



Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board

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MINUTES OF STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION APRIL 17, 2013 PHOENIX, ARIZONA

A public meeting of the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board was convened on April 17, 2013, at AZ POST, located at 2643 E. University Drive, Phoenix, AZ.

Members Present:

Mr. Jeffrey Coker, Chairman
Sergeant Chris Andreacola
Mr. David Brown
Chief Steven Campbell
Chief Kevin Kotsur
Sheriff Scott Mascher
Sergeant Anthony Nelson
Sheriff Bill Pribil
Deputy Director Dennis Young, representing Director Bobby Halliday

Members Absent:

Detention Director Mike Olson
Director Charles Ryan
Professor Cornel Stemley
Ms. Leesa Berens Weisz, representing Attorney General Tom Horne

Staff in Attendance:

Ted Brandon
Mike Deltenre
Marie Dryer
Bob Irish
Steve Jacobs
Jeff Kirkham
Lynn Larson
Lyle Mann
Gary Maschner
Sandy Sierra
Chester Szoltysik
Rick Watling
Don Yennie

Assistant Attorney General
Diana Stabler
Nancy Beck

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Coker called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

B. Strategic Planning Session

Changes to Marijuana Rules in Light of Changing State Statutes

Diana Stabler discussed R13-4-105(A)(9-12) and R13-4-109(A)(5) which deal with illegal marijuana use for applicants and serving officers. She explained why, if the Board wants the rule to reach use of marijuana in states where the “use” is legal, they must amend it to include “illegal possession” of marijuana. It takes approximately 18 months to amend a rule; the rules have not been revised since 2001.

She also discussed the marijuana survey sent to all agency heads and gave results of the survey. The survey showed, generally, that agency heads do not want their officers using marijuana. They want POST to make a uniform statewide standard for applicants and officers. They are concerned that using marijuana in a state where the recreational use is legal constitutes the federal crime of possession of marijuana.

Board members discussed the issues and a consensus was voiced that POST should amend its rules to prohibit the illegal possession and use of marijuana. Diana will examine the possibility of incorporating a petition process for this rule to allow agencies to request that an applicant who does not meet the standards be certified anyway.

E-Learning

Lyle Mann discussed the history of distance learning at POST and the technical and substantive issues we have faced in attempting to implement it on a larger scale. The Board members discussed whether the medium of computer based training is effective with today’s police officers.

Several uses of distance learning were highlighted. DPS creates small training segments that are 6 to 10 minutes long that could be utilized by other agencies. Many basic training topics could be centralized. Board members wanted to know more detail about our needs and the program costs? Lyle Mann will prepare a report for the Board concerning the current POST programs, the costs and the numbers trained.

Basic Training

We currently have a support system for funding of basic training with the major support going to ALEA and SALETC and a different level of support to regional academies, agency run academies, and community college programs. Given the likelihood that the cadet numbers will climb to close to 1000 per year by 2016 or 2018, the Board is asked to discuss the priorities for allocating basic training dollars.

Mr. Mann discussed how other states provide basic training. Some states train all officers via their version of POST. We are not in a position for POST to do an academy for a number of reasons. Some states allow community colleges to run academies; their POST just audits and monitors. Board members voiced their views that law enforcement needs to maintain control as much as possible. Mascher, Pribil and Brown were not in favor of turning it over to the community colleges.

The current system has morphed into a market driven model of many forms of basic training, each providing the POST Basic Course. A particularly valued model is partnership groups of regional agencies that want to run an academy. NARTA, WALEA and NALETA are examples of this model. ALEA and SALETC are partnerships with POST and one or more law enforcement agencies. The question is given the expiration of these agreements, how should POST structure its assistance in the future?

The philosophy has been that the taxpayers of a particular jurisdiction should not have to pay to train the officers of another jurisdiction. Currently there are many agencies using academies out of their jurisdiction.

The current system is working well for most. Having a couple of large ones better supports the regional ones. Lyle Mann will build a draft model keeping IGA's with ALEA and SALETC and providing for some assistance to the cooperative models like NARTA, WALEA and NALETA. The issues will be brought back for the Board's consideration at a future date.

Possible Future Projects

Diana Stabler suggested discussing one planning issue at individual Board meetings rather than run far overtime at this meeting. Chairman Coker stated he has a list of issues he'd like to discuss and asked that all Board members think of issues they would like to discuss and address. These issues should be provided to Lyle and Diana.

D. Adjourn

Chairman Coker adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m.

Dated: April 25, 2013

Sandra L. Sierra, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved as written.

Dated: June 19, 2013

H. Jeffrey Coker, Chairman