

COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2017

ARKANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M. Commissioners present:

Chairman Bob Harrison
Chief Percy Wilburn
Sheriff Boyd Hicks
Chief Richard Wingard
Lt. Stacie Rhoads
Mr. Barry Phillips
Sheriff Doc Holladay
Dr. James Golden
Mr. Barney Reeves
Mr. Thomas Marsh

Others present:

Director Jami Cook
Brad King, Deputy Dir. Standards
Sara Farris, Atty. General's Office
Sue Albritton, CLEST Admin. Asst.
Dara Hall, Hearing Officer
Amanda Yarbrough, CLEST Attorney
Mandy Hill, CLEST
Lt. Charles Noles, Greene County SO
Ryan Hubble, Greene County SO
Justin Jones
Raymond Funderburk, Clark County SO
Jason Cameron
Mandy Cameron
Michael Darr, Pulaski County SO
Eddie Price, Grannis PD
Heath Ward, Haskell PD
Park Eldridge, South Arkansas District Court
Susan Weaver, 9th Judicial District Court

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Brittani Burnett 9th Judicial District Court

Robert Newcomb, Attorney

Justin Pool

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by a motion by Commissioner Marsh and seconded by Commissioner Wilburn.

Item I: Item one was to set the meeting dates for the year 2018. The dates of January 11, April 12, July 12, and October 11 were approved with a motion by Commissioner Phillips and was seconded by Commissioner Holladay. Motion carried.

Item II: Item two was a request from the Greene County Sheriff's Office for an extension for Deputy Ryan Hubble. Commissioner Holladay made a motion to grant the extension and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion passed.

Item III: Item three was a request from the Grannis Police Department for an extension for Officer Raul Toribo. Commissioner Reeves made a motion to grant the extension and was seconded by Commissioner Wilburn. Motion passed.

Item IV: Item four was a request from the Clark County Sheriff's Office requesting an extension for Deputy Nathaniel Morrison. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to grant the request and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads.

Item V: Item five was a request from Justin Jones to regain his law enforcement status. After a discussion on Mr. Jones' law enforcement history, a motion was made by Commissioner Wilburn that when Mr. Jones finds a department who was willing to hire him, he could then come back before the Commission and make his request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holladay and motion carried.

Item VI: Item six was a request from Jason Cameron who had been decertified in 2014 after resigning from the Conway Police Department while under investigation. Mr. Cameron now wishes to regain his certification. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Wilburn and was seconded by Commissioner Hicks. Motion carried.

Item VII: Item seven was the statement from the Centerton Police Department stating the City no longer wishes to pursue decertification of former Officer Christopher Cummins. A motion to uphold the earlier decision to go forward with decertification was made by Commissioner Wilburn and was seconded by Commissioner Holladay. Motion carried.

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Item VIII: Item eight was a request from the Helena/West Helena Police Department for decertification of Ronald Scott. Commissioner Reeves made a motion to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed.

Item IX: Item nine was a request from the Ashley County Sheriff's Office for decertification of former Deputy William Dye. Commissioner Wilburn made a motion to go forward with decertification. Commissioner Wingard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Item X: Item ten was a request from the Jonesboro Police Department for decertification of former Officer Scott Alan West. A motion was made by Commissioner Phillips to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Wilburn. Motion passed.

Item XI: Item eleven was a request from the Arkansas State Police for decertification of former Trooper Sammy Koons. A motion was made by Commissioner Holladay to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item XII: Item twelve was a request from the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners in regard to the matter of Chiropractors performing physical examinations on incoming students for basic training. A motion to deny the request from Commissioner Phillips was seconded by Commissioner Wilburn. The motion passed to uphold the earlier decision to allow only medical doctors to perform the physicals.

Item XIII: Item thirteen was a request from the 9th Judicial District to establish a Ninth Judicial Probation Department. A motion to grant the request as set forth in Act 378 was made by Commissioner Rhoads and was seconded by Commissioner Hicks. Motion carried.

Item XIV: Item fourteen was a request from the First Judicial District to establish a First Judicial District Probation Department. A motion to grant the request as set forth in Act 378 was made by Commissioner Holladay and was seconded by Commissioner Hicks. Motion carried.

Item XV: Item fifteen was a request from the Haskell Police Department requesting an extension for Officer Thomas Edwards. A motion was made by Commissioner Wilburn to grant the request with the stipulation that Mr. Edwards attend the next Basic Training Class which begins in January. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed.

Item XVI: Item sixteen was a request to go forward with decertification of former Officer Emily Ennis from the Arkansas Community Correction. Commissioner Hicks moved to go forward and his motion was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. The vote was unanimous.

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Item XVII: Item seventeen was a request from the Arkansas Community Correction for decertification of former Officer John Carey. A motion to go forward with decertification was made by Commissioner Wilburn and was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item XVIII: Item eighteen was from the Arkansas Community Correction requesting decertification of former Officer Deborah Gorham. A motion to go forward was made by Commissioner Holladay and seconded by Commissioner Wilburn. Motion carried.

Item XIX: Item nineteen was from the City of Mayflower stating they no longer wanted to go forward with decertification of former Officer Mark Winchester. A motion was made by Commissioner Wilburn to uphold an earlier vote to proceed with the decertification process. Commissioner Reeves seconded. The vote carried with one recusing.

After the regular meeting, uncontested decertification hearings were held for, **Jason Emerson, Brandon Hampton, Michael Kingdom, Robert Retford, Andres Torres, and Douglas Wicker**. With a motion by Commissioner Holladay and a second by Commissioner Reeves, all were decertified. A Contested Decertification hearing was held for former Officer **Justin Pool**. After all evidence was presented by the attorneys for both sides, a motion was made by Commissioner Wilburn to decertify Justin Pool. Commissioner Marsh seconded and the vote was unanimous. Dara Hall of the Attorney General's Office presided over the hearings as hearings officer and Robert Newcomb represented Mr. Pool.

In the Director's report, Director Cook reported that the Graduation for Basic Training Class 2017-B-NW would be held on October 27th and the Guest Speaker would be Washington County Sheriff Tim Helder. The graduation for basic class 2017-C at ALETA would be held December 15th and the graduation of Central ALETA 2017-B would be held on December 22nd. Director Cook reported on the establishment of a Crisis Intervention Training Class that was headed up by Training Supervisor Charles Ellis, and that the reception had been outstanding. She reported that the contract for the abatement of the North Dorn was underway and should start in the near future. She stated she would be in Philadelphia attending the IADLEST and IACP Meetings on October 23rd. She announced that a Special Called Meeting would be held on December 19th and 20th at the Attorney General's Office in an attempt to reduce the backlog of decertification hearings. A review of the proposed rules changes was held and after the review, Commissioner Reeves made the motion to accept the changes and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. The vote was unanimous. The process to adopt the changes will be set into motion. At the beginning of the meeting, Director Cook introduced Amanda Yarbrough as the new agency Attorney for CLEST.