

MINUTES
North Carolina Criminal Justice
Education and Training Standards Commission

Planning and Standards Committee
May 27, 2010

The Planning and Standards Committee of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission met in Room 229 of the Department of Correction Office of Staff Development and Training in Apex, on May 27, 2009 at 1:00 pm.

Members Present

Kevin Wallace, Chairman
Tom Thornburg
Stephanie Freeman
Scott Cunningham
Richard Armstrong
Brent Herron

Members Absent

Johnson Britt
Frank Rogers
Randy Glover

Staff

Ms. Teresa Marrella, Criminal Justice Standards Division
Ms. Dawn Suffel, Criminal Justice Standards Division

I. Call to Order

Chairman Kevin Wallace called the meeting to order, welcomed those present, and declared a quorum.

II. Approval of February 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the February 18, 2010 meeting were approved. Motion was made by Commissioner Tom Thornburg and **seconded** by Commissioner Scott Cunningham. **Motion carried** unanimously.

III. Proposed Rule Amendment 12 NCAC 09G .0206 Moral Character

Chairman Wallace referred to a memorandum from Ms. Teresa Marrella referencing this rule.

The memo detailed that when the rule was amended in 2009, an error was made resulting in an omission of text in the rule which stated convicted felons could not be certified with the NC Department of Correction. The memorandum also cited that Commission legal staff requested that the paragraph note after the reference to federal code 18 USC 922 be removed as it incorrectly restricts portions of the code applicable to domestic violence convictions.

Chairman Wallace confirmed that DOC wants the rule amended to clearly prohibit convicted felons from being certified. Page 2 of the handout reflected corrections/changes to the text.

Motion to approve the amendment and ask the full Commission for rule-making authority was made by Commissioner Richard Armstrong and **seconded** by Commissioner Stephanie Freeman. **Motion carried** unanimously.

IV. Development of 7th Edition System Plan

Chairman Wallace confirmed that five (5) regional meetings with the criminal justice community had taken place since the last Commission meeting. He explained that about 70 people attended the meetings and 20 more responded to the online survey, resulting in approximately 90 individuals who provided valuable input toward the development of the new system plan. Chairman Wallace further thanked those present who participated in the meetings and reiterated the need going forward for good representation by the Commission and staff at future meetings.

Ms. Marrella provided several handouts to the Committee, including lists of regional meetings field notes, carryover goals from the 6th Edition System Plan, and possible goals for the new system plan. Chairman Wallace summarized the Committee's responsibility to identify core goals for the Commission and prioritize those goals to be included in the next system plan. He went on to explain that the Committee must have a draft of the new system plan ready by the August Commission meeting. He asked for cooperation of Committee members to help develop this draft. He stated that Ms. Marrella would write an initial draft and share it with the Committee members via email.

Discussion of goals was summarized as follows:

Goal 1 – “Study the relationship between reading comprehension and writing competency and their connection to successful completion of Basic Law Enforcement Training and success as a criminal justice officer.” Members agreed that the Commission should focus on results of the new policy on reading comprehension prior to introducing writing requirements.

Goal 2 – “Continue examination of professional development, retention, and recruitment of criminal justice officers, with the hope of improving the profession.” Members agreed to keep this goal as is.

Goal 3 – “Continue to develop a program of activities designed to assist all criminal justice officers in addressing changing societal issues within the state.” Members agreed that it is necessary to get feedback and accomplishments from the Education & Training Committee to determine if it is still necessary to keep this item as part of the next plan.

Goal 4 – “Maintain current funding and seek new funding and staff support from the Department of Justice and General Assembly.” Members agreed this item should be modified to read “seek new funding and staff resources.”

Goal 5 – “Review Commission training for possible improvements in delivery methods and facilities.” Members agreed that it is necessary to get feedback and accomplishments from the Education & Training Committee to determine if it is still necessary to keep this item as part of the next plan.

Goal 6 – “Evaluate the need for standards in particular areas of criminal justice specialization, including crime scene investigation, Spanish interpretation, K-9 handlers, and field training.” Members agreed that it is necessary to get feedback and accomplishments from the Education & Training Committee to determine if it is still necessary to keep this item as part of the next plan.

Goal 7 – “Continue to develop strategies to promote greater input to the Commission from the criminal justice system and the general public.” Members agreed to keep this goal as is.

V. Other Business

Chairman Wallace stated that Director Peggy Schaefer from the NC Justice Academy wanted to know if the Committee had determined how to distribute the law enforcement recruitment video. He acknowledged that through the creator of the video, it was proposed that the video be made available via a secure link on the NCJA website for agencies to either download or view. It was further suggested that a small volume of DVDs

be made available as an alternative delivery method. The Committee agreed that the suggested method is favorable for promoting the video.

Chairman Wallace informed the Committee that following his recent promotion and increased job responsibilities, he is stepping down as Committee Chair. He made a recommendation for the Committee to appoint Commissioner Stephanie Freeman as succeeding Chairperson. He asked Vice-Chairman Tom Thornburg to open the next meeting and include the first agenda item of electing a new Chair. Commissioner Freeman acknowledged the recommendation and affirmed she will willingly accept whatever the Committee decides.

Chairman Wallace also wanted to add a special thank you to Ms. Marrella for all of her hard work and tremendous effort while supporting his role as Committee Chairman.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

Chairman Wallace stated that the next scheduled meeting of the Planning and Standards Committee would be on Thursday, August 26, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the Department of Correction Office of Staff Development and Training in Apex.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Cunningham and **seconded** by Commissioner Armstrong. **Motion carried** unanimously.