

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus

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Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell Lieutenant Scott N. Raynes

Commissioner, Department of Public Safety Executive Director

Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training

Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2016

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Chief Anthony Pesare called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:00 a.m. on February 18, 2016.

Chief Pesare asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Edward Mello, Chief Palmer, Shawn Brown and Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Barry (appointed designee for Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell). Also present were, Lieutenant Scott Raynes, David Ricciarelli, Mr. Richard B. Woolley Esq., Mr. Paul Andrews, Esq., Paul Dutra, Donna Lavallee, Colonel Hugh Clements, Chief Joseph Little, Director Stephen Baker,

Major Jagoda, Michael Chalek and Mr. Shawn Cassidy (vendor).

2. Approval of the minutes

Chief Pesare asked for approval of the minutes from the last meetings dated November 19, 2015. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2015; Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, the motion carries.

3. Discussion on “Arming Campus Police”

Lieutenant Colonel Barry asked that this Agenda item be tabled.

4. Request for an exception of the 3-year Rule – University of Rhode Island

Director Stephen Baker, URI Public Safety, is requesting an exception of the 3-year rule for a potential candidate, Mr. John Bush. Director Baker went into detail regarding Mr. Bush’s background and resume. He left his job as a police officer in North Carolina in July, 2012. He has since been working very closely with the S.R.O. in the South Kingstown schools, as well as the RI Training School

Chief Pesare asked Director Baker if during his three year, eight month break in service, does he feel confident of his proficiency in law enforcement and Director Baker replied yes. He asked Lt. Raynes that if he were approved, what would be required of him. Lieutenant Raynes stated that he would review his curriculum and he would be required to “fill in the blanks”. Due to his absence from law enforcement, he would be required to attend more “practical” portions of the Academy. Chief Mello asked if the POST granted the exception to the 3-year rule, would he then be a waiver for the next class. Lieutenant Raynes responded that URI is looking for the exception of

the three-year rule and if approved, it falls on the Academy to accept him as a waiver candidate for the July class. Chief Mello asked Director Baker what he would do with him in the meantime. He replied that he would stay at his current job until June and would then be hired as a Police Officer trainee. Being a waiver candidate, he would get his certification sooner than the recruit class.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the request for an exception of the “Three-Year Rule” for Mr. John Bush. Chief Mello seconded the motion. After a roll call vote of 0-5, no in favor, the motion was defeated.

Chief Pesare made a motion to have Lieutenant Raynes accept Mr. Bush as a waiver candidate for the July, 2016 class. Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, the motion carries.

5. Request for an exception of the 3-year Rule – Capitol Police

Chief Little, R.I. Capitol Police, stated that Mr. Jack Mellor, was a Providence Police Department officer and retired in October, 2011. He was within the three-year period when the hiring process began; however, due to hiring off the list, he surpassed the time when called for employment. Chief Pesare asked him if he believes he maintained his current profession in law enforcement and Chief Little answered yes and reviewed his work experience over the past three years. Colonel Hugh Clements attested to the fact that as a Providence PD officer, he was outstanding. Lieutenant Raynes stated that if approved, he would come through as a “Provisional” candidate. Chief Pesare made a motion to grant the exception of the “Three Year Rule” and Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0,

motion carries.

6. Discussion on CHIP Program

Chief Pesare stated that we have a presentation from a vendor for an alternate method for P/T testing.

Mr. Shawn Cassidy introduced himself and conducted a presentation of his product for about ½ hour to the members. Chief Mello asked how often the test is given and the answer is it is offered on a monthly basis, the CHIP card is good for six (6) months and the fee for the test is \$65.00 to the candidate. He went through how you can break out demographics and able to reach more potential recruits. Colonel Clements stated that this is a huge issue right now and was just discussed at the Chief's monthly meeting. Chief Mello suggested that he doesn't feel this is a POST issue; but moreover a RIPCA issue and should be an item for the next meeting as this is a great opportunity that shouldn't be missed. Colonel Clements offered Mr. Cassidy an invitation to make a presentation at the RIPCA meeting on March 15th at 10am and he gladly accepted. Chief Pesare thanked Mr. Cassidy for the presentation and stated this is the right time to address this issue as we are competing against each other.

7. Request for approval of Firearms Qualification Courses

- Central Falls Detention Center**
- Coventry Police Department**
- Narragansett Police Department**
- North Providence Police Department**

- **North Smithfield Police Department**
- **Westerly Police Department**
- **Woonsocket Police Department**

Lieutenant Raynes stated that he, along with Captain Phil Gould, our Lead Firearms Instructor, reviewed the Firearms qualification courses for the above departments and they have met all of the requirements and therefore, he is recommending approval.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve all of the above-named Firearms Qualification Courses; Lieutenant Colonel Barry seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

- **Jamestown Police Department**

Lieutenant Raynes stated he, along with Captain Phil Gould, reviewed the Firearms qualification course for the Jamestown Police Department and they have met all of the requirements and therefore, he is recommending approval.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Jamestown PD Firearms course; Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 4-0, and Chief Mello recused, the motion carries.

- **Middletown Police Department**

Lieutenant Raynes stated he, along with Captain Phil Gould, reviewed the Firearms qualification course for the Middletown Police Department and they have met all of the requirements and therefore, he is recommending approval.

Chief Mello made a motion to approve the Middletown PD Firearms course; Lieutenant Colonel Barry seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, and Chief Pesare and Mr. Brown recused, the motion

carries.

8. Approval of the East Providence Police Department SWAT Team Certification:

Lieutenant Raynes stated that Captain Hannon and members of RITOA have reviewed the East Providence PD's SWAT team and they have met, and exceeded, all of the requirements for re-certification. He is recommending approval.

Chief Pesare made a motion to approve the East Providence Police Department SWAT team for re-certification; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

9. Update on Continuing Education

David Ricciarelli reviewed some of our upcoming Training workshops.

10. Update on Class 2016-I

Lieutenant Raynes stated that the class is now in Week 7. We have 41 recruits in the current class, two waiver candidates and a sit in from the Fire Marshal's. Most of the academics are near completion and they will be getting into the practicals now.

Lieutenant Colonel Barry stated that the RISP Academy began on

Monday as well.

11. Adjournment

Chief Pesare made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Lavalley

Administrative Assistant