The Members discussed their concerns over the three year guideline as it pertains to heroin and other more dangerous drugs. Upon questioning, Secretary Abed explained the committee's decision to propose the amendment as presented.

A MOTION was made by Secretary Sam Abed for Final Approval of Amendments to Regulation 12.10.01.22 – Prior Substance Abuse by Applicants for Certification: SECONDED: Dr. Beverly O'Bryant. The Motion carried.

5. New Business

a) Department of Juvenile Services Entry Level Training Objectives

Mr. Albert Liebno referred the Members to the documents in the binder which he stated were based on a recent task analysis study by the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) on staff positions including Resident Advisors, Case Management Specialists and Support Staff. Secretary Abed stated that the proposed up-date to each training program provides for objectives more directly related to current practices.

Ms. Nicole Amedori stated that an independent contractor had been brought in to conduct a job task analysis because many of the staff roles and responsibilities have changed over the years. She stated this study included staff interviews to determine if they were receiving the appropriate training. Ms. Amedori stated that a committee of subject matter experts was then formed to decide which training objectives were appropriate. She informed the Members that the final recommendations were what are being presented at this time and that the goal was to begin using these objectives in DJS' training academy in January. Upon questioning, Ms. Amedori stated that the proposed objectives were in compliance with COMAR and DJS standards and procedures.

A MOTION was made by Lt. Daniel Lasher to approve the proposed DJS entry-level training objectives: SECONDED: Secretary Sam Abed. The Motion carried.

Upon questioning from Mr. Liebno, Secretary Abed stated that he would review the terms referring to the three mandated categories of employees to be sure they are being used consistently.

b) Correctional Officer Entry Level Training Objectives – Gangs

Mr. LaMonte Cooke stated that this item would not be addressed at this time.

c) Proposed 2017 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Albert Liebno referred the Members to the proposed schedule of meetings for 2017. The Members agreed to the schedule as proposed.

Mr. LaMonte Cooke stated the next item would be heard in Closed Session.

Recorders Note: Ms. Chenoweth read the COMAR closed session regulation into the record.

A MOTION was made by Captain Michael Merican to adjourn to a Closed Session: SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 10:28 a.m.

6. Request for Reconsideration of the Commission's Decision to Hold a

Decertification Hearing

A MOTION was made by Lt. Daniel Lasher to Not grant a reconsideration of the Commission's previous decision to hold a decertification hearing. SECONDED: Ms. Deborah Richardson. The members were polled to record their votes. The MOTION CARRIED.

Assistant Attorney General Michelle Wilson advised the Commission members that the decertification hearing would most likely be scheduled immediately after the January 2017 Commission meeting.

A MOTION was made by Deputy Secretary J. Michael Zeigler to adjourn to an open session: SECONDED: Secretary Sam Abed. The MOTION carried.

Recorder's Note: This concluded the closed session. The meeting adjourned to an open session at 10:45 a.m.

Mr. Cooke announced the outcome of the issue voted on during the closed session.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Secretary Sam Abed: SECONDED: Deputy Secretary J. Michael Zeigler. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

These "minutes" are a synopsis of the Commission's discussion and decisions and not a verbatim rendering of the proceedings.