

COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

JULY 9, 2015

ARKANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

The meeting of the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training was called to order at 10:03 A. M. Commission members present:

Chairman Bob Harrison
Chief Percy Wilburn
Capt. Bobby Walraven
Dr. James Golden
Sheriff Doc Holladay
Sheriff Boyd Hicks
Mr. Barry Phillips
Mr. Barney H. Reeves

Commissioners Absent

Mr. Cecil Greene
Lt. Staci Rhoads

Others present:

Director Jami Cook
Brian Marshall, Deputy Director
Fred Weatherspoon, Deputy Director
Sara Farris, Asst. Atty. General
Doug Smith, Governor's Office
Wade Hodge, Hearing Officer
Sue Albritton, CLEST Admin. Asst.
Danny Hall
Tiffany Smith
Leo Smith, UAMS P.D.
Wayne Bewley, LRPD
Trish Hendrix, Court Reporter
Juan Reyes, ALETA

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La Tonya Austin, LRCAD

Michael Davis, LRPD

La Therese D. Ellis, Pine Bluff PD

B. J. Smith, Jonesboro PD

Christopher Sparks, Arkadelphia PD

Steve Shults, BRTC-LETA

Ronald Scott, Helena/West Helena PD

Kay Kervin

Jacob Voss

Chip Duboise Family

Donna and Bud Barrong

Jacob Voss

The minutes of the April and June meetings were approved with a motion from Commissioner Walraven and seconded by Commissioner Wilburn.

Item I: Item one was a presentation to former instructor Charlie Duboise of his service weapon and proclamation. A motion to accept the proclamation and the presentation was made by Commissioner Walraven and seconded by Commissioner Wilburn.

Item II: Item two was a request from the Pine Bluff Police Department for decertification of former Deputy Israel Romero. A motion to go forward with decertification was made by Commissioner Holladay. Commissioner Wilburn seconded. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Item III: Item three was a request from the Saline County Sheriff's Department for decertification of former Officer Matthew Green. The motion to go forward with decertification was made by Commissioner Wilburn and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Item III: Item three was a request from the Cherry Valley Police Department for decertification of former Officer Gerald Boeckman. Commissioner Walraven made a motion to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Wilburn. Motion passed.

Item IV: Item four was a request from Perry County for decertification of Alan Martine. After discussion and review of information presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Wilburn not to go forward with decertification due to the lack of information and evidence. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The motion passed.

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Item VI: Item six was a review of an item presented at the July 2014 meeting for Terry Ray Steward. The Sheriff of Lee County stated he no longer wanted to go forward with decertification. After a discussion of the facts presented, the Commission voted to continue to go forward with decertification with a motion from Commissioner Holladay and a second by Commissioner Walraven. Motion passed.

Item VII: Item seven was a request from the Helena/West Helena Police department for an extension for Officer Roosevelt Eaton who was injured and unable to attend the scheduled class. The Commission voted to grant the extension and require Mr. Eaton to attend the next basic class, which begins on September 20, 2015. Until Mr. Eaton has attended the basic class, he is not eligible to serve in any capacity in law enforcement.

Item VIII: Item eight was from the Helena/West Helena Police Department appealing the expulsion of Darrius Watson from the academy. The Commission voted to uphold the expulsion denying the request.

Director Cook announced a partnership with the Arkansas State Crime Lab designed to teach experienced law enforcement officers the standards and procedures for testing suspected misdemeanor marijuana. The eight hour course is designed to allow the law enforcement officer to testify as to the marijuana evidence, without sending it to the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory for analysis, if the test is positive. This partnership when implemented would save the State of Arkansas and local agencies a considerable amount of time and money. The proposed training would include a visual and olfactory examination, an examination of the weight of the evidence, and a chemical test to determine the plant material of marijuana. The training includes protocols for documentation similar to Crime Laboratory standards as well as Court Room testimony training. The requirements to take the training are: Certified Law Enforcement Officer, not color blind, have access to the evidence, and the ability to testify in court. The Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy recommends Certification for the course so that it can be overseen by the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training, allowing the Commission to decertify if necessary. The Commission voted to accept the partnership with a unanimous vote.

In the decertification proceedings, the Commission heard three consent agreements for decertification. Those decertification consents were Hayden Miller, Aaron Julian, and Brandon Taylor. Decertification Hearings were held for Keith D. Rick, Cody Lynn Coley, and Tiffany Malone. All received a vote of decertification. Hearing Officer Wade Hodge presided with Court Reporter Trish Hendrix recording.