

**SHERIFF AND DEPUTY SHERIFF EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD**

**Minutes of the August 28, 2018 Meeting**

Members Present

Steve Forzato  
Todd A. Martin  
Wayne E. Nothstein  
Jody S. Smith  
Farley Toothman  
Ed Walker  
Eric Weaknecht

Members Absent

James P. Goodman  
Stephanie Jirard  
Jon McEnroe

Commission Staff Present

Doug Hummel  
Don Numer  
Bob Merwine  
John Pfau  
Beth Romero

Others Present

Penn State University – Fayette Campus  
Ted Mellors  
Rob Harford

Penn State University  
Steve Shelow  
Michael Ecker

Temple University  
Tony Luongo  
Kevin Myers

PA Sheriffs' Association  
Tom Maioli  
Beth Appleby  
Michael Kriner

Sheriffs

Anthony Harvilla, Carbon Co.  
Tim Chamberlain, Columbia Co.  
Ronny Anderson, Cumberland Co.  
Mark Lusk, Lycoming  
Joseph Groody, Schuylkill Co.  
Ken Klakamp, Warren Co.

Others

Brian Tobin, Schuylkill Co.

The August 28, 2018 meeting of the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB) was called to order by Chairman Todd Martin, at 9:04 a.m., at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), 3101 North Front Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110.

Mr. Don Numer, PCCD, informed the SDSETB that Mr. Anthony Sassano was appointed by the Attorney General to serve as his designated representative to replace Mr. Kevin Wevodau. Mr. Sassano was unable to attend the meeting and Mr. Steve Forzato was in attendance to represent the Attorney General.

Chairman Martin asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the minutes from the May 18, 2018 Board meeting. He stated that if there was no discussion, then he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes.

Chief Deputy Jody Smith made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 18, 2018. Sheriff Eric Weaknecht seconded the motion. Sheriff Martin 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 Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Numer reviewed the SDSETB final fiscal report for state fiscal year 2017-2018, period ending June 30, 2018. The balance carried forward from the previous fiscal year was \$1,720,652.12. The fee collections through June 30, 2018 was \$3,728,000.50. The total available funds as of June 30, 2018 were \$5,448,652.62. The total expenditures and commitments were \$7,374,742.50. As of June 30, 2018, there is an uncommitted fund balance of negative \$1,926,089.88. Mr. Numer 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. Mr. Numer stated that the training account fund projection report was included on page 14 of the meeting packet.

Chief Deputy Smith asked for an explanation of the contract and purchase order process with Penn State University and Temple University. Ms. Beth Romero, PCCD, stated that contracts in the recent past and current contracts are one-year contracts due to the lack of available revenue. Past contracts were for multiple years because the training account had sufficient available funds. Mr. Numer explained that “work statements” are issued and the contractors submit a proposed budget to accomplish the requirements of the work statement. Once the proposed budgets are reviewed and approved, a purchase order is issued. Mr. Numer stated that upon completion of a contract, budgeted funds not spent are returned to the training account. The contractors do not keep the unspent funds. Mr. Numer stated that since the continuing education training cycle is two years, the contract period with Temple University is for two years, but separate budgets are approved for

each year. Mr. Numer stated that Fee Collection Report, Administrative Expenses Report, and the Purchase Order Report were provided in the meeting packet and that no action was needed regarding these reports.

Judge Farley Toothman stated that he was going to abstain from voting to approve the fiscal report. He said that he did not understand the deficit. Judge Toothman stated that he has been accused of spending four million dollars of Act 13 marcellus shale gas funds received by Greene County. He stated that the Greene County Commissioners are responsible for the Act 13 funds. He said that Greene County received Act 13 money in July 2018 and he does not know how the commissioners will disburse the funds. Judge Toothman stated that he does not like fuzzy math. Judge Toothman stated that 15 million was taken from each of the Legislative budget, Judicial budget, and the Governor's budget to fund the "safe schools project."

Chairman Martin thanked Judge Toothman for his comments and stated the issues of Greene County are understood. Chairman Martin stated that the SDSETB is experiencing a fiscal crisis. He stated that the current situation was partially caused by the five million dollars that was previously taken from the training account for the needs of the general fund of the Commonwealth. Chairman Martin stated that the Legislature needs to approve a fee increase.

Commissioner Wayne Nothstein made a motion to approve the fiscal report. Deputy Ed Walker seconded the motion. Chairman Martin 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 Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Walker, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Abstained: Toothman

Mr. Numer informed everyone that former Sheriff, Thomas Lyter, Juniata County had passed away.

Mr. Numer stated that the SDSETB has accrued an approximate 1.3 million dollar liability for reimbursements that have been suspended since July 2017. One million in reimbursement requests have been submitted and one-third of a million is expected to be submitted.

Mr. Numer informed the SDSETB that the current Basic Training class had 43 deputies attempt the entrance physical fitness test, of which 11 deputies failed the test and were dismissed. The class began with 32 deputies and now has 30 deputies. Many of the deputies that failed the entrance physical fitness test are scheduled to return with the January 2019 Basic Training class.

Mr. Numer referred to page 18 of the meeting packet, regarding the emergency medical response course requirements for the Basic Training Academy. The American Red Cross increased the hours required to obtain certification for their Emergency Medical Response curriculum. The hours went from 50 to 62.5 hours. The SDSETB Regulations does not allow our Basic Training program to be more than a total of 760 hours. We can't add hours to meet the new certification requirements. The academy is currently teaching the old curriculum and is not providing the Red Cross certification.

Mr. Numer stated that prior to this situation, staff had been exploring the option of reducing the emergency medical response submodule to a 16-hour tactical first aid course. Since we can't accommodate the increased hours requirement by the Red Cross, it is imperative that the SDSETB address this issue. Mr. Numer proposed that the SDSETB require all students attending Basic Training to complete CPR and First Aid certification training prior to attending the academy. This is the current requirement for those that attend the Waiver Training program. Mr. Numer recommended that the current curriculum be replaced with a tactical first aid program that would include assessments, airway and breathing management, self and buddy trauma care, Stop the Bleed, burns, opioid response and evacuation. The remaining training hours would be added to various scenario based exercises throughout the academy and would include medical response situations. Mr. Numer stated that some cost savings would result from not providing a formal certification through Red Cross and a reduction in facility rentals.

Mr. Numer stated that the SDSETB could choose to continue the current training without providing the Red Cross certification or to approve implementing a tactical first aid course and require the sheriff to provide proof of CPR and first aid training as done for the Waiver Training program.

Judge Toothman stated that there is a liability issue. Mr. Numer stated that it is more of time issue than money issue. Per SDSETB Regulations, we can't increase the hours of Basic Training. Chairman Martin stated that most sheriffs require their deputies to maintain first aid and CPR certification. Commissioner Nothstein asked is the SDSETB could require deputies to maintain first aid and CPR certification after graduation. Mr. Numer stated that deputies should have the certification prior to attending Basic Training. The tactical first aid course will be an enhancement to the skills already obtained. Deputy Walker stated that emergency response is important and asked if hours could be obtained from other courses. Sheriff Ken Klakamp stated that his office maintains first aid and CPR certifications.

No motion was made and staff stated that a survey would be conducted to determine the extent to which sheriffs are providing certification training and re-certification training for first aid and CPR. Mr. Thomas Maoli, Executive Director of the PA Sheriffs' Association (PSA) stated that he would assist in surveying the sheriffs. Mr. Numer stated that the results of the survey would be discussed at the next SDSETB meeting.

Mr. Doug Hummel, PCCD, reviewed all the time extension requests that complied with the Board Policy. These extension requests were included on pages 19 through 32 of the meeting packet and pages three and four of the addendum. Time extensions were requested for the following individuals: Deputy Robert Bock, Deputy Daniel Giegerich, Deputy Mark Goob, Deputy Michael Heisel, Deputy Kelly Remmy, Deputy David Trozzo, Allegheny County; Deputy Matthew Branham, Deputy Sarah Fetzer, Deputy Neal O'Malley, Deputy Tyler Shewbridge, Deputy Nicholas Wingate, Berks County; Deputy Rhett Stetchock, Huntingdon County; Deputy Zachary Kisner, Tioga County; Deputy Michael Krug, York County; Deputy James Carter, Deputy Gary Wolfe, Mifflin County.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to approved the time extension requests that complied with the Board Policy. Chief Deputy Smith seconded the motion. Chairman Martin 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 Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, and Walker

Voting Nay: None

Abstained: Weaknecht (Berks County Extension Requests)

Mr. Hummel reviewed the time extension request submitted by Sheriff Weaknecht, Berks County, for Deputy Andrew Fasolka. Deputy Fasolka's training due date is September 9, 2018. The extension request is for Deputy Fasolka to attend continuing education training in Grantville, PA, beginning April 1, 2019. SDSETB Policy allows up to a six month time extension, which would permit an extension to March 9, 2019.

Judge Toothman made a motion to grant a six month time extension to March 9, 2019, in accordance with SDSETB Policy, for Deputy Fasolka. Deputy Fasolka would be required to serve in an administrative capacity pending the completion of re-certification training in April 2019. Chief Deputy Smith seconded the motion. Chairman Martin 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 Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, and Walker

Voting Nay: None

Abstained: Weaknecht

Mr. Hummel reviewed the time extension request submitted by Sheriff James Muller, Adams County, for Deputy Shane Becker. Deputy Becker's training due date is September 25, 2018. The extension request is for Deputy Becker to attend continuing

education training in Grantville, PA, beginning April 1, 2019. SDSETB Policy allows up to a six month time extension, which would permit an extension to March 25, 2019.

Chief Deputy Smith made a motion to grant a six month time extension to March 25, 2019, in accordance with SDSETB Policy, for Deputy Becker. Deputy Becker would be required to serve in an administrative capacity pending the completion of re-certification training in April 2019. Deputy Walker seconded the motion. Chairman Martin 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 Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Toothman, Walker, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Hummel reviewed the list of time extensions that were approved by the Training Supervisor. Extensions were approved for: Robert Chambers, Jr., Michael Piscitelli, Holly Zemba, Kevin Faulds, George Tosky, Jr., Conor Mullen, Anthony Fratto, Charles McCarthy, Sean Cringle, Kelly Mulder, William Lonero, Keith Luffey, Neil Hall, Richard Thomas, Allegheny County; Brian Wibirt, Daniel Bush, Meghan Hurley, Donald Stringham, James Hart, Bradford County; David Segich, Jr., Delaware County; Nicholas Labe, Lycoming County; Eric Nemeth, Northampton County; Harry Berdy, Nicholas Rock, Wyoming County; and Michael Lutz, William Kell, II, York 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 instructor applications submitted by the Pennsylvania State University, for Edwin Walker, Jason Brady, and George Smith. In addition, Temple University submitted an instructor application for Daniel Zeigler. It is recommended that Mr. Walker and Mr. Brady be approved to instruct Defensive Tactics and Security. It is recommended that Mr. Smith be approved to instruct Emergency Vehicle Operations. It is recommended that Mr. Zeigler be approved to instruct Emergency Medical Services.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to approve the instructor applications for Mr. Walker, Mr. Brady, Mr. Smith and Mr. Zeigler. Sheriff Weaknecht seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Toothman, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

Abstained: Walker and Smith

Mr. Numer reviewed the proposed options to modify the training programs. He referred everyone to the information provided in the SDSETB meeting packet beginning on page 41. Mr. Numer stated that as a result of limited available funding, staff have been reviewing options to reduce training costs. Mr. Numer stated that the proposed Fee Bill that was introduced in the Legislature did not appear to have enough support to be made law. Mr. Numer stated that the goal is to not reduce training hours and to try and save money without reducing the quality of the training.

Mr. Numer stated that the information on page 41 was general information concerning the problem. He said that pages 42 through 44 provide a history of how we evolved as a training program. Mr. Numer explained that the training fund was created by Act 1984-2 and the initial fee was two dollars. He stated that training was required to be provided free of charge and 100 percent reimbursement of salary, travel, and living expenses not otherwise provided. The Training Act was amended in 1998 at which time the fee assessment was increased to eight dollars for 1998, nine dollars for 1999, and ten dollars for 2000. The ten dollar fee has remained unchanged since implemented in the year 2000. Mr. Numer explained that over time, the basic training certification requirements increased from 160 hours to 760 hours. In addition, the training population has increased by 28 percent since the year 2000. Training costs have also continued to increase.

Mr. Numer reviewed the previous SDSETB decisions to address the funding issue. Optional merit and optional on-line trainings have been eliminated. The number of basic training courses, waiver training courses, and continuing education classes offered per year have been reduced. Mr. Numer stated that staff has worked with the contractors to reduce costs by 24 percent. The SDSETB approved the suspension of training reimbursements effective July 1, 2017 for classes that began after that date. Mr. Numer reviewed the spreadsheet on pages 45 and 46 of the meeting packet that shows how much money is owed in reimbursements to each county.

Mr. Numer reviewed the four proposed options to provide costs savings for the program. This information was provided on pages 47 through 49 of the meeting packet.

Mr. Numer reviewed the first proposal. The Basic Training Academy is a residential program consisting of 760 hours in class training along with four required online courses (homework). Two classes a year are offered. Deputies have one year to attend and complete certification. It is proposed to reduce the "in seat" time by replacing some traditional class room instruction with online training prior to attending the academy. It is estimated that approximately 160 hours could be reduced this way. Reimbursements for salary would still be required but instructor time, class room rental, room, and board would be reduced accordingly. Staff is currently exploring testing the Cultural Diversity submodule (4 hours) as an online component to evaluate its use and effectiveness. It should be recognized that a previous working group tasked with exploring potential cost cutting measures was against reducing any "in seat" time from the basic training. Mr. Numer stated that the program staff recommend that the SDSETB authorize the evaluation of basic training for a phased in use of online training to partially replace

identified in class training. Mr. Numer stated that the potential annual savings is approximately \$123,000.

Mr. Numer reviewed the second proposal. The Waiver Training Academy is a residential program consisting of 80 hours in class training along with 2 required online courses (homework). This is offered for deputies who have certain prior law enforcement training. Four classes a year are offered. Deputies have one year to attend and complete certification. It is staff's recommendation to reduce the "in seat" time by replacing some traditional class room instruction with online training prior to attending the academy. Estimates of 40 hours could be reduced in this way. Reimbursements for salary would still be required but instructor time, class room rental, room, and board would be reduced accordingly. Mr. Numer stated that it is staff's recommendation for the SDSETB to authorize the development of a 40-hour online component to replace 40 hours of classroom training in the Waiver class. The potential estimated annual savings would be \$97,000.

Mr. Numer review the third option. Since 2015 the Board has offered various instructor development training to assist in building a county instructor base. These courses have been limited to basic instructor, court security, and various firearms instructor courses and re-certifications. These are not required by Act 1984-2 and are optional. The SDSETB to this point has considered them important enough to retain with some limited reductions. It should be noted that it is hard to justify suspending reimbursements and reducing or modifying hours in required curriculum while still offering optional training. It is staff's recommendation that the SDSETB suspend all instructor certification and re-certification and lock in current certifications until the training fund can again allow for optional training. Mr. Numer stated that the annual savings would be approximately \$164,000.

Mr. Numer reviewed the fourth option. The Continuing Education Training Program consists of commuter classes consisting of 20 hours in class training every two years. Approximately 60 classes are offered every two years. Deputies have two years from their last training to attend and complete re-certification. The SDSETB also provides one basic supervisory and 2 to 3 advanced supervisory classes per two-year training cycle. Providing these classes online would reduce the cost of instructors and class room rental as well as limit reimbursements to only actual salaries. We currently have a library of 14 online trainings that would require some limited updating. Mr. Numer stated that on-line legal updates are currently developed yearly under existing contracts. Mr. Numer explained that the continuing education requirement to maintain certification requires sheriffs and deputies to complete not less than 20 hours of continuing education every two years. Mr. Numer stated that staff recommends that the SDSETB move to a 10-hour calendar year certification and provide all line officer training online with inhouse assets. It is further recommended that staff work with the PSA and select an outside training to replace Advanced Supervisory Continuing Education to evaluate its use and effectiveness. This is assuming that the outside training came at no cost to the Board.

Mr. Pfau, PCCD, stated that if the SDSETB approves any of the proposed options, staff will continue to provide updates.

Mr. Numer explained that Act 1984-2 requires that any tuition costs leading to certification or recertification must be paid by the Board. It may be possible to amend SDSETB policy to only allow courses that do not require cost reimbursement by the SDSETB regardless of if it cost the county to attend. That would require legal review and wording. Mr. Numer stated the this option is projected to save \$100,000 per year.

Mr. Numer stated that if all staff recommendations are adopted, the cost savings would eventually be approximately \$500,000 per year.

Mr. Maoli stated that a discussion occurred at the last SDSETB meeting regarding changing the delivery model of how the Continuing Education Training Program is provided. Is that going to be “kicked down the road.” He asked if that was proposal “4A or proposal 5.” Mr. Numer stated that he was directed by the senior management to provide “concrete” proposals for SDSETB consideration. Mr. Numer stated that the current options are ready to begin the implementation process. Mr. Maoli stated that it was proposed at the last meeting to accept training provided by vendors that are not under contract with the SDSETB, for the purpose of meeting the re-certification requirements. Mr. Numer stated that we can do the current options now. We did not have the opportunity to evaluate the proposal of accepting “outside” training. Mr. Maoli stated that we talked about it at the last meeting and he thought it would be studied and presented to the SDSETB. Mr. Robert Merwine, PCCD, stated that staff’s immediate concern was identifying options that would utilize existing resources that could be timely implemented. Mr. Merwine stated that we would continue to review other options to include accepting “outside” training. Mr. Maoli stated that we have discussed “outside” training for the past year. He stated that there is no money left and he has sheriffs and county commissioners asking questions. Mr. Maoli asked when hard and fast decisions would be made to save money. Mr. Numer stated the current proposed options provide cost savings. For clarification, Mr. Maoli asked since we have discussed changing the model for continuing education delivery, when will it be brought to a vote. He said the proposal was made as a costs savings and to provide relevant, timely training. Mr. Maoli stated this is not a slight on Penn State – Fayette or Temple University regarding curriculum development or training delivery. Mr. Maoli stated it is great training, but not always timely.

Mr. Numer confirmed the request made by Mr. Maoli, that he wanted to know when the SDSETB would vote to consider “outside” training. Mr. Maoli stated yes. Mr. Numer stated that many issues regarding the management of accepting “outside” training have not been addressed. Mr. Maoli stated that it has been talked about at several meetings. Mr. Numer agreed that the concept has been discussed, but solutions have not been identified concerning the implementation and management. Mr. Maoli asked if that meant we just will not consider “outside” training. Mr. Pfau stated not at this time. He said staff was directed to develop proposals that could be implemented now. Mr. Numer stated that staff are not prepared to implement a system to accept “outside” training. He

stated the issue is not being considered today. It needs more evaluation. Mr. Numer stated that if we can figure out a way to implement “outside” training, then the issue would be brought before the SDSETB for consideration. Mr. Maoli stated that the proposal at the last meeting was a method to implement “outside” training. He said he was willing to discuss the issue with anyone to develop a plan. Judge Toothman asked Mr. Maoli if he wanted the SDSETB to vote on “something.” Mr. Maoli stated, “no sir.” He stated that it was not his place and he did not want to push anyone to a vote. He said this was a discussion.

Mr. Pfau stated the proposal to accept “outside” training needs to be reviewed by legal counsel. The SDSETB is governed by statute to provide the provisions for certification and re-certification of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs. Accepting “outside” training is a potential liability issue. Curriculum would need to be reviewed and “vetted.” The SDSETB would be assuming the liability for the quality or lack of quality of the training. Mr. Maoli asked how the Municipal Police Officers’ Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) handles “outside” training. Mr. Pfau stated that he is focused on the SDSETB training, not MPOETC training. Mr. Maoli stated that we should be concerned with MPOETC. They set precedent with their training program. Mr. Pfau stated that everyone holds MPOETC as the standard. He stated that the MPOETC firearms standards allow chiefs of police to submit a signed form as proof of an officer’s training and qualification. The liability is on the chief of police, not MPOETC. MPOETC and the SDSETB have different statutes and standards. Mr. Pfau asked if he would rather have the deputies attend MPOETC training. Mr. Maoli stated that is a decision for the sheriffs. Mr. Maoli state that many sheriffs and deputies attend both MPOETC and SDSETB trainings. Mr. Maoli stated that he and the sheriffs are frustrated and disappointed that the issue concerning “outside” training has not been addressed. Judge Toothman said that it appears the concept has been considered and the answer is “no.” Mr. Maoli does not believe the concept was studied. It needs to be on the record and considered by the SDSETB.

Sheriff Klakamp stated that his deputies attend continuing education at the end of the two-year training cycle and the legal updates course is out-dated. He stated that many of the subjects are ridiculous. He stated that since the sheriffs are the users, their input should be considered. He posed the question, “Do you really want to know what we think.” He stated that he agreed with Mr. Numer that continuing education should be required every year. There is a better way to conduct business. Sheriff Klakamp said if the SDSETB is serious about saving money, then the Board should consider accepting “outside” training. He said that his deputies attend MPOETC updates and take legal updates every year. Sheriff Klakamp recommended that a sub-committee be formed to consider alternative training options.

Judge Toothman recommended that we need to consider “best practices” in administering the program. Sometimes we need to change the route in how to conduct business.

Sheriff Mark Lusk, Lycoming County, asked for clarification regarding when the training account would reach a negative balance. Mr. Numer stated that at some point in time

during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. He stated that fiscal staff continue to monitor the account to update the projections based on all cost saving measures taken. Sheriff Lusk asked what has the PCCD done in the past when confronted with unfunded statutory training requirements. Sheriff Lusk asked what are we going to do in 20 months when we are required to have trained deputies and no funding to provide the training. Mr. Numer stated that training hours would need to be reduced. Chief Smith asked Penn State and Temple University if they would continue to provide the training without funding. Mr. Mike Ecker, Penn State, stated that the University would not be able to provide services without a contract. Chief Smith stated that we do not have time to wait to study proposals. She mentioned that she thought the SDSETB would have more information regarding on-line training. Mr. Pfau stated that the proposals brought before the SDSETB today are not the only solutions. It is a starting point to provide some savings to allow for more time to review other solutions. Chief Smith stated the current options would not get the SDSETB in the “black” by 2020. Chief Smith is looking for a proposal to allow us to continue training beyond 2020. Mr. Pfau reminded everyone that costs continue to increase. Mr. Numer stated that the current proposals provide savings but would not balance the account. The only solution to balance the budget would be to reduce training hours. Chief Smith suggested that maybe the SDSETB should cancel Basic Training and come up with another solution. She stated that maybe the SDSETB needs to consider only hosting Waiver Training. Sheriffs would need to hire people that are Act 120 certified. Commissioner Nothstein recommended that a work group be formed to review training options.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to approve training option #3. The motion failed to be seconded.

The SDSETB agreed that a work-group be formed and monthly meetings be scheduled.

Judge Toothman left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Mr. Ecker provided the report for the Basic Training Delivery Contract. Mr. Ecker informed the Board that Basic Training class B-18-02 began July 9, 2018. The class has 29 deputies. They are currently in week eight of training. Graduation is scheduled for November 16, 2018.

Mr. Anthony Luongo, Temple University, provided the report on the Continuing Education Program. Mr. Luongo informed the SDSETB that continuing education training concluded in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area in June 2018. Classes will resume in Williamsport and Philadelphia in September 2018. Mr. Kevin Myers, Temple University, stated that an instructor development meeting was held in July 2018. All instructors in attendance were reminder of the program’s expectations.

Mr. Ted Mellors, Penn State – Fayette, provided the report on Curriculum Development. Staff have been in the development process for the subjects for the 2019-2021 Continuing Education Training cycle. Chief Deputy Smith asked who reviews the curriculum. Mr. Pfau stated that Ms. Deb Williams reviews the curriculum. She is a contracted employee

of the PCCD. Mr. Pfau stated that she is assigned to both the SDSETB training program and the Constables Training Program.

Chairman Martin acknowledge all the sheriffs that were in attendance at today's meeting. He thanked them for their support. He emphasized the need for sheriffs, SDSETB, and the PCCD to work together. The SDSETB's primary responsibility is providing training. Chairman Martin stated that we have good curriculum and a great academy. He stated that he believes our training is superior to Act 120. The SDSETB will need to adapt to the fiscal issues. Sheriff Anderson asked the SDSETB not to do a dis-service to the deputies by reducing training. He said that it took a long time to evolve to the current training standards provided by the SDSETB. Sheriff Anderson stated that we are not always treated as equals by the upper echelons of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and the state police, but the troopers and local officers on the streets have a good working relationship with the deputies. This is related to the training the deputies receive. Sheriff Joseph Groody, Schuylkill County, stated that he does not want to have the training hours reduced. He stated that reducing training would not help the goal to provide sheriffs and deputies with full law enforcement authority.

Sheriff Klakamp asked how discipline is handled at the academy. Mr. Numer explained that minor issues are dealt with by academy staff. If multiple minor infractions occur and/or if a major issue occurs, the employing sheriff is contacted. Staff often ask the employing sheriff to address issues with their deputies. In some cases, dismissal may be warranted. Mr. Numer explained that when a deputy is dismissed from the academy, it becomes an employment issue for the sheriff and county. He stated that there is an appeals process for re-admittance to the training. Sheriff Klakamp suggested that a representative of the PSA be permitted to address each basic training class. He said it is important that the deputies understand that they represent each sheriff and that they are held to a higher standard because of their position as a deputy. Mr. Numer stated that each class is continually told that they represent their sheriff and the profession.

Mr. Maoli asked if the deputies were considered students per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Mr. Steve Shelow, Penn State University, stated that he understood that the deputies were not protected under the FERPA regulations. Mr. Numer stated the deputies are not considered students and that they are considered conference attendees. Mr. Shelow stated that he would research this matter. Mr. Maoli asked if Sheriff Klakamp could address the current academy class. Mr. Hummel stated that he would work with Sheriff Klakamp to schedule the meeting.

Mr. Maoli stated that the top priority for the PSA is to lobby for an increase in fees. The next legislative session begins in January 2019. He said the goal is to lobby for an increase in fees and for an infusion of money to the account. Mr. Maoli stated that money was previously taken from the account, thus the legislature should be able to put money back. Mr. Numer stated that staff can provide any pertinent statistics. Commissioner Nothstein stated that the County Commissioners Association has a meeting in November to discuss their priorities. He hopes to address the funding issue with his association.

Mr. Numer stated that the SDSETB needed to recess the meeting for an Executive Session. He stated that the SDSETB will reconvene after the executive session to discuss any other issues.

Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to recess the public meeting and enter into an Executive Session at 11:47 p.m. Sheriff Weaknecht seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Walker, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

The SDSETB exited the Executive Session at 12:13 p.m. Commissioner Nothstein made a motion to reconvene the SDSETB public meeting. Sheriff Weaknecht seconded the motion and it passed with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Walker, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None

No other business was discussed and no public comment was made.

Sheriff Weaknecht made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Deputy Smith seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned with the following votes:

Voting Aye: Board Members Forzato, Martin, Nothstein, Smith, Walker, and Weaknecht

Voting Nay: None