

GEORGIA PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL

Threadmill Complex
August, Georgia
June 8, 2011
11:00 AM

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council was held at the Threadmill Complex, in Austell, Georgia on June 8, 2011. Chairman Mike Yeager called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

A calling of the roll by Secretary, Mike Jolley, indicated a quorum was present.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Mike Yeager
Colonel Bill Hitchens
Commissioner Tom McMichael
Lt. Col. Homer Bryson
Mr. Don Banks
Mayor Bill Trapnell
Lt. Steve Hyman
Chief Roy Whitehead
Commissioner James Williams
Warden Billy Howell
Director Bryan Golden
Chief Woodrow Blue
Director Stan Cooper
Sheriff Gene Pope
Sheriff Mike Jolley
Inspector Garry Moore
Sgt. Dolly Johnson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Director Michael Nail
Mayor Margaret Evans

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Director Frank Rotondo
Butch Beach for Dale Mann
Dr. Archie Rainey
Chief Jimmy Williamson
Captain Walter Rabon

POST STAFF PRESENT:

Ken Vance, Executive Director
Ryan Powell, Director of POST Operations
Brad Pope, Director, Investigations Division
Neenah Yarbrough, Budget Administrator
Willie Evans, Investigator
Julie Lewandowski, Investigator
Wendy Izenour, Recording Secretary
Mitch Jones, Director of Certification and Training Standards
Lena Avis, Certification Division
Lara Hollister, Operations Division

Visitors:

Joe Drolet	Robin Hollingsworth
Elizabeth Yarbrough	Ann Konzal
Ashley Culberson	Belinda Davis
Mike Cronin	Tonya S. Dedrick
Perry Baxter	Stanley D. York
David Hindman	Sally Fox
Terry Edge	Terry Grantham
Adam Baswell	Jennifer Grantham
Brandon Hatfield	Sheriff Scott Berry
Greg Loskoski	
Ellen Loskoski	
K. Yeager	
James Pledger	
Lisa Beck	
Beverly Thomas	
Harry McCann	
Tom Bojo	

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT CONT:

Lt. Barry Woodward
Lt. Stuart Van Hoozer
Dep. Commissioner Michael McNeely
Marshal Steve Smith
Terry Norris

ADVISORY MEMBERS ABSENT

Opening Remarks of the Chairman:

Chairman Mike Yeager welcomed everyone and thanked them for being present. Chairman Yeager, at this time called Chaplain Mike Cronin to perform the invocation. Chairman Yeager stated that Retired Chief Gary Shepherd from the Lagrange Police Department had passed away and he wanted to remember him. Chairman Yeager introduced the incoming President's of the Chiefs', Sheriffs', and Wardens' Associations and thanked the outgoing members for their service to the Council.

Approval of the Minutes

Chairman Mike Yeager entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the March 9, 2011 Full Council meeting.

Col. Bill Hitchens made a motion to approve the minutes. Sheriff Mike Jolley seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Director Ken Vance greeted the Council members and guests. Director Vance discussed the FY12 budget that was presented to the Council. Director Vance discussed POST having eight hundred and twenty eight (828) cases that are currently in the field. Sixty four (64) percent of the cases are criminal and thirty six (36) percent are departmental violations. Director Vance stated that POST has suspended 81 certifications this year. Director Vance recognized the interns who have worked for POST the past few months from Kennesaw State. He introduced Tyler Allen and Leslie Davis and presented them with a certificate. Director Vance also recognized Courtney Britt who was a previous intern that POST hired for a permanent position in Open records, but that POST will be losing Ms. Britt to other opportunities. Director Vance also recognized the outgoing presidents of the associations. He discussed the hard work of Chief Woodrow Blue, Sheriff Gene Pope and Warden Billy Howell and thanked them for their service. At this time Joe Drolet introduced the new interns with the Attorney General's Office, Ashley Culberson and Elizabeth Yarbrough.

Commissioner Tom McMichael made a motion to accept the Budget for FY12. Col. Bill Hitchens seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

P.O.S.T. OPERATIONS DIVISION

Director Ryan Powell stated that he was presenting 4 issues to the Council.

Minimum Scores of the Reading and Writing Portion of the Compass Exam for the POST Entrance Exam

Director Ryan Powell stated that this issue was presented at the Training Standards Committee and it was the recommendation to approve this request. The minimum score is proposed by the Technical College System of Georgia and the American College of Testing as the official test scores of the POST entrance examination with the implementation date of January 1, 2012.

Sheriff Mike Jolley made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Training Standards Committee and approve the Minimum Scores of the Reading and Writing Portions of the Compass Exam for the POST Entrance Exam. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Robin Hollingsworth's Application for Academy Director Certification for the Clayton County Police Academy

Director Ryan Powell stated that this issue was presented at the Training Standards Committee and it was the recommendation to approve this request.

Director Stan Cooper made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Training Standards Committee and approve the application for Academy Director Certification for Robin Hollingsworth. Sheriff Mike Jolley seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

POST Rules Revision

Director Ryan Powell stated that this issue was presented at the Training Standards Committee and it was the recommendation to approve this request. The rule revision included updates requiring agencies to notify POST of an arrest of officers within fifteen days. The second revision is a change to the re-certification process and an expiration date with the certification date. Removal of the Chaplain certification was also included in the rule revision due to the diversity in religions. The removal of the fifteen day appeal notice was the final revision with the addition of the one 30 day period to submit an appeal will simplify the process.

Sgt. Dolly Johnson made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Training Standards Committee and approve the Revisions to POST Rules. Chief Roy Whitehead seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Request of Isaac B. Cepeda for an Extension of Time to Appeal

Director Ryan Powell stated that this issue was presented to the Executive Committee and it was the recommendation to approve this request.

Commissioner Tom McMichael made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee and approve the Request of Isaac B. Cepeda's Extension of Time to Appeal. Chief Roy Whitehead seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

CERTIFICATION DIVISION AND TRAINING STANDARDS DIVISION

Director Mitch Jones stated that he had no issues to present to Council at this time. Director Jones discussed some issues with the computer software and stated that they are training the academies currently and once that is completed the agency training will begin.

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Probable Cause Committee Recommendations

For cases with the recommendation of:

No Action

Approve Certification

Probation

Suspension cases

Deny Certification

Revoke Certification

Revoke/Deny Certification

Chief Roy Whitehead made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee for No Action cases. Mayor Bill Trapnell seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Col. Homer Bryson made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee for Approve Certification Cases. Lt. Steve Hyman seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Chief Roy Whitehead made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee for Probation Cases. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Chief Bryan Golden made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee for Suspension Cases. Sheriff Mike Jolley seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Bubba Williams made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee for Deny Certification Cases. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Chief Bryan Golden made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee for Revoke Certification Cases. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Tom McMichael made the motion to accept the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee for Revoke/Deny Certification Cases. Sheriff Mike Jolley seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Probable Cause Committee Cases June 8, 2011

Director Pope stated that the Probable Cause Committee had reviewed the following cases.

Case #0004551210

Recommendation: No action; Approve Certification

Inspector Garry Moore made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0011131010

Recommendation: Approve w/ 12 months probation, domestic violence training

Chief Roy Whitehead made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0022491110

Recommendation: Deny Certification

Sgt. Dolly Johnson made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Mayor Bill Trapnell seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0024541210

Recommendation: Deny Certification

Mayor Bill Trapnell made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Commissioner Bubba Williams seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0073321210

Recommendation: Approve Certification

Sgt. Dolly Johnson made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Warden Billy Howell seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0082331110

Recommendation: Approve Certification

Mayor Bill Trapnell made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Sheriff Mike Jolley seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0084830211

Recommendation: Approve 24 Months probation

Chief Bryan Golden made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Sheriff Gene Pope seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0027040311

Recommendation: Probation 24 Months

Commissioner Tom McMichael made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0030020810

Recommendation: Deny Certification

Sheriff Mike Jolley made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Inspector Garry Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Case # 0057820411

Recommendation: Deny Certification

Commissioner Tom McMichael made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Probable Cause Committee. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

PETITIONS FOR REINSTATEMENT/RECONSIDERATION

Recommendation to Deny Certification

Director Brad Pope stated that Terry Grantham was present with legal counsel to discuss his case that went before the Certification Committee on April 19, 2011. Mr. Grantham was duly sworn by Joe Drolet with the attorney General's Office. Sally Fox, who is Mr. Grantham's attorney, went into the nature of his case and asked for the Council to reconsider the decision of the Certification Committee and that Mr. Grantham did not have legal representation at that time. Ms. Fox discussed Mr. Grantham's family issues and raising his Grandson's. Ms. Fox stated that he has completed everything that was required of him, by POST. Ms. Fox asked that this issue be sent back to the Certification Committee for another review.

Director Stan Cooper made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Certification Committee and deny the petition of Terry M. Grantham. Inspector Garry Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Recommendation to Deny Certification

Terry M. Grantham
Isaiah Hodge
Thomas P. Jackson
Roger L. Reno

Director Stan Cooper made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Certification Committee and deny the following petitioners: Terry M. Grantham, Isaiah Hodge, Thomas P. Jackson, and Roger L. Reno. Inspector Garry Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Recommendation to Approve with Conditions

Scotty L. Banks –Approve Certification with Twenty-Four (24) Months Probation.
Michael R. Zwierko- Approve Reinstatement and Approve Application for Certification, Thirty Six (36) Months Probation upon Rehire, during First Six (6) Months of Probationary Period, Submit One (1) drug screen test result per month (six tests), thereafter submit one (1) drug screen test result semi-annually for the remainder of the probationary period. Drug screen test results are to be at the expense of the petitioner or the employing agency. Drug screen tests are to be the original test result forms, notarized, and submitted to POST through the employing agency.

Inspector Garry Moore made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Certification Committee to approve with conditions for Scotty L. Banks and Michael R. Zwierko. Sgt. Dolly Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND/OR EMERGENCY MATTERS

Chairman Mike Yeager thanked everyone that was present and reiterated the importance of the committee process and how it allows Council day to go so well. Director Vance at this time proposed to establish an administrative fee for a petition to modify dates of probation, effective immediately.

Col. Homer Bryson made a motion to accept the recommendation of the POST Staff to establish an administrative fee for a petition to modify dates of probation. Col. Bill Hitchens seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Chairman Mike Yeager entertained a motion to adjourn. Chief Bryan Golden made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council. Mayor Bill Trapnell seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

**Sheriff Mike Yeager, Chairman
Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council**

Wendy Izenour, Recording Secretary