

MINUTES

North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission

Planning & Standards Committee May 10, 2016

The Planning & Standards (P&S) Committee of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission met at Wake Tech Public Safety Center, Raleigh on May 10, 2016 at 11:15 a.m.

Committee Members Present

Commissioner Jeff Welty, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Brent Herron
Commissioner James Moore
Commissioner Richard Epley
Commissioner Trey Robison
Commissioner Allen Smith
Commissioner Teresa Jardon
Commissioner James Fisher-Davis

Guests Present

Tracy McPherson, NCCCS, Commissioner
Nathan Mizell, Nash CC, Commissioner
Charles Walston, NCDPS, Commissioner
King Thomas, NCDPS
Lorrie Goldsmith, NCDPS
Brenetta Holmes, NCDPS

CJ Standards Staff Present

Steven Combs
Trevor Allen
Richard Squires
Charminique Branson
Dawn Suffel
Sharon Witherspoon
Bob Overton
Giovanni Gonzalez

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Jeff Welty called the committee meeting to order and declared a quorum.

Approval of the February 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Allen Smith and **seconded** by Commissioner Richard Epley.
Motion carried unanimously.

Rule-Making Hearing

Under separate cover.

Interpretive Rule

The interpretive rule lists job classifications that are “criminal justice officers” and so fall under the jurisdiction of the Commission. Representatives from DPS were present to support a request to amend the list to (1) remove certain probation and parole related job titles that are no longer in use, and (2) amend the list of corrections related job titles to conform to the titles recently adopted by DPS as a result of a reclassification study. **Motion** to adopt the changes and forward for approval by the full Commission was made by Commissioner Teresa Jardon and **seconded** by Commissioner Allen Smith. **Motion carried** unanimously.

Reserve Officer Certification

CJ Standards Director Steven Combs reviewed from our February meeting a request by Commissioner Moore that moved staff to investigate whether the Commission, rather than a law enforcement agency, could “hold the certification” of officers who have retired or who have left the profession, but who may wish to re-enter the profession at a later time. Director Combs reported that after consulting with legal counsel that the Commission has no authority to do so.

Lateral Transfers

Deputy Director Trevor Allen shared an impact analysis concerning the proposed revisions discussed at previous meetings whereby several agency heads summoned the committee to consider amending the Administrative Code provisions concerning lateral transfers, i.e, by removing the requirements that the transferring officer have: (1) a medical assessment, (2) a drug test, and (3) a fingerprint-based criminal record check. Much discussion followed, with several Commissioners stating that the requirements are essential to ensuring that transferring officers meet minimum standards. **Motion** to move forward with amending the Code was made by Commissioner Richard Epley and **seconded** by Trey Robison. **Motion did not carry.**

Discussion Moral Character

Deputy Director Richard Squires suggested the need to revise **12 NCAC 09G .0206**, which defines good moral character in the corrections context. As currently written, the rule defines good moral character as six specific listed items, and so is very narrow. Many committee members recognized the need to revise the rule but there was disagreement about the best language to do so. The committee decided to table the issue and asked staff to work with legal counsel to draft a new proposed revision and present it at the August meeting.

Medical Guidelines

Dr. Stephanie Crapo, Medical Director at the Highway Patrol, presented an outline of suggested changes to the current guidelines. She will continue working in consultation with a team of medical professionals, legal counsel, and Commission staff, and will bring a draft of proposed new guidelines to the August meeting.

Officer Awards Program

Recruitment & Retention Update

Deputy Director Trevor Allen provided a brief update on both of these items. Rather than build an “officer of the year” type awards program that would require a new committee to administer, staff recommends an alternative “online recognition” for officers’ accomplishments. Further, Mr. Allen stated that the recruitment and retention study is underway for both the law enforcement side and the corrections side and provided current rate of response.

Planning and Standards Committee Meeting

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Planning & Standards Committee will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 10, 2016 at Wake Tech Community College, Public Safety Center, Raleigh.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Allen Smith and **seconded** by Commissioner Trey Robison.
Motion carried unanimously.