

SHERIFF AND DEPUTY SHERIFF EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

Minutes of the May 18, 2018 Meeting

Members Present

James P. Goodman
Stephanie Jirard
Jon McEnroe
Wayne E. Nothstein
Jody S. Smith
Farley Toothman
Ed Walker
Eric Weaknecht
Kevin Wevodau

Commission Staff Present

Doug Hummel
Bob Merwine
John Pfau
Deb Williams

Others Present

Penn State University – Fayette Campus
Ted Mellors
Tony Mucha

Penn State University
Steve Shelow
Michael Ecker

Temple University
Tony Luongo
Kevin Myers

PA Sheriffs' Association
Tom Maioli

Sheriffs

Anthony Harvilla, Carbon Co.
Bryan Sampsell, Centre Co.
Ronny Anderson, Cumberland Co.
Mark Lusk, Lycoming
Jeff Leonard, Huntingdon Co.

Others

Harry McKinney, Chester Co.
Brian Hawk, Carbon Co.

The May 18, 2018 meeting of the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB) was called to order by Sheriff Eric Weaknecht, at 8:06 a.m., at the Days Inn, 240 South Pugh Street, State College, Pennsylvania 16801.

Mr. Doug Hummel, PCCD, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He announced that Governor Tom Wolf recently appointed Deputy Ed Walker, Montgomery County, to the Board. Deputy Walker replaced Mr. Carmen DeLuca, who served as Board Chairman. Mr. Hummel stated that the Board is at full complement in accordance with the Training Act. Sheriff Weaknecht agreed to conduct the meeting since the Board is without a Chairperson and in the absence of Vice-Chairman, Sheriff Todd Martin. Mr. Hummel reported that with the vacancy in the position of Chairperson, Vice-Chairman Martin would serve in that capacity until an election of officers could be held. He recommended that since the recent appointments of several new members, that Board would continue under the leadership of Chairman Martin and conduct the election of officers for 2019, during the December 5, 2018 meeting.

Sheriff Weaknecht suggested that all Board members and PCCD staff introduce themselves. All members and staff introduced themselves.

Sheriff Weaknecht asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the minutes from the February 27, 2018 Board meeting. He stated that if there was no discussion, then he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Wayne Nothstein made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 27, 2018. Mr. Kevin Wevodau seconded the motion. Sheriff Weaknecht asked if there was any Board discussion or public comment regarding the minutes. No discussion ensued and the motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the SDSETB fiscal report for state fiscal year 2017-2018, period ending March 31, 2018. The balance carried forward from the previous fiscal year was \$1,720,652.12. The fee collections to include estimated collections through June 30, 2018 was \$3,852,677.00. The total available funds as of March 31, 2018 were \$5,573,329.12. The total expenditures and commitments were \$7,461,855.30. As of March 31, 2018, there is an uncommitted fund balance of negative \$1,888,526.18. Mr. Hummel noted that the fiscal report includes financial commitments beyond the current fiscal year and the revenue from fee collections only reflects the current fiscal year.

Sheriff Weaknecht asked if anyone would motion to approve the fiscal report.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to approve the fiscal report. Mr. Wevodau seconded the motion. Sheriff Weaknecht asked if there was any Board discussion or

public comment regarding the fiscal report. No discussion ensued and the motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Abstained: Toothman

Mr. Hummel reviewed the fiscal projection report found on page eleven of the meeting packet. This report shows historical fiscal data, dating back to fiscal year 2004-2005. This report is based on a ten-year average of revenue and expenditures. Mr. Hummel explained that the report projects that at some point in time during the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the account will have a negative balance. He stated that pending any Board decisions on how to manage training and/or if there would be a legislative change to increase the fees that provide an increase in revenue, the training account would move to a negative balance sometime after July 1, 2019 without any actions. This report is for informational purposes.

Mr. Hummel reviewed the Fee Collection Report, the Administrative Expenses Report, and the Purchase Order Contract Report provided on pages twelve, thirteen, and fourteen of the meeting packet, respectively.

Mr. Hummel reported that since the Board's decision to suspend training reimbursements, approximately 1.3 million dollars in reimbursements to counties has accrued. This estimate includes the current Basic Training Class that graduates later today and the remaining reimbursements for continuing education through June 30, 2018.

Mr. Hummel informed the Board of an incident that had occurred involving an instructor in the Continuing Education Program. An instructor was found to have modified our training curriculum by adding information that was not approved by staff. The instructor highlighted test answers on the power point slides and allowed the students to grade each other's exams. Upon completion of the investigation, Temple University terminated the instructor's employment. The instructor is no longer providing any services involving the training program. Mr. Hummel stated that no Board action was needed since his employment was terminated.

Mr. Hummel reviewed all the time extension requests that complied with the Board Policy. These extension requests were included on pages sixteen through twenty-two of the meeting packet. Time extensions were requested for the following individuals: Chief Deputy Kevin Kraus, Allegheny County; Sheriff William Mullen, Allegheny County; Deputy Robert Noel, Centre County; Deputy Patrick Chelland III, Lackawanna County; Deputy Nedra Muir-Lowery, Philadelphia County; Deputy Suzanne Prieto, Philadelphia County; and Deputy Hope Sanderlin, Philadelphia County. Two additional time extension requests that were part of the Addendum to the meeting packet were reviewed.

These time extension requests were for Deputy Charles McCarthy, Allegheny County and Deputy Taylor Eck, York County. Both requests complied with the Board Policy.

Judge James Goodman made a motion to approved the time extension requests that complied with the Board Policy. Chief Deputy Jody Smith seconded the motion. Sheriff Weaknecht asked if there was any Board discussion or public comment. No discussion ensued and the motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the time extension request submitted by Sheriff Bryan Sampsel, Centre County, for Deputy Macy Harpster. Deputy Harpster was hired on August 28, 2017. Her training due date is August 28, 2018. The request was the result of a personal emergency. The Policy allows for a time extension, but requires attendance at the next available class after her training due date. Per Policy, she could be granted an extension and required to attend the September 2018 Waiver Training Program. Deputy Harpster has a conflict with the September class, as she is to be married and is only able to attend the October 2018 class, which is beyond the limits of the Policy. Sheriff Weaknecht asked how the Board has addressed similar situations in the past. Mr. Hummel stated that the Board has allowed attendance at the training program, but has not granted time extensions. The Board requires the deputy to serve in a non-uniformed, administrative position within the office until the certification training is completed.

Sheriff Sampsel explained that Deputy Harpster was a part-time deputy and works one day a week. He understood the Policy and agreed with any decision the Board would render. He stated the Deputy Harpster also works as a police officer with a local municipal department.

Judge Farley Toothman asked Sheriff Sampsel if he had any vacant positions. Sheriff Sampsel stated that he has openings and is expecting to have another vacancy in June. Judge Toothman posed the question because his county (Greene) has a retention issue with deputy sheriff staffing. Judge Toothman expressed his concern regarding the length, timeliness, and cost of training. He mentioned the abundance and inability to serve outstanding warrants due to a lack of constables and deputy sheriffs. Sheriff Sampsel stated that retention is an issue due to deputy salaries being \$10,000.00 less than most officers in police departments in his area. Sheriff Sampsel said that he addressed this issue with members of the local newspaper. He stated that police departments in his county pay \$25.00 per hour and he pays deputies \$12.00 per hour.

Sheriff Weaknecht asked for a motion either to approve the time extension for Deputy Harpster or to limit her duties until certification training is completed.

Mr. Wevodau made a motion to remain consistent with the Policy and past practice, to allow Deputy Harpster to attend training, but to require her to serve in an administrative position until she completes the required training for certification. Commissioner Nothstein seconded the motion. Sheriff Weaknecht asked if there was any further Board discussion or public comment. No discussion ensued and the motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the list of time extensions that were approved by the Training Supervisor. Extensions were approved for: Robert Kerr, Jay Stegena, Vincent Longo, Richard Manning, Barbara Sparrow, James Martin, Mark Schmidt, Craig Goughnour, Kayla Younge, Matthew Marks, Joseph Wetzel, Carlos Jativa, Allegheny County; Raul Aponte-Rodriguez, Harry McKinney, Carolyn Welsh, Chester County; Scott Starr, Dauphin County; Matthew Batyko, Edmond Fret, Taylor Trubia, Lackawanna County; and Paul Owens, Paris Washington, Philadelphia County. This was for informational purposes and did not require SDSETB action.

Mr. Hummel reviewed the Partial Training Waiver Applications that were approved by the Training Supervisor. These waivers were in accordance with the Training Policy. This was for informational purposes and did not require SDSETB action.

Mr. Hummel reviewed the Partial Training Waiver Request for Sheriff Jerry Sanders. The request was tabled during the February 27, 2018 Board meeting. Sheriff Sanders was a deputy sheriff prior to 1995. He served many years in the Philadelphia Office of the Sheriff. He is now the elected sheriff of Delaware County. Sheriff Sanders was grandfathered under the Training Act, due to his service beginning prior to the Act's inception in 1984. Sheriff Sanders would like to attend the Waiver Training Program and obtain a certification number. Mr. Hummel explained that the Board is being asked to grant Sheriff Sanders request to attend the Waiver Training Program and receive a certification number. Three questions are before the Board. First, would the Board allow his attendance at the Waiver Training Program. Second, will the Board issue a certification number provided he attends and completes the training. Third, will the Board authorized salary reimbursement for his attendance at the training. Mr. Hummel stated that despite the reimbursement process being suspended, would the Board grant the sheriff the ability to submit for reimbursement to be paid, at a later date, once the suspension is removed. Sheriff Sanders wants to attend Civil Law and the other subjects to increase his knowledge of the current processes. Mr. Hummel expressed his support for the sheriff's willingness to attend training. Mr. Hummel informed the Board that the Training Act and Policy does not require him to attend any training other than to complete the mandatory continuing education requirements of twenty hours of training every two years.

Commissioner Nothstein commented that Sheriff Sanders is receiving a salary from Delaware County. Mr. Hummel explained that any deputy received their pay from their respective county and the Board provides reimbursement to the county for those salary expenses attributed to the hours of attendance at training. Ms. Stephanie Jirard asked how much money would the reimbursement cost. Mr. Hummel stated that it would be eighty hours pay at the sheriff's hour rate. It is equivalent to a two-week pay check. Sheriff Mark Lusk, Lycoming County, stated that salary reimbursement could be \$4,000.00 to \$6,000.00. Mr. Hummel stated that the average reimbursement for a deputy attending the Waiver Training Program is approximately \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00. Mr. Wevodau stated that he commends Sheriff Sanders for his wanting to attend training, but the Board needs to be mindful of the budget. Since it is not mandatory that Sheriff Sanders attends the Waiver Training Program, then we should not be providing reimbursement for optional training. Mr. Wevodau stated that the Board has a state-wide responsibility to administer the program. Ms. Jirard and Mr. Wevodau both commended Sheriff Sander's desire for education.

Ms. Jirard made a motion to approve Sheriff Sander's attendance at the Waiver Training Program. Commissioner Nothstein seconded the motion. Sheriff Weaknecht asked if there was any Board discussion or public comment. No discussion ensued and the motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to deny any reimbursement associated with Sheriff Sander's attendance in the Waiver Training Program. Deputy Jon McEnroe seconded the motion. Sheriff Weaknecht asked if there was any Board discussion or public comment. No discussion ensued and the motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the Partial Training Waiver Request submitted by Sheriff Ernest Ritter, Union County. The request was for Deputy Sheriff Kale Geiswite to be granted a partial training waiver based on his prior experience as an Army Military Police Officer. It is recommended that the Board grant a partial waiver of training and require Deputy Geiswite to complete the Law Module, Security Module, Deputy Safety Module, and the Investigations Module for a total of 356 hours of training to obtain his certification as a deputy sheriff.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to approve a partial waiver of training for Deputy Geiswite and require him to complete the Law Module, Security Module, Deputy

Safety Module, and Investigations Module to become certified as a deputy sheriff. Chief Deputy Smith seconded the motion. Sheriff Weaknecht asked if there was any Board discussion or public comment. No discussion ensued and the motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the partial training waiver applications that were approved by the training supervisor. These are the applications for those deputies that qualify to attend the Waiver Training Program. Chief Smith asked if the training due date of 2022 was correct for one of the individuals on the list of approved applications. Mr. Hummel explained that the individual in question was Sheriff James Ott, Blair County. The Training Act provides elected sheriff's their full term of office to complete the training for certification. This is different than the one-year initial training requirement for deputies. Mr. Hummel stated that if a sheriff desires to run for re-election, he or she is to be certified to be eligible to be on the election ballot, thus sheriffs should obtain certification prior to the election ballot deadline.

Mr. Hummel reviewed the instructor applications submitted by the Pennsylvania State University, for Judge Dominic Pelino and Mr. David White. Judge Pelino was previously certified as an instructor and took a leave absence. It is recommended that he be certified to instruct the Law Module and Emergency Vehicle Operations. Mr. White was recently hired as a Law Enforcement Training Specialist by the Penn State Justice and Safety Institute, to serve with the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training Academy. It is recommended that Mr. White be certified to instruct the Law Module, Professional Development, Deputy Safety, and Investigations. Mr. White served as a police officer with the State College Police Department for thirty-two years and has over fifteen years of instructional experience. Mr. Hummel reviewed the instructor application submitted by Temple University, for Sheriff Clinton Walters to instruct in the continuing education program, specifically Deputy Safety. Sheriff Walters is currently certified to instruct firearms with the Basic Training Academy.

Due to the instructor incident previously discussed, Ms. Jirard asked how the instructors are evaluated and paid. She questioned, "Why would an instructor want to give the answers to tests." Is the instructor's effectiveness contingent on the pass rate of the class. Mr. Hummel stated that the contractors could elaborate during their reports, but he explained that all instructors are evaluated by the students. In addition, Board staff and our contractors attend classes to evaluate the instructors and curriculum. Instructors are employed by our contracted training providers, Penn State and Temple. They are compensated by either Penn State or Temple. Contractor staff address issues with the instructors. Contractor staff also consult with Board staff on instructor issues. Instructors are considered "at-will" employees and are scheduled based on our needs.

Infractions and poor instructor performance may result in the individual no longer being scheduled to teach. Mr. Hummel stated that all curriculum taught includes “check your understanding” sections as part of a review of the course material. All sections of the curriculum include information that is both information that may or may not be on an exam. During class instruction and in reviewing for the exams, instructors are required not to “teach the test.” Instructors are not to read test questions verbatim and to provide verbal and non-verbal clues that a piece of information will be on the test.

Mr. John Pfau, PCCD, stated that many of the instructors have taught for many years and in multiple programs and become familiar with the deputies. Some instructors become complacent and burn out. He stated that we host numerous classes and monitoring all classes is difficult with few staff members. We are not always going to catch everything right away.

Mr. Hummel stated that the deputies submit course evaluations to provide input on facilities, instructors, and curriculum. Summary evaluation reports are input into the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Information System for staff, school personnel, and the instructors to review.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to approve the instructor applications for Judge Dominic Pelino, Mr. David White, and Sheriff Clinton Walters. Ms. Jirard seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Michael Ecker, Penn State, provided the report for the Basic Training Delivery Contract. Mr. Ecker informed the Board that Mr. White was recently hire as a Law Enforcement Training Specialist for the Academy, to replace the vacancy due to Mr. Dan Miltenberger retiring. Mr. White retired from the State College Police Department after thirty-two years of service. Mr. White has previous experience as an adjunct instructor with Penn State, instructing criminal justice classes for the College of Liberal Arts.

Mr. Ecker explained the evaluation process used at the Academy. Deputies evaluate the facilities, curriculum, and instructor performance. Academy staff monitor and observe classes and meets with instructors regularly. The PCCD Instructor Policy formalizes the staff evaluation process of instructors with the use of the instructor evaluation form. Mr. Ecker stated that in addition to the current evaluation processes, staff are trying to develop and institute a peer-to-peer evaluation process for the instructors.

Mr. Ecker stated that 32 deputies are participating in the graduation ceremony at 11:00 a.m. at the Katz Penn State Law Building. He invited all to attend.

Mr. Ecker reported that the Firearms Instructor Training was to conclude later today. We had fourteen registered for the course, with three not showing and one failure. Mr. Ecker stated that the next Basic Training Class was scheduled to begin July 9, 2018. This is the first class in which the pre-test for the physical fitness standards will be implemented.

Mr. Hummel stated that current enrollment for the July class is at the maximum of forty deputies, with an additional three on the waiting list. We will invite all deputies from the waiting list to attend in the event someone fails the physical fitness entrance test. The goal is to maximize course enrollment.

Mr. Anthony Luongo, Temple University, provided the report on the Continuing Education Program. Mr. Luongo introduced Mr. Kevin Myers. Mr. Myers was hired to replace Ms. Christie Willard as the new coordinator of training for sheriffs and deputy sheriffs. Mr. Myers was a former Juvenile Probation Officer in Delaware County and a SEPTA Police Officer and also served with both the Radford Police Department and Lincoln University. Mr. Luongo stated that Mr. Myers has a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from St. Joseph's University and brings a wealth of experience to the program.

Mr. Luongo stated that he and Mr. Myers have been monitoring continuing education classes more frequently. All instructors have been reminded to utilize the peer editing form if they believe if any changes are needed to the curriculum. This process allows the instructors to provide feedback regarding course content and to maintain up-to-date curriculum.

Mr. Luongo state that training was currently being held in Allegheny County and Washington County. Prior to the end of June, classes will be held in Wilkes-Barre. No classes are being held during July and August. Classes will resume in September, in both Williamsport and Philadelphia.

Mr. Myers stated that a meeting is schedule for all instructors that teach in the sheriff and deputy sheriff training program. The meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2018. The purpose is to review the program requirements, expectations, and evaluation process.

Mr. Mellors, Penn State – Fayette, provided the report on Curriculum Development. Staff are in the process of finalizing the Emergency Vehicle Operations course and the subjects for the 2019-2021 Continuing Education Training cycle.

Sheriff Weaknecht asked if anybody had any new business for the Board.

Judge Toothman explained that he is tasked with managing the warrant service process for the Magisterial District Judges and is seeking guidance on "best practices." The warrant collections process was moved to the sheriff's office at the request of the three district judges. This was the result of not having enough certified constables available to serve the thousands of outstanding warrants. Part of the problem was that constables were not being paid by the county until the defendants paid the county. Greene County's

current protocol assigns the warrant to constables and if the warrants are not served within ninety days, the warrants would be the responsibility of the Sheriff's Office. Judge Toothman explained that the county agreed to hire an additional two or three deputies to help alleviate the back-log of warrants. The deputies attended the training and eventually left the sheriff's office for hire paying jobs in nearby Morgantown, West Virginia. He stated that his county is the training facility for West Virginia. Judge Toothman asked for any recommendations to help alleviate his warrant situation.

Sheriff Mark Lusk, Lycoming County, stated that since the Board's funding was reduced, the Board and PCCD suspended the reimbursements to counties for the costs associated to training attendance. Sheriff Lusk stated the statute requires the reimbursements, but the PCCD can defer payment if the funds are not available. Mr. Pfau confirmed. Sheriff Lusk expressed concern for the need of an increase in funding to maintain the appropriate levels of training. Sheriff Lusk asked, absent a fee bill and additional funds, how will the Board continue to manage training. Mr. Pfau stated that over the last year, the Board has been discussing training needs and costs with the PA Sheriffs' Association (PSA). Mr. Pfau stated the Board directed staff and the curriculum developers to draft a plan to consider converting forty hours of the Waiver Training Program to on-line training. This would reduce spending. Mr. Pfau stated that the Board needs to continue to consider any possible methods to reduce costs. The goal is to provide the same quality training at reduced costs. Mr. Pfau stated that there is a balance between cheap and quality and we need to be careful on how cost savings methods affect the quality of training. Mr. Pfau stated that all three contractors have worked with staff at reducing costs.

Mr. Pfau stated that one cost savings measure was a reduction in the number of Basic Training classes offered. One Basic Training class was cancelled in 2017 and only two classes are being offered in 2018. Historically, three classes were held each year. Mr. Pfau stated that we are trying to maximize enrollment numbers. In addition, the physical fitness entrance test was instituted to eliminate wasting training money on those deputies that would complete the academy and fail the fitness requirements prior to graduation.

Sheriff Lusk stated the situation is getting worse. The lack of funding caused a reduction in the number of class offerings, thus the need to wait longer to send new hires to training. Sheriff Sampsel stated that if classes are full then he waits on setting a hire date to ensure his deputies are able to attend training within the time limits of the Act. He asked why does the Board reimburse counties for training costs. Mr. Pfau stated that it is required by the Act. Sheriff Sampsel ask if the Legislature could remove that language. Mr. Pfau stated that prior to 1999 the reimbursement rate was at fifty percent and then the Act was amended and changed the rate to one-hundred percent. Mr. Pfau said the Board suspended reimbursements at that time due to funding issues. The suspension lasted approximately one and a half years. When the Act was amended, it increased the reimbursement rate and increased the fee. This was the last fee increase enacted. Mr. Pfau stated that it took approximately two years to pay off the "IOU's."

Sheriff Weaknecht stated that the Board should consider alternatives to the current method of administering continuing education training. We could consider existing

training that has already been “vetted” in the law enforcement community. In addition, on-line training could reduce costs compared to traditional classroom training.

Mr. Tom Maoli, Executive Director of the PSA, introduced himself and thanked the PCCD for meeting with him to discuss ideas regarding reducing training costs. Mr. Maoli acknowledged the quality of our curriculum and training delivery, stating that it is the best.

Mr. Maoli stated that the proposal that was discussed would, for lack of a better term, fall under what we call the MPOETC model where continued education could be provided at a cost free basis or a very low cost to the deputies through vetted instructors or vetted courses. MPOETC now, over the last three or four years, has changed in that the continuing education training that they're providing to their police officers throughout the Commonwealth is not all developed by MPOETC.

In theory if the Northeast Counterdrug Training Academy was offering a course that could be vetted by this Board, a deputy could attend that, as long as it was relevant to their core mission. We are working on that proposal now. I've had meetings with John, Derin Myers, and Bob Merwine, to move that ball forward. I think it could be good training, obviously a good training source, and a way to save funds.

The one thing that would have to be waived would be that the sheriff's would be willing to waive reimbursement for that training. It would provide more timely training. Unfortunately, PCCD and the contractors are under a system that doesn't allow them to provide training in an instant access kind of situation, where training that is needed can be developed in a short period of time and offered. That is not their fault at all.

Their curriculum developers, as I said, are some of the best out there. But due to contracting situations, I think that's what drags that out. This would allow training to be much more relevant in some situations. The fentanyl situation would be one example. Based on the contracting problems that are out there, I think it would probably take over a year, possibly two or three years, to develop a course on that if they were requested.

Whereas, if a situation like that presented itself again, existing training could be vetted and deputies could attend that training probably within a three to six-month period. We are continuing to work with the folks at PCCD on that issue. This could be considered as a cost saving factor.

Judge Toothman expressed his concern of the need to have people training locally and timely. Sheriff Weaknecht stated that the proposal would allow the Board to consider authorizing certain identified trainings to be credited towards the required hours needed for re-certification for continuing education. Judge Toothman stated that the law enforcement community needs to unify.

Judge Tootman asked the sheriffs if county employees carried concealed firearms in the courthouses. He explained that he has an issue and the guidance he received from the

Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) was that the decision was the President Judge's decision on a case-by-case basis with the safety committee of the courthouse. Several sheriffs stated that employees are not authorized to carry firearms in their courthouses. Judge Toothman asked if that was the "best practice." The sheriffs in attendance stated, "yes." Sheriff Ronny Anderson, Cumberland County, stated that lockers are available to secure firearms. Judge Toothman asked if it applied to judges carrying firearms. Sheriff Tony Harvilla, Carbon County, stated that it did not apply to judges.

Deputy Harry McKinney, President of the PA Deputy Sheriffs' Association, agreed with Judge Toothman's comment regarding the need for law enforcement to unify. He stated that fifty percent of deputies in Pennsylvania are Act 120 trained. Deputy McKinney stated that many deputies leave employment for better paying police officer jobs. He said that unification needs to be considered. Deputy McKinney stated that House Bill 466 was being opposed by the State Police, Chiefs' of Police Association, and the Fraternal Order of Police. Mr. Maoli provided an update on House Bill 466. He explained that the bill as written would grant deputies full municipal police authority when fulfilling their court related obligations. The bill may be amended, but it is scheduled to be voted on in the House of Representatives on May 22, 2018. Mr. Maoli stated that some of the labor unions are opposed to the bill. The State Troopers' Association has written a letter to every representative indicating various reasons why not to support the proposed legislation. Mr. Maoli stated that the Fraternal Order of Police, Pennsylvania Chiefs' of Police Association, and the Pennsylvania District Attorneys' Association oppose the legislation. The PSA has a lobbyist that is working on supporting the bill. He said the bill is supported by the PSA and the Deputy Sheriffs' Association.

Sheriff Weaknecht stated that the next SDSETB meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., at the PCCD, Harrisburg, PA.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Jirard seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Goodman, Jirard, McEnroe, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, Weaknecht, and Wevodau

Voting Nay: None