Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2018

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Chief Edward Mello called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:02 a.m. on November 20, 2018.

Chief Mello asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Chief Edward Mello, Colonel Hugh Clements, and Maria Deaton. A quorum has been met. Also present were Lieutenant Christopher Zarrella, Colonel Ann Assumpico, Captain Darnell Weaver, Paul Andrews, Esq., Adam Sholes, Esq., Paul Dutra; David Ricciarelli, Donna Lavallee; R.I. Police Chief’s Association Executive Director Chief Sydney Wordell, Lt. John Malloy (W. Warwick PD), Kate (A.G. Office) and Maggie from the Mental Health Advocacy Office.

2. Discussion/Approval of minutes:

Chief Mello asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the POST Special Meeting of August 23, 2018. Colonel Clements made a motion to accept the minutes of the POST Meeting of August 23, 2018; Maria Deaton seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, motion carries.

3. Request from West Warwick PD for a waiver of the 3-year rule

Lieutenant Zarrella stated he received a request from the West Warwick Police Department for a waiver of the 3-year rule for Riccardo Erilus. After reviewing his records, he feels that he has the necessary training along with a few additional courses to receive certification. Colonel Clements stated after his review of the documentation, he is in strong favor of approval. Chief Mello stated that this is on the agenda as a waiver of the 3-year rule but seems to be more of a waiver candidate possibility. Lt. Zarrella stated that he would be considered a waiver candidate because of the additional training needed. Colonel Clements made a motion to approve this request from West Warwick for a waiver candidate, which would require that he meet the standards of the Executive Director before the certification is signed. Maria Deaton seconded the motion, With all in favor, 3-0, motion carries.

**Note, Colonel Winquist and Shawn Brown are now present at the meeting at 10:10 am.**
4. **RIMPA Course Curriculum**

Colonel Assumpico stated that they are going to be looking at some of the lesson plans and curriculum to be sure that no one deviates from them in their course of instruction. Also, she spoke with General Callahan regarding the use of Camp Fogarty. There is some construction of the classrooms going on and there would be a cost added to us for approximately $12,000-$15,000, which can’t be substantiated along with the CCRI rent; therefore, effective with the January Recruit Class, everything will be moved to Lincoln. She will check in with General Callahan periodically. Chief Mello asked what the anticipated schedule is and she said she will check after the next class. She doesn’t want to lose CCRI and have no place for the Academy to go; although she is looking into all avenues at this point.

5. **Discussion on Mental Health First Aid**

Lt. Zarrella stated that he has reviewed the curriculum of Mental Health First Aid and how it becomes applied at Role Play. He met with the cadre instructors and Mental Health Advocates, because in the past there was not a lot of communication between both.

6. **Request for approval of Firearms Qualifications Courses**

Chief Mello states there are 6 Firearms courses to present for certification. They have been reviewed by himself and Captain Gould and he recommends approval.

- Brown University Police Department
- East Providence Police Department
- Lincoln Police Department  Pistol Qualification
- North Providence Police Department
- South Kingstown Police Department
- U.R.I. Police Department

Colonel Clements made a motion to certify the above Firearms courses and Maria Deaton seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

7. **Re-Certification of the Newport PD Special Response Team**

Lt. Zarrella stated that Captain Derek and members of RITOA did a review of the Newport PD SRT team and they have met all of the requirements and therefore, he recommends approval. Mr. Brown made a motion to re-certify the Newport PD SRT team and Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

8. **Certification of Instructors**

- Corporal Scott Carlsten – RISP – K-9
- Trooper Franklin Navarro – RISP - SFST
• Officer Raymond Ho – N. Kingstown PD – Baton/OC
• Jessamine Phillips – Soujourner House – DV/SA
• Off. Trent Hastings – Providence PD - EVOC
• Off. Alan Spiver – Providence PD – EVOC

Lt. Zarrella reviewed all of their qualifications and recommended certification as Basic Certification. He also made mention that the Domestic Violence Instructors have taken an Instructor Development Course geared to DV/SA and can change curriculum (only DV curriculum). Colonel Clements made a motion to certify the above-named officers and Colonel Winquist seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

9. **Update on Continuing Education**

Captain Ricciarelli stated he has sent a survey out to all of the Police Chief’s and has received a 50% response so far. The survey was done by Survey Monkey regarding the training needs of the Chief’s Chief Mello and Colonel Winquist stated they had not received anything and recommended re-sending the survey.

10. **Update on Class 2018-II/Incoming class 2019-I**

Lt. Zarrella stated that the class finished Firearms and only 1 has failed and is working on remedial for the re-test. Also, there are 10 recruits who have failed the Use of Force/Defensive Tactics test-out and have been receiving remedial instruction. The final re-test is scheduled for November 28th. As for the incoming Class 2019-I, Orientation has been completed and the P/T test is scheduled for December 2nd. Chief Mello asked Donna how many seat requests and she replied approximately 50 at this time.

11. **Adjournment:**

Chief Mello asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Colonel Clements made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 am and Maria Deaton seconded the motion, With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Donna M. Lavallee
Administrative Assistant