

Members:

Larry J. Straitiff, Chairman
Richard P. Campbell
Jon E. Clark
Marshall R. Davis
(Vacant)
John D. Holt
Hon. Jolene Grubb Kopriva
Hon. William F. Ward
Clay R. Yeager



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July 22, 1997

The County Probation and Parole Officers' Firearm Education and Training Commission meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. on July 22, 1997. The following members were present: Chairman Larry Straitiff, Marshall R. Davis, Jolene Grubb Kopriva, John D. Holt, Jon E. Clark, Clay R. Yeager, William F. Ward and Chester Kope, Executive Director. The following guests were also present: Ronald Copenhaver and Scott Roy, Esq. and James Gunderman.

I. Chairman Straitiff called the meeting to order. A quorum of members was established. A motion was made by Commissioner Kopriva to accept the May 20, 1997 meeting minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Yeager. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. CURRICULUM

Commissioner Clark had nothing to report.

Commissioner Holt led a discussion regarding Commission's policy of officers having their safety on or off on semi-automatic firearms during training. After much discussion it was decided to permit the officers to take the training with respect to using their safeties in conformance with their county policy.

Commissioner Holt also discussed the Commission's policy regarding ammunition, in that we should make it clear to the counties that they must take the waiver range exam and the basic training with factory new duty ammunition. Mr. Kope stated that he has corrected the requirements list and it now states that they must use factory new duty ammunition.

Chairman Straitiff said that the Commission should pay for the ammunition that the students used at the pilot training session held in April 1997. The Commissioners agreed.

The Commission began to discuss certification and recertification. After reading Act 158 of 1994 it was Commissioner Ward's opinion that the Commission would have until June 5, 1998 to have all training completed. After a lengthy discussion Commissioner Ward made the following motion.

MOTION - All counties and probation officers must have the waiver process completed by October 15, 1997. The only exceptions would be for medical reasons or if the county could not schedule a range to conduct the waiver range exam. The Commission would have until June 5, 1998 to complete all training and recertification would start from that time and end on June 5, 1999. Mr. Kope will send a letter to the Chief Probation Officers and President Judges informing them of the time lines and provide them with a list of officers who are certified by the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yeager and unanimously approved by the Commission.

Mr. Kope was directed by the Commission to have the certification paperwork for officers completed by March 31, 1998 and schedule a basic training course for March or April 1998. If possible, the course should be scheduled in the Western part of the state.

B. POLICY

Commissioner Davis had nothing to report.

C. FINANCE

The Executive Director stated that based on year-end fiscal data the Commission currently is showing a balance of \$198,131.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kope gave a brief status of the two basic training sessions that are scheduled for August at Fort Indiantown Gap. The Commissioners agreed to hold the next Commission meeting at the Gap when the second training session is being conducted.

IV. LEGAL ISSUES

There were no legal issues.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.