

Commissioners

Hon. Catherine C. McVey (Chairman PBPP)
Larry J. Straitiff, Chairman
Gregory A. Young, Vice Chairman
Thomas R. Schuster
Hon. Janet F. Lewis
R. Scott Schlechter
Hon. Thomas K. Kistler
Robert L. Repard
P. Beth Dombrowsky



Executive Director

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June 12, 2007

A regular meeting of the County Probation and Parole Officer's Firearms Education and Training Commission convened at 09:03 a.m. on May 31, 2007 at the Courtyard Marriott, 1730 University Drive, State College, Pennsylvania. The following Commissioners (*) and other individuals were present.

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| Mr. Larry J. Straitiff, Chairman* | Ms. Diane M. Schaeffer (Commission Secretary) |
| Mr. Gregory A. Young, Vice Chairman* | Ms. Linda J. Laub (Advisor) |
| Mr. R. Scott Schlechter* | Mr. William J. McDevitt, Jr. (Advisor) |
| Mr. Robert L. Repard* | Mr. W. Conway Bushey (Advisor) |
| Ms. P. Beth Dombrowsky* | Mr. Richard L. Worley, Lebanon County (Guest) |
| Mr. Lee Van Brederode (Executive Director) | Mr. James E. Gunderman, Dauphin Co. (Guest) |
| Mr. Todd D. Burns (Administrative Officer) | |

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Following a call to order and the Pledge of Allegiance Chairman Straitiff opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

MOTION 07-05-01: Commissioner Young offered a motion to accept the minutes from the March 20, 2007 meeting as presented. Commissioner Dombrowsky seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Straitiff: Mr. Straitiff provided a brief report on his attendance at the International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors Conference that was held in San Antonio, Texas earlier in May.

Executive Director Van Brederode:

- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode announced that the Strategos International Low / Dim Light training, which had been planned for July 2007, would be delayed until at least 2008 because the vendor did not provide the required materials to support the sole-source contract request in a timely manner.
- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode announced that the Snyder County Probation Department has elected to arm a small number of officers and has already sent one through basic training.

4. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

Policy Sub Committee:

- ❑ Chairman Straitiff discussed the meeting the Sub Committee held with the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) in March. He reported that the meeting was informative and productive and that the Sub Committee had completed the suggested revisions to the proposed regulation.
- ❑ Following the report on the status of the proposed regulation a discussion proceeded on possible methods of increasing the Commission's revenue/income, which is currently based entirely on a \$5 fee assessed on certain adult offenders.

MOTION 07-05-02: Commissioner Schlechter made a motion to have Executive Director Van Brederode make contact with the Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, the Honorable Mr. O'Brien, regarding the feasibility of making legislative changes to Act 158 pertaining to the fee amounts that are assessed by the courts. Commissioner Repard seconded the motion, amending that the initiative be made through the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole's (PBPP) Office of Policy, Legislative Affairs and Communications. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

BREAK 10:00-10:20

- ❑ Following the break discussion continued on the proposed regulation, specifically on the adjustments made to the draft following the IRRC meeting.

MOTION 07-05-03: Commissioner Repard offered a motion to amend Regulation 79.61 C-1 to state that Certified Firearms Instructors (CFI) be required to participate, if requested and reasonably available, in no less than one Commission-conducted Basic Firearms Training (classroom or range) during their 36-month tenure as a CFI. Their participation will be a requirement for the renewal of their CFI status, unless waived by the Executive Director. Commissioner Young seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION 07-05-04: Commissioner Repard offered a motion to approve and adopt all the amendments of the proposed regulation, as provided by Chairman Straitiff and Ms. Laub, and to submit the regulation to the IRRC for final rule making. Commissioner Young seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Executive Director Update:

- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode reported that Judge Kistler's term, which expired in April, is now in the six-month extension period. Mr. Van Brederode has been in contact with the Governor's office but has not received any information on the judge's re-appointment.
- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode drew the Commissioner's attention to both the current financial report and census, which were provided for general information.
- ❑ Commissioner Young announced that he has accepted a position with the PBPP and that this will be his last meeting as a Commissioner.
- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode reported that two Commission-conducted Basic Firearms Training Academies have been conducted since the March Commission Meeting. Another Basic is scheduled for June. The Range phase will be held over a two-week period. The first week will train officers from multiple counties and the second week will be for Dauphin County Juvenile Probation officers only and will be conducted as a hybrid range run by Dauphin Juvenile.
- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode reported on the status and results, to date, of the 2007 in-service training program. He described the difficulty HACC was experiencing in securing instructors for the classes.
- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode gave a brief update on the status of the on-going upgrade to the Firearms Commission Training Management System (FCTMS). Progress is being made slowly and Version 1.4 should be released sometime in late June.
- ❑ Mr. Van Brederode reported that he is unable to provide an update or status on the Commission staff reclassification action, which was initiated in December 2006. Requests for information have been non-productive or ignored.

Curriculum Sub Committee:

- ❑ Commissioner Schlechter discussed the Curriculum Sub-Committee's debate and position on the Dauphin County Adult request for Commission recognition and credit for their county-conducted in-service training courses. A lengthy discussion ensued and was joined by Mr. James Gunderman of Dauphin County Adult, the proponent of the training. Following the presentation of all sides of the issue Commission Schlechter recommend the Commission disapprove the request.

- Commissioner Repard disagreed with the Curriculum Sub-Committee's reported majority opinion to deny in-service recognition and credit to Dauphin County Adult. Commissioner Repard noted that complete lesson plans for the classes would be provided for the Commission staff to review.

MOTION 07-05-05: Commissioner Repard offered a motion to approve the request by Dauphin County Adult Probation and Parole to receive in-service recognition and credit for their county-conducted courses, as presented by Mr. Gunderman. Commissioner Young seconded the motion and it was passed by a majority voice vote. Commissioner Schlechter voted against the motion.

MOTION 07-05-06: Commissioner Repard offered a motion to grant Dauphin County Adult Probation's request for calendar year 2007 county-conducted in-service training credit as submitted in their January 26, 2007 request letter. Commissioner Dombrowsky seconded the motion and it was passed by a majority voice vote. Commissioner Schlechter voted against the motion.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Petition for Master Instructor Status.** Officer Larry Smith, Lycoming County Juvenile Probation Office, submitted a request to be designated as a Commission Master Instructor.

MOTION 07-05-07: Commissioner Dombrowsky offered a motion to accept and approve Officer Larry L. Smith as a Commission Master Instructor. Commissioner Young seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

□ **Petitions for Renewal of Certified Firearms Instructor Status:**

- ✓ Mr. Thomas C. Mitchell, Allegheny County Adult Probation Office
- ✓ Mr. Norman E. Mueller, Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Department
- ✓ Mr. Richard L. Worley, Lebanon County Adult Probation Department

MOTION 07-05-08: Commissioner Dombrowsky offered a motion to accept the petitions of Officers Mitchell, Mueller and Worley for renewal of their Range CFI designation. Commissioner Schlechter seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

□ **Petitions for approval for New Certified Firearms Instructors:**

- ✓ Ms. Rebecca E. Arnold, Dauphin County Office of Juvenile Probation
- ✓ Mr. Michael Blum, Clarion County Probation and Parole
- ✓ Mr. John B. Christman, Dauphin County Office of Juvenile Probation
- ✓ Mr. Justin E. Pittman, Dauphin County Office of Juvenile Probation
- ✓ Mr. Troy W. Smith, Dauphin County Office of Juvenile Probation
- ✓ Mr. John W. Stahl, Lycoming County Adult Probation Office
- ✓ Mr. Matthew L. Yonkin, Lycoming County Juvenile Probation Office

MOTION 07-05-09: Commissioner Young offered a motion to approve and accept the petitions of Officers Arnold, Blum, Christman, Pittman, Justin Smith, Stahl and Yonkin to be Certified Firearms Instructor applications. Commissioner Schlechter seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

8. **LEGAL ISSUES:** None

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT AND QUESTIONS:** None

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION 07-05-10: Commissioner Dombrowsky offered a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Schlechter seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting stood adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

S/ Henry L. Van Brederode

Henry L. Van Brederode
Executive Director