

MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL TRAINING COMMISSION

REDACTED Minutes – 209th Meeting – July 14, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

Secretary Robert L. Green, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Chair)
LaMonte E. Cooke, Director of Correctional Services, Queen Anne’s County Department of Corrections (Vice-Chair)
Cory Fink, representing Lynette Holmes, Deputy Director, Department of Juvenile Services
Annie Harvey, Acting Commissioner of Corrections, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Philip Morgan, representing Wayne Hill, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services
Zenita Hurley, Assistant Attorney General representing Brian E. Frosh, Attorney General
Captain Daniel Lasher, Allegany County Detention Center
Wallis Q. Norman, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Juvenile Services
Mary Ann Thompson, President, Maryland Correctional Administrators Association

MEMBERS ABSENT

Secretary Sam Abed, Department of Juvenile Services
Symphar R. Charles, Chief, Learning and Career Development, Federal Bureau of Prisons
Lieutenant Christopher Duffy, Correctional Officer of the State of Maryland
Melinda Grenier, President, Maryland Criminal Justice Association
Sheriff Michael Lewis, President, Maryland Sheriff’s Association
Dr. Beverly O’Bryant, representing the President, Coppin State University
Demetrius Page, Division of Parole and Probation

STAFF PRESENT

H. Allen Beard, Jr., Executive Director, Correctional Training Commission
Albert L. Liebno, Jr., Executive Director, Police & Correctional Training Commissions
Wayne Silver, Executive Director, Police Training & Standards Commission
Chennada Burns, Correctional Training unit
Stephanie Cain, Compliance Administrator
Sarah Chatfield, Media Specialist
Katie Johnson, Recorder

GUESTS

Denise Victory, Department of Juvenile Services
Nicole Amedori, Department of Juvenile Services
Kristal Ostrander, Department of Juvenile Services
Dionne Randolph, DPSCS Department of Pretrial & Detention Services
Sheila Brown, DPSCS Chesapeake Detention Facility
Sheila Hill, AFSCME Maryland

The 209th meeting of the Correctional Training Commission (CTC) was called to order by the Chair, Secretary Robert Green, at 10:03 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 – April 27, 2022
2. Facility Report
3. Legal Issues
4. Old Business
 - a) Update on Job Task Analysis/Training Objectives
 - b) Technology and Training Update
 - c) Contraband Summit
 - d) Update on Aligning with Colleges for Uniform Programming
 - e) Amendments to Drug Regulations - citing 17.04.09.04
5. New Business
 - a) Legislative Updates

- b) MDH Training
- 6. Request for Recertification

Secretary Green asked all members, staff and guests to introduce themselves.

1. Approval of Minutes – April 27, 2022

Secretary Green asked the members to review the minutes.

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the April 27, 2022 meeting was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke: SECONDED: Capt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried.

2. Facility Report

Mr. Albert Liebno, Executive Director of the MD Police & Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC), directed members to the report, which reviewed the activities at the Center during the past quarter. He noted the pilot program coordinated by the Leadership Development Institute on lessons from Antietam went very well. Mr. Liebno also stated that several academies graduated this last quarter, and another will graduate in Cumberland next month. He informed the members that the first Correctional Comparative Compliance program will be held in Western Maryland this fall. Agencies should forward potential candidates to the Commission.

Secretary Green reiterated that MPCTC reviews academies on a state-by-state basis, and reminded members that not all state transfers are automatically approved for Comparative Compliance. He stated the curriculum must be reviewed and approved by the Commission and not individual agencies.

3. Legal Issues

Mr. Liebno stated there were no legal issues.

4. Old Business

a) Update on Job Task Analysis

Mr. Allen Beard, Executive Director of the Correctional Training Commission, stated that the finalized objectives for correctional officer, parole and probation agent and monitor academies were provided for members to review prior to the meeting. He thanked Capt. Nick Hill, Mr. Thomas Martin, Ms. Katie Paul-Kersheskey and Mr. Wayne Silver for their efforts, as well as everyone who contributed internally and throughout the State. Mr. Beard said the goal effective date is January 1, 2023.

A question was raised concerning the length of academies under the new objectives. Mr. Beard noted that the length of the academies should not change significantly with the number of objectives added along with the number removed from each curriculum.

A MOTION to approve the objectives as provided was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke: SECONDED: Capt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried.

b) Technology and Training Update

Mr. Beard stated that Capt. Nick Hill generated the idea of tablets for all recruits in the Correctional Entry Level program hosted by MPCTC. After meeting with technical services personnel, the September academy in Hagerstown will be the pilot program for use of tablets. All materials will be electronically loaded, and students can take the tablets home each evening. A debrief will be held after the academy.

Secretary Green noted that there is security in logging into accounts across multiple devices, and having the information stored under the account login versus on the individual device.

c) Contraband Summit

Mr. Beard noted that he is working with Mr. Errol Etting of the DPSCS Intelligence Investigative Division to coordinate the agenda for the contraband summit, which will be scheduled for mid-September. The program will include trends, analysis and best practices when it comes to contraband detection. Mr. Beard noted that the vision is to have the summit as a regularly occurring event.

Secretary Green stated that the summit will be held in-person due to the sensitive nature of the event, and that attendees will be recommended by their agencies. He informed the members that he will be receiving a confidential briefing from the Texas Department of Corrections regarding the recent event in their state, and that he would share the learning points during the summit. Secretary Green asked Mr. Beard to have potential dates selected within the next two weeks.

d) Update on Aligning with Colleges for Uniform Programming

Mr. Beard informed the members that he was researching the potential for MPCTC to become a degree-granting entity based on the Air Force Community College model. The program would allow academy recruits to earn certain credits based on curriculum, and then allow graduates to fill in the necessary credit gaps in order to receive an associate's degree from the Commission. Mr. Beard is discussing this option along with other options with local community colleges. He noted that if MPCTC becomes the degree-granting body, then this model could apply to all academies provided by the agency.

e) Amendments to Drug Regulations - citing 17.04.09.04

Mr. Liebno asked members to review the revisions to COMAR as presented in the binder. The edits would revise the mandate regarding drug testing so that it applied to local as well as State correctional agencies.

A MOTION to approve the proposed wording and submit for approval was made by Capt. Daniel Lasher: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.

5. New Business

a) Legislative Updates

Mr. Liebno stated that the Commission did not receive any inquiries regarding correctional legislative updates. He noted that the MD Correctional Administrators Association published a summary of legislative updates taking effect this year. ([MCAA Site](#))

b) MDH Training

Mr. Liebno referred members to the security attendant training topics provided in the binder. He reminded members that the Commission was required by 2020 legislation to provide training to security attendants employed by the MD Department of Health (MDH). With the assistance of MDH Training Staff, MPCTC provided the training in the Spring, and MDH will develop annual in-service for the employees moving forward. Mr. Liebno noted that these employees are not certified by the Commission and are not working in a mandated position.

A MOTION to approve the training as submitted was made by Capt. Daniel Lasher: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.

Capt. Dan Lasher inquired about the ability of detainees to virtually attend initial hearings and bond reviews for additional arrest warrants. This would eliminate the need for transport of a detainee to the courts. Secretary Green asked MPCTC staff to contact the Attorney General's office and the courts to confirm this process is allowed. He asked for an update to be provided at the next meeting.

Secretary Green stated the next item would be heard in closed session.

Recorder's Note: Ms. Johnson read the closed session written statement into the record.

A MOTION was made by Mr. LaMonte Cooke to adjourn to a Closed Session: SECONDED: Capt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 10:45 a.m.

6. Request for Recertification

A MOTION to deny the recertification was made and SECONDED: The members were polled and the MOTION carried.

The parties involved returned to the room and were informed of the decision.

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

Recorder's Note: This concluded closed session. The meeting adjourned to an open session at 11:26 a.m.

Secretary Green announced the outcome of the issue discussed during the closed session.

Mr. Liebno stated that the decertification hearing originally scheduled for today was postponed due to a request from the officer's attorney. He noted that the hearing would be rescheduled for late August. Secretary Green encouraged the hearing to be conducted virtually so more members could potentially attend.

Mr. Beard announced that this would be his last Commission meeting as he has accepted a position overseas. He stated he was thankful for his time in Maryland. Secretary Green noted that the Department would move quickly to find a replacement Executive Director for the Correctional Training Commission.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Mr. Cory Fink: SECONDED: Capt. Daniel Lasher. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

<p>These "minutes" are a synopsis of the Commission's discussion and decisions and <u>not</u> a verbatim rendering of the proceedings.</p>
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