

MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL TRAINING COMMISSION
Minutes – 193rd Meeting – October 10, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

Secretary Sam Abed, Department of Juvenile Services
LaMonte E. Cooke, Director of Correctional Services, Queen Anne’s County Department of Corrections (Vice-Chair)
Sheriff Timothy Cameron, representing Sheriff Mike Evans, President, Maryland Sheriff’s Association
Ivonne Gutiérrez, President, Maryland Criminal Justice Association
Wayne Hill, Acting Commissioner of Corrections, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Lynette Holmes, Deputy Secretary for Support Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Terry Kokolis, President, Maryland Correctional Administrators Association
Stuart M. Nathan, Assistant Attorney General representing Brian E. Frosh, Attorney General
Wallis Q. Norman, Executive Director of Residential Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Dr. Beverly O’Bryant, representing Dr. Maria Thompson, President, Coppin State University
J. Michael Zeigler, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

MEMBERS ABSENT

Symphar R. Charles, Chief, Learning and Career Development, Federal Bureau of Prisons
Lieutenant Christopher Duffy, Correctional Officer of the State of Maryland
Secretary Stephen T. Moyer, Chair, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

STAFF PRESENT

Jama Acuff, Compliance Officer
Jennifer Beskid, Director of Grants & Special Projects
Chennada Burns, Correctional Training
Jeanne Chenoweth, Recorder
Maryann Foxwell, Leadership Development Institute
Albert L. Liebno, Jr., Acting Executive Director, Correctional Training Commission
Andrea King-Wessels, Parole & Probation Administrator
Katie Johnson, Registrar
Lewis Pindell, Media Specialist
Jane Sachs, Director of Correctional Training
Michelle Wilson, Assistant Attorney General

GUESTS

Nicole Amedori, Department of Juvenile Services
John Wisniewski, Department of Juvenile Services
Cortez Brooks, Department of Juvenile Services
Tilicha Grimes, Department of Juvenile Services
David Pratt, Queen Anne’s County Department of Correction
Mark Stivers II, Queen Anne’s County Department of Correction
Sheri Smith, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
VanNessa Winborne, DPSCS Pretrial Detention Services
Brandon Sterner, DPSCS Baltimore Central Booking and Intake Center
Kate Dixon, DPSCS Capital Construction and Facilities Maintenance

The 193rd meeting of the Correctional Training Commission (CTC) was called to order by the Vice-Chair, Mr. LaMonte E. Cooke, at 10:01 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 11, 2018
2. Facility Report
3. Legal Issues
4. Old Business
 - a) Final Approval of Amendment to COMAR 12.10.01.19 –Comparative Compliance Training
 - b) Pre-Employment Psychological Assessments
 - c) Update from Drug Standards Subcommittee
5. New Business
 - a) Proposed 2019 Meeting Schedule
6. Request for waiver of Training Requirements for Recertification
7. Request for Waiver of Selection Standards for Certification
8. Consideration for Holding a Decertification Hearing

Mr. Cooke asked all members, staff and guests to introduce themselves. He welcomed new member, Mr. Wayne Hill, who replaced retired Commissioner Dayena Corcoran.

1. Approval of Minutes – July 11, 2018

Mr. Cooke asked the members to review the minutes. He noted a correction on the third page under “New Business” which added a line specifying the review of marijuana use as it relates to prior drug use standards.

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2018 meeting was made by Ms. Ivonne Gutiérrez: SECONDED: Sheriff Timothy Cameron. The MOTION carried.

2. Facility Report

Mr. Albert Liebno, as Deputy Director of the Police and Correctional Training Commissions, referred the members to the Facility Report in the binder which reflects the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC) activity which had taken place since the last quarterly meeting. He noted that the Audit team has set a goal to conduct In-Service & Selection Standards audits on a 3 year cycle. Mr. Liebno also noted that the Physical Training Center has a fresh look thanks to the new Administrator, Mr. Travis Snyder.

3. Legal Issues

Ms. Michelle Wilson stated there were no legal updates.

4. Old Business

**a) Final Approval of Amendment to COMAR 12.10.01.19 –
Comparative Compliance Training**

Mr. Liebno stated that no comments were received during publication of the amendment, which changes the responsibility of reviewing training waivers from the Commission to the Deputy Director. Unless otherwise identified, the final adoption will go into effect automatically after one final publication in the Maryland Register.

A MOTION for final adoption was made by Secretary Sam Abed: SECONDED: Mr. J. Michael Zeigler. The MOTION carried.

Recorder's Note: Dr. Beverly O'Bryant joined the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

b) Pre-Employment Psychological Assessments

Ms. Jennifer Beskid summarized the white paper provided in the binder. The issue was tabled until the next meeting so members can review the information. Any questions can be directed to Mr. Liebno or Ms. Beskid in the interim.

c) Update from Drug Standards Subcommittee

Mr. J. Michael Zeigler summarized the adjusted regulations provided in the binder. The presented amendment changes the regulation of marijuana use from 3 years to 1 year from the day of application. Mr. Zeigler also noted that a section of the new regulation specifies that the employee needs to understand the drug testing process. The members discussed editing terminology in section C, paragraph 3b to read, "Complete at minimum an annual drug test to be scheduled at the discretion of the employing agency..."

A MOTION for initial adoption and publication with amended terminology was made by Mr. J. Michael Zeigler: SECONDED: Secretary Sam Abed. The MOTION carried.

5. New Business

a) Proposed 2019 Meeting Schedule

Dates for the 2019 meetings were presented and accepted by the members.

6. Request for waiver of Training Requirements for Recertification

Mr. Liebno stated that staff received an Application for Certification (AFC) from DPSCS for the recertification of Brandon Sterner. Mr. Sterner was a certified correctional officer with DPSCS as a Correctional Maintenance Officer for the Division of Capital Construction and Facilities Maintenance from 2009 until he resigned in good standing in February 2015. DPSCS has rehired Mr. Sterner in August 2018 but he falls outside the three year window and is required to attend a full-entry level training academy. DPSCS is asking for a waiver of this requirement and in lieu, Mr. Sterner will attend 40 hours of in-service training as well as 80 hours of Field Training.

Ms. Kate Dixon, Director of Capital Construction and Facilities Maintenance, discussed the staffing shortages of maintenance officers in the Department. Lt. VanNessa Winborne summarized Mr. Sterner's training record and stated he attended the academy in May 2009. Mr. Sterner addressed the Commission and provided his employee history.

A MOTION to grant the waiver of required training was made by Secretary Sam Abed: SECONDED: Mr. Terry Kokolis. The MOTION carried.

Mr. Cooke stated that a request for waiver of entry level training from the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) would be presented that was not on the agenda. Mr. Liebno informed the Commission that the request is for Ms. Tilicha Grimes, who has been with DJS for 15 years. She spent the first ten years in a mandated position before switching to a non-mandated position in the training unit from 2015 to 2018. Mr. Liebno stated that Ms. Grimes has been teaching mandated topics, and has continued to attend in-service as if she was certified.

Representatives from DJS were present to answer any questions.

A MOTION to grant the waiver of required training was made by Sheriff Timothy Cameron: SECONDED: Mr. J. Michael Zeigler. The MOTION carried.

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

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

A MOTION was made by Dr. Beverly O'Bryant to adjourn to a Closed Session: SECONDED: Sheriff Timothy Cameron. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 10:29 a.m.

7. Request for Waiver of Selection Standards for Certification

Mr. Liebno explained that staff received an Application for Certification (AFC) from the Queen Anne's County DOC for the certification of Mark Stivers. The background investigation for this certification revealed that Mr. Stivers was charged with 2nd Degree Assault in February 2009 related to a domestic incident.

Cpl. Dave Pratt of Queen Anne's County DOC discussed his experiences working with Mr. Stivers, and his on-the-job performance. Mr. Cooke, as Warden of the Detention Center, noted Mr. Stivers' involvement in the community and relationship with local public safety organizations.

Mr. Mark Stivers spoke on his own behalf regarding the history of the incident, and answered questions from Commission members. He also provided his educational and employment background.

The parties involved were asked to leave the room in order for the Commission members to discuss the matter.

A MOTION was made by Sheriff Timothy Cameron to table the issue until additional documentation can be collected, which will be reviewed at a meeting scheduled by Commission staff: SECONDED: Mr. J. Michael Zeigler. The MOTION carried.

8. Consideration for Holding a Decertification Hearing

Mr. Liebno stated that staff received notification from Montgomery County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation that Correctional Officer Eugene Kingston was charged with Assault 2nd Degree and False Imprisonment resulting from a domestic issue with a live-in girlfriend. Officer Kingston plead guilty to second degree assault in April 2018. As a result of a plea agreement, he is on probation until 2020 and is prohibited from owning, possessing, using or have a firearm. Mr. Liebno also noted that Officer Kingston was sentenced to six months in jail; all but one day was suspended.

Members discussed conflicting reports from the Warden and the County Attorneys as to the actions of the employing agency and final outcome of the officer's employment status.

A MOTION to hold a decertification hearing was made by Mr. Terry Kokolis: SECONDED: Sheriff Timothy Cameron. The MOTION carried.

The members noted that the decertification hearing would be scheduled pending the final outcome of the employing agency.

A MOTION was made by Dr. Beverly O’Bryant 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 11:23 a.m.

Mr. Cooke invited the parties back into the meeting and announced the outcome of the issues discussed during the closed session.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Dr. Beverly O’Bryant: SECONDED: Sheriff Timothy Cameron. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 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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MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL TRAINING COMMISSION Minutes – Phone Conference Meeting – November 29, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT ON THE PHONE CALL

LaMonte E. Cooke, Director of Correctional Services, Queen Anne’s County Department of Corrections (Vice-Chair)

Sheriff Timothy Cameron, representing Sheriff Mike Evans, President, Maryland Sheriff’s Association

Lieutenant Christopher Duffy, Correctional Officer of the State of Maryland

Ivonne Gutiérrez, President, Maryland Criminal Justice Association

Wayne Hill, Acting Commissioner of Corrections, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Lynette Holmes, Deputy Secretary for Support Services, Department of Juvenile Services

Secretary Stephen T. Moyer, Chair, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Stuart M. Nathan, Assistant Attorney General representing Brian E. Frosh, Attorney General

Dr. Beverly O’Bryant, representing Dr. Maria Thompson, President, Coppin State University

J. Michael Zeigler, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

MEMBERS ABSENT FROM THE PHONE CALL

Secretary Sam Abed, Department of Juvenile Services

Symphar R. Charles, Chief, Learning and Career Development, Federal Bureau of Prisons

Terry Kokolis, President, Maryland Correctional Administrators Association

Wallis Q. Norman, Executive Director of Residential Services, Department of Juvenile Services

STAFF PRESENT ON THE PHONE CALL

Jeanne Chenoweth, Recorder

Albert L. Liebno, Jr., Acting Executive Director, Correctional Training Commission

Katie Johnson, Registrar

Lewis Pindell, Media Specialist

Michelle Wilson, Assistant Attorney General

GUESTS PRESENT ON THE PHONE CALL

None

Secretary Stephen Moyer called this phone conference meeting of the Correctional Training Commission (CTC) to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was present after several members joined the call at 10:07 a.m. Secretary Moyer stated the 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. J. Michael Zeigler to adjourn to a Closed Session: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned to a Closed Session at 10:09 a.m.

Mr. Albert Liebno summarized the Request for Waiver of Selection Standards for Certification that was tabled at the October 2018. Additional documentation was collected over the last month, and distributed to members for review ahead of the phone call.

Recorder's Note: Dr. Beverly O'Bryant joined the conference call at 10:10 a.m.

A discussion was held regarding the additional information.

A MOTION was made by Dr. Beverly O'Bryant to grant the request for waiver of selection standards: SECONDED: Officer Christopher Duffy. The MOTION carried.

Mr. Stivers joined the phone call to briefly address the members.

A MOTION was made by Dr. Beverly O'Bryant to adjourn to an open session: SECONDED: Mr. J. Michael Zeigler. The MOTION carried.

Recorder's Note: This concluded the closed session. The meeting adjourned to an open session at 10:20 a.m.

Secretary Moyer announced the outcome of the issue discussed during the closed session, and thanked everyone for their time.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Officer Christopher Duffy: SECONDED: Mr. LaMonte Cooke. The MOTION carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

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