

MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL TRAINING COMMISSION

Minutes – 217th Meeting – January 18, 2024

6852 4th Street
Sykesville, MD 21784

MEMBERS PRESENT

Carolyn J. Scruggs, Secretary, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Chair)
Ryan Ross, Director, Charles County Detention Center, President, Maryland Correctional Administrators Association (Vice Chair)
Viny Schiraldi, Secretary, Department of Juvenile Services
Anthony Gaskins, Chief of Staff, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
David Brown, Deputy Secretary of Support Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Annie Harvey, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Joseph Thomas, Assistant Attorney General representing Anthony G. Brown, Attorney General
Ayodele Okunoren, Sergeant, Correctional Officer of the State
Hyanna Barnett, Lieutenant, Regional Representative
Fateema Mobley, Lieutenant, Regional Representative
Rhonda Johnson, Sergeant, Regional Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kevin Bianca, President, Maryland Criminal Justice Association
Sheriff Ricky Cox, representing Sheriff Joe Gamble, President, Maryland Sheriff's Association
Chief John Philips, Chief of Learning and Career Development, Federal Bureau of Prisons
Dr. Beverly O'Bryant, representing Dr. Maria Thompson, President, Coppin State University

STAFF PRESENT

Jennifer Beskid, Correctional Training Commission, Executive Director
Chaka Cross, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
Katie Johnson, Registrar (Recorder)
Kate Gossard, Executive Director, Public Safety Education & Training Center
Matthew Mellady, Deputy Director, Public Safety Education & Training Center
Paul Mayhew, Assistant Attorney General
Royal Bacote, Certification Unit
Teresa Bean, Leadership Development Institute (LDI) Director
Kelly Brauning, Certification Administrator
Stephanie Cain, Compliance Administrator
Sarah Chatfield, Media Specialist
Gina Clay, Compliance Unit
Gary Gardner, Director of Policy & Processes
Joan Henard, Certification Unit
Brittany Rohe, Certification Unit
Kia Webb, LDI Program Coordinator

GUESTS

Nicole Amedori, Department of Juvenile Services
Letitia McMillion, Department of Juvenile Services
Precious Modey, Division of Corrections
Sha-Keara Pinkney, DPSCS/Office of the Secretary

Denise Victory, Department of Juvenile Services

The 217th meeting of the Correctional Training Commission (CTC) was called to order by the Chair, Secretary Carolyn J. Scruggs, at 10:04 a.m. at the Public Safety Education and Training Center (Center), Sykesville, Maryland. A quorum was present.

The agenda and subsequent action(s) follow:

1. Call Meeting to Order

Secretary Scruggs called the meeting to order and asked all members, staff, and guests to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes from the October 12, 2023 Commission meeting.

Secretary Scruggs asked the members to review the minutes.

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2023 meeting was made by Vice Chair Ross: SECONDED: Deputy Secretary Harvey. The MOTION carried.

Recorder's Note: Sgt. Johnson joins the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

3. Facility Report

- a. Director Beskid presented a brief history of the current Facility Report. Director Beskid reviewed the proposed report highlighting that the main components of the new report includes certification, compliance, and training data. Under the proposed reporting format, the information contained in the report included the number of probationary and fully certified correctional officers; correctional officers that are in non-officer status, have retired, resigned, or been terminated from an agency; in-service compliance by agency; and audit statistics for selection standards, academy, and in-service records. Training statistics will also be included.

- b. Discussion – Changes to the format and renaming

There were no concerns from members regarding changes to the format or renaming the report.

A MOTION to change the name of the Facility Report to the Correctional Training Commission Training and Standards Report and to change the format was made by Secretary Schiraldi: SECONDED: Deputy Secretary Harvey. The MOTION carried.

4. Legal Issues

Assistant Attorney General Mayhew had no legal issues to present.

5. Old Business

- a. COMAR 12.10.01.22 Discussion (Cannabis)

Members discussed changes to the relevant COMAR sections regarding selection standards as they pertain to prior use of cannabis (marijuana) by applicants for certification. Members decided to allow the subcommittee to gather more information and to consult a subject matter expert before making changes to COMAR. The Governor recently issued Executive Order 10.01.2023.16, State of Maryland Workplace

Substance Abuse Policy, and the discussion centered around what this policy meant to both State and local agencies.

b. Training for Background Investigators – Objective Review

Director Beskid presented training objectives for the proposed background investigator model training. Secretary Scruggs requested to put the discussion on hold until Deputy Secretary Sedtal is able to review the objectives to ensure that it captures all possible training objectives.

6. New Business

a. Correctional Services Article – Establish a committee to review §§8-201 through 8-210

Director Beskid proposed to establish a committee to review Correctional Services Article §§8-201 through 8-210 to make proposed revisions to ensure that the Correctional Services Article aligns with the role of the Commission. The proposed committee would work towards having draft revisions ready to be reviewed by Commission members for review by the April meeting and approval by the July meeting. Once any revisions are approved by members, they will need to be submitted to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services by September 1, 2024 to begin the legislative process. The committee will consist of Deputy Director Mellady, Ms. Modey, Ms. Amedori, Ms. Brauning, Sgt. Johnson, and Ms. Elizabeth Bartholomew.

7. Closed Session - the closed session was not held as the agency requested to have it removed from the agenda.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Secretary Schiraldi: SECONDED: Deputy Secretary Harvey. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

These “minutes” are a synopsis of the Commission’s discussion and decisions and not a verbatim rendering of the proceedings.