

MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL TRAINING COMMISSION
REDACTED Minutes – 187th Meeting – April 12, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Secretary Stephen T. Moyer, Chair, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
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
Lynette Holmes, Deputy Secretary for Support Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Sheriff Timothy Cameron, President, Maryland Sheriff’s Association
Stuart M. Nathan, Assistant Attorney General representing Brian E. Frosh, Attorney General
Secretary Sam Abed, Department of Juvenile Services
Christopher Duffy, Correctional Officer of the State of Maryland
Commissioner Dayena Corcoran, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wallis Q. Norman, Executive Director of Residential Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Ben Stevenson, President, Maryland Criminal Justice Association
Deborah Richardson, Director, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Symphar R. Charles, Chief, Learning and Career Development, Federal Bureau of Prisons
Dr. Beverly O’Bryant, representing Dr. Maria Thompson, President, Coppin State University

STAFF PRESENT

Albert L. Liebno, Jr., Acting Executive Director
Michelle Wilson, Assistant Attorney General
Lewis Pindell, Media Specialist
Jeanne Chenoweth, Recorder
Katie Johnson, Registrar
Jane Sachs, Director of Correctional Training
Thomas Martin, Assistant Director of Correctional Training
Myrna Adejoh, Certification Administrator
Jama Acuff, Compliance Officer
Nicholas Hill, Statewide DPSCS Correctional Academy Director

GUESTS

David Bezanson, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Gerald Widdoes, Cecil County Sheriff’s Office
Eddie McCrae, Cecil County Detention Center
Alissa Cirillo, Cecil County Detention Center
Darryl Osborne, Cecil County Detention Center
Mary Allen, Cecil County Sheriff’s/Detention Center
Anthony Gaskins, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Kate Dixon, DPSCS Division of Capital Construction and Facilities Maintenance

The 187th meeting of the Correctional Training Commission (CTC) was called to order by the Chair, Secretary Stephen T. Moyer, 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 – January 11, 2017
2. Executive Director Report and Update
3. Legal Issues
4. Old Business
5. New Business
6. Request to Operate a Correctional Entrance-Level Training Academy - COMAR 12.10.01.14
7. Request for Waiver of Entrance Level Training for Recertification
8. Consideration for Holding a Decertification Hearing

Secretary Stephen Moyer, Chair, asked all members, staff and guests to introduce themselves. This is the last meeting for Lt. Daniel Lasher as his term as MCAA President expires in June. Thank you to Lt. Lasher for his service to the Commission.

1. Approval of Minutes – January 11, 2017

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2017 meeting was made by Officer Christopher Duffy: SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried.

Recorder's Note: Ms. Patricia Schupple joined the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Recorder's Note: Ms. Dayena Corcoran joined the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

2. Executive Director's Report and Update

Acting Executive Director Albert Liebno stated that a full report was in the binder reflecting Police and Correctional Training Commissions (PCTC) activity which had taken place since the last quarterly meeting. He reintroduced new employees Ms. Adejoh and Ms. Acuff in the Certification unit, and mentioned another new employee in Certification, Ms. Catherine O'Neill. It is Mr. Thomas Martin's first day as he just transferred from DPSCS to PCTC. Certification has 63 officers in 5-6 agencies that need to meet year-end compliance. Mr. Liebno mentioned the Traffic Safety Specialist grant-funded program, Volunteer Instructor Program, and the International classes coming to PCTC. Secretary Moyer has appointed Ms. Andrea King-Wessels as the lead on the implementation team for Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA). There were no questions for Mr. Liebno.

3. Legal Issues

Ms. Michelle Wilson stated that the decertification hearing previously scheduled for today has been postponed to the next Commission meeting in July.

4. Old Business

Lt. Daniel Lasher clarified that the new drug standards went into effect January 1, 2017. Lt. Lasher also asked for an update on the three executive director positions currently vacant. Secretary Moyer explained the Police Training & Standards Commission (PTSC) has voted on and submitted a name to the Governor for approval, as mandated in House Bill 1016. Mr. Liebno is the Acting Director of the Police & Correctional Training Commissions and the Correctional Training Commission until further notice. Secretary Moyer is waiting to act on these other two positions until the PTSC Director is announced.

5. New Business

Ms. Patricia Schupple thanked MPCTC for providing the Wroten Case Study training to their agency, Howard County Department of Corrections. It was a reminder of how vigilant officers need to be on off-site posts.

6. Request to Operate a Correctional Entrance-Level Training Academy - COMAR 12.10.01.14

Representatives from Cecil County Sheriff's Office presented their plan to operate a correctional academy on-site. Due to a recent expansion, they now have the classroom space to operate an academy. The agency currently has 9 certified instructors and 2 provisional instructors on-staff. They plan to accept students from other agencies as well. Mr. Liebno explained the new academy objectives will be audited by PCTC prior to the academy run, and a full audit after the first class graduates. At full staff, the Detention Center has 74 detention center officers and 18 work release officers. The academy will be 7 weeks and mirror the PCTC Correctional Academy.

A MOTION to approve the request for Cecil County Sheriff's Office to operate a correctional entrance-level training academy was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke: SECONDED: Ms. Patricia Schupple. The MOTION carried.

7. Request for Waiver of Entrance Level Training for Recertification

Mr. Liebno stated the staff received an Application for Certification (AFC) from DPSCS, Division of Capital Construction and Facilities Maintenance for the recertification of Godfrey Williams. Mr. Williams was previously employed by DPSCS as a certified Correctional Officer from September 2011 until he resigned in October 2013. Because it has been more than three years since he was last certified, COMAR requires that Mr. Williams complete an entry-level training academy. At the time of interview, Mr. Williams was within the three year time period. When he was officially offered the position by DPSCS, the limit had been surpassed by one month. At this time, Mr. Williams is provisionally certified but under COMAR would need academy training. Ms. Katherine Dixon was present to answer any questions.

A MOTION to approve the request for waiver of entrance level training for recertification of Mr. Godfrey Williams was made by Secretary Sam Abed: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.

Secretary Moyer 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 Mr. LaMonte Cooke to adjourn to a Closed Session: SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 10:31 a.m.

8. Consideration for Holding a Decertification Hearing

A MOTION was made by Ms. Patricia Schupple to hold a decertification hearing: SECONDED: Officer Christopher Duffy. The Members were polled to record their vote. The MOTION carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke to adjourn to an open session: SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried.

Recorder's Note: This concluded the closed session. The meeting adjourned to an open session at 10:35 a.m.

Secretary Moyer invited the parties back into the meeting and announced the outcome of the issue voted on during the closed session. Ms. Schupple inquired as to how field experts could provide in-service training if not certified as an instructor by PCTC. Mr. Liebno explained that instructors with certain credentials in a subject can be granted an exemption of instructor certification by the Deputy Director. Also any instructor teaching less than 3 hours in an approved class doesn't need to be certified by the Commission.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke: SECONDED: Lt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

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