



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus

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Colonel Ann C. Assumpico
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police
Director, Department of Public Safety

Lieutenant Christopher J. Zarrella
Executive Director
Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training Meeting Minutes

August 23, 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 10:00 a.m. on **August 23, 2018**.

Chief Mello asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Chief Edward Mello, Colonel Hugh Clements, Colonel Michael Winkvist, Maria Deaton and Mr. Shawn Brown. A quorum has been met. Also present were Lieutenant Christopher Zarrella, Captain Darnell Weaver, Susan Urso Esq., Paul Dutra; Donna Lavallee; R.I. Police Chief's Association Executive Director Chief Sydney Wordell.

2. Discussion/Approval of minutes:

Chief Mello asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting dated May 17, 2018. Colonel Clements made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 17, 2018; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, the motion carries. Chief Mello asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the POST Special Meeting of July 12, 2018. Colonel Clements made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 12, 2018; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

3. Review of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections Pre-Service twelve-week Academy

Chief Mello stated that he received a request from Deputy Warden Wayne Salisbury requesting a review of their academy for POST certification consideration. Chief Mello stated he is not sure this is within our jurisdiction to certify their Academy. He is under the assumption that only 3 Academy's fall under POST jurisdiction; namely, Municipal, RISP and Providence. He doesn't feel it's in the POST's purview to certify their Academy but possibly we can review it for an endorsement. Chief Mello asked Sue Urso if she could look into it. Sue agreed to check further and to see if we ever certified anything from the Wyatt Detention Center in the past. Colonel Winkvist made a motion to continue this item to the November meeting; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries. Chief Wordell added that they may fall under the statute of peace officers.

4. Communication from Majority Leader K. Joseph Shekarchi regarding Mental Health First Aid.

Chief Mello explained that over two years ago, the legislature passed to require recruits to be trained in Mental Health First Aid and all agencies be responsible to train all police officers. Chief Mello provided a report to Majority Leader Shekarchi as to the numbers trained and departments, etc. The attached letter is a response to that. Chief Pesare took the lead role in this training and we are still deficient in instructors. Chief Mello questioned whether we should re-focus our efforts and get additional instructors at this point. Colonel Clements asked if we should look further at different communities and if this brand is the sole proprietor. Everyone in Providence PD was certified but not by this vendor so it was all for naught. Chief Mello suggested we should pursue other options before training new instructors. He believes the law is in conflict of the POST as the POST is in charge of developing curriculum, not a brand. Therefore, he is withdrawing his request to get more instructors at this time. Instead, he suggest that we wait until January. He talked at the Chiefs meeting and the Chiefs concern is the brand. The training they receive from them may not be the most relevant to police officers. It was agreed to table this discussion to the November meeting.

5. Request for approval of Firearms Qualifications Courses

Lieutenant Zarrella said he had eight Firearms courses to present for certification. They have been reviewed by himself and Captain Gould and he recommends approval.

- Barrington Police Department
- Bristol Police Department
- Hopkinton Police Department
- Johnston Police Department
- Newport Police Department
- Woonsocket Police Department

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

The following Firearms Courses were presented and did not have all the necessary paperwork in. They will be tabled to the November meeting:

- North Providence Police Department
- South Kingstown Police Department
- University of Rhode Island Police Department

6. Certification of Instructors

- Lt. Christopher Iozzi-Cumberland PD-EVOC
- Off. Robert Brown – N. Providence PD – EVOC
- Trooper Robert Hopkins – RISP – EVOC
- Capt. John Brady – N. Providence PD – Active Shooter/Building Search
- Lt. Craig Young – S. Kingstown PD – EVOC
- Det. Andrew Emerson – RISP - EVOC

Lt. Zarrella reviewed all of their qualifications and recommended certification. Colonel Winquist made a motion to certify the above-named officers and Colonel Clements seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

7. Update on Continuing Education

No Report.

8. Update on Class 2018-II

Lt. Zarrella stated that the class began in July and started with 58 recruits. To date, we have lost 5 and gained 1 alternate. They were hit with tough weather with the heat and humidity. He added that the Academy staff is very grateful for the 5 CTO's we have~they are extraordinary!

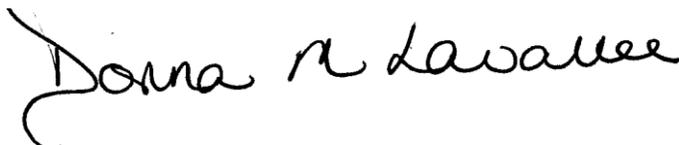
Chief Mello asked how did we lose the 5 recruits and Lt. Zarrella replied that a few weren't prepared and the heat took its toll on some. All withdrew voluntarily. He stressed the importance of being prepared before you come to the Academy and spoke a little about the over-use of Limited Participation Days. Chief Mello asked if this should be addressed at Orientation and Lt. Zarrella replied that it is stressed at Orientation.

Mr. Brown asked how instructors are doing and if we have enough. Lt. Zarrella replied that the support has been great and we are fine right now. In a few weeks we will need mass instructors for SFST, EVOC, Role Play, etc. But having 5 CTO's with a class this size is a tremendous help! We have a Traffic Stop Instructor school coming up as well, so that should add to our cadre.

9. Adjournment:

Chief Mello asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 am and Colonel Clements seconded the motion, With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna M. Lavalley
Administrative Assistant