



WASHINGTON STATE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION
19010 1ST AVENUE SOUTH, BURIEN, WA 98148

COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, December 14, 2005
10:00 AM

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thomas Metzger (Chair), Prosecuting Attorney, Pend Oreille Co.
Anne Kirkpatrick, Chief, Federal Way Police Department
Bill Boyce, Citizen at Large, Microsoft Corporation
Craig Thayer, Sheriff, Stevens Co. Sheriff's Office
Ed Crawford, Chief, Kent Police Department
Eldon Vail, Deputy Secretary, Department of Corrections
Karen Daniels, Chief Deputy of Corrections, Thurston Co. Sheriff's Office
Mike Amos, Sergeant, Yakima Police Department
Rob McKenna, Attorney General, Washington State

WSCJTC STAFF PRESENT:

Michael D. Parsons, Executive Director
Carri Brezonick, Deputy Director
Cheryl Price, Coordinator, Accreditation/Public Disclosure
Cory Ahrens, Manager, Telecommunicator Project
Al Isaac, Manager, Corrections Division
Bob Bragg, Regional Training Manager, Central Sound Region
Brian Elliott, Manager, Financial Division
Doug Blair, Manager, Peace Officer Certification
Greg Baxter, Manager, Human Resources
Hans Krenz, Assistant Commander, Basic Law Enforcement Academy
Mike Warner, Information Technology
Shannon Inglis, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's (AG's) Office
Sonja Hirsch, Confidential Secretary
Steve Lettic, Assistant Division Manager, Quality, Standards, & Technology Division
Tisha Ehret, Registrar, Basic Law Enforcement Academy
Wanda Townsend, Manager, Quality, Standards, & Technology Division
Wesley Anderson, Manager, Facilities Division

GUESTS PRESENT:

Bob Maule, Officer, Tacoma Police Department
Brad Graham, Detective, Tacoma Police Department
Brian Maxey, Assistant Attorney General, AG's Office
Karen Kelly, Lieutenant, Tacoma Police Department
Chris Fischer, Director, Valley Communications Center
Deborah Ranniger, Consultant
Diane Bonne, Program Manager, Seattle King County Department of Public Health

Fred Fakkema, Commander, Washington State Patrol
Jay Goss, Chief, Tulalip Tribal Police Department
Jim Bass, Sergeant, Tacoma Police Department
Jim Seaman, Deputy Chief, Everett Police Department
John Lane, Executive Policy Advisor, Office of Financial Management
Larry Raedel, Chief, Department of Natural Resources
Luke Esser, Director of Community Relations and Outreach, AG's Office
Ralph Wyman, Chief, Chehalis Tribal Police Department
Rene LaRocque, City Safety Officer, Tacoma Police Department
Rod Sniffen, Officer, Everett Police Department
Stormi Koerner, Officer, Spokane Police Department
Tom Schlicker, Chief, Swinomish Tribal Police Department

INTRODUCTION

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:13 AM with a quorum present.

Self-introductions followed.

The Director introduced John Lane from the Office of Financial Management. Mr. Lane's role is to deal with criminal justice issues in relationship to the Governor's Office.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

Commissioner Crawford moved to approve the minutes of September 14, 2005. **Commissioner Kirkpatrick** seconded the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.**

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Michael D. Parsons, Executive Director

The following individual has been nominated to serve on the Board on Law Enforcement Training, Standards, and Education:

- ◆ **Sheriff Mike Harum**, Chelan County Sheriff's Office

If approved, Sheriff Harum would replace Sheriff Mark Sterk from the Spokane County Sheriff's Office, who will retire in March 2006.

Commissioner Crawford moved to appoint Sheriff Harum to the Board on Law Enforcement Training, Standards, and Education. **Commissioner Amos** seconded the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.**

ADMINISTRATIVE EXEMPTION

Michael D. Parsons, Executive Director

Deputy Chief Gale Evans, Port of Seattle Police Department

Deputy Chief Gale Evans was formerly employed by the Salt Lake City Department of Airports, in Utah.

Deputy Chief Evans has met all of the requirements for an administrative exemption, and the WSCJTC staff recommends approval of Deputy Chief Evans' request for an administrative exemption.

Commissioner Crawford moved to approve the administrative exemption for Deputy Chief Gale Evans of the Port of Seattle Police Department. Commissioner Kirkpatrick seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ICP AWARDS: INSTRUCTORS OF THE YEAR

Michael D. Parsons, Executive Director

The Director stated that the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) will begin recognizing some of its outstanding instructors, which is something that has not been done in the past. He stated, "Without the instructors, this place would not exist. And without the quality of instructors, we would not have the quality of training that we have."

Mr. Lettic administers the Instructor Certification Program (ICP). The ICP certifies and approves credentials of the instructors that teach sponsored courses for the WSCJTC. The ICP has been in existence since 2001 and has certified over 500 instructors.

The four outstanding instructors for 2005 are:

Officer Bob Maule: On behalf of the Professional Development Division (PDD), Bob Bragg introduced Officer Bob Maule from the Tacoma Police Department.

Bob is not only one of the instructors that asks how and why, but also why not. He is an instructor that devotes countless hours of his own time in order to do the job, and he is eager to learn.

He was presented with a certificate, a plaque, and a WSCJTC instructor pin.

Officer Rod Sniffen: On behalf of the Quality, Standards, and Technology (QST) Division, Wanda Townsend introduced Officer Rod Sniffen from the Everett Police Department.

Rod has taught for the WSCJTC since 1985 and has been a devoted contributor since that time. He has served as a TAC Officer for the Basic Law Enforcement Academy and currently instructs their OC Spray and Access training. He instructs the Handgun Level I and Handgun Instructor Update classes for the PDD, and is an integral part of the Instructor Development cadre. He has volunteered hundreds of hours toward the design, development, and delivery of the training courses for the QST Division.

He was presented with a certificate, a plaque, and a WSCJTC instructor pin.

Officer Stormi Koerner: On behalf of the Corrections Division, Al Isaac introduced Officer Stormi Koerner from the Spokane Police Department.

Officer Koerner can take a course like report writing and make it exciting and can take a course on legal issues and correctional law and make it understandable.

She was presented with a certificate, a plaque, and a WSCJTC instructor pin.

Detective Brad Graham: On behalf of the Basic Law Enforcement Academy, Assistant Commander Krenz introduced Detective Brad Graham from the Tacoma Police Department.

Detective Graham is an instructor that brings more than instruction, he brings leadership by example and is a role model for the students. He can be relied on to teach, assist with mock scenes, and to help with the entire spectrum of basic law enforcement training. He is dependable and can be counted on to bring a quality instructional aspect to the program.

He was presented with a certificate, a plaque, and a WSCJTC instructor pin.

Mr. Lettic thanked all of the agencies who lend their employees to the WSCJTC, and he thanked all of the individuals who make the program successful.

BOARD ON CORRECTIONS TRAINING, STANDARDS, & EDUCATION (BCTSE)
Al Isaac, Manager, Corrections Division

For the first time in 18 months, the Board has no vacancies.

Officer Stormi Koerner from the Spokane Police Department, Corrections Division's Instructor of the Year, was introduced to the Board on November 3, 2005.

The Director gave a report on virtual reality and training simulation, and he challenged the Board to look into those issues. In addition, he challenged the Board to look into ways to improve in-service training for Corrections.

The Corrections Division is moving toward a more facilitator-based instruction and Problem Based Learning.

In the Misdemeanor Probation Academy there is new instruction on the interstate compact of adult offender supervision. Through a job task analysis and introduction of additional items in the interstate compact, the Division has had more activity in the academy.

The Corrections Division participated in a joint task force study with legislative representatives and members of various agencies around the state in a sex offender notification and management study. The fundamental outcome for the Corrections Division was to be involved in the development of additional training for a wide variety of agencies around the state.

The first audit of the Correctional Worker Core Program is underway. The goal is to have the audit report completed by the beginning of January 2006.

BOARD ON LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING, STANDARDS, & EDUCATION (BLETSE)

Carri Brezonick, Deputy Director

As a result of HB 1081 the WSCJTC decided to learn more about how reserve officers are used throughout the state; therefore, a survey was distributed to agencies statewide. Seventy-two agencies participated in the survey. The basic understanding that was developed by this process is that reserves are used statewide in a variety of ways (i.e. directing traffic at fairs, performing patrol duties, etc.). As a result of the survey, the WSCJTC, in partnership with the Board and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, is launching a curricula review process. The WSCJTC will look at creating a reserve structure as well as the identification of additional training needs that better meet the customers' needs.

Commissioner Metzger stated that, as a representative of a small city, the importance of reserve officers cannot be understated. At the same time, it is important to ensure that they do not get in over their heads and that they have proper training; therefore, the different levels of reserve officers is a great idea.

On the eastern side of the state reserves are important, so it is important to have structure.

If after reviewing the survey, you have additional questions, please contact Carri Brezonick who collected and compiled the data.

Commissioner Crawford asked why the WSCJTC is looking into the reserve program.

Ms. Brezonick stated that for a long period of time, the WSCJTC has offered a set of learning objectives and a test for reserve officers. With the inclusion of reserve officers into HB 1081, the WSCJTC feels that it is a good idea to begin the process of looking at reserves in a broader perspective. The Director has challenged the BLETSE to take on this project and that is why it is being discussed.

Commissioner Crawford stated that the WSCJTC should move forward with this. Reserve officers are an integral part of the law enforcement system, and the WSCJTC needs to be part of that.

The Chair asked that a reserve officer update be given at the next Commission Meeting.

SEATTLE KING COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ***Michael D. Parsons, Executive Director***

At the Commission Meeting in June 2005, the Director introduced the idea of the WSCJTC entering into an agreement with the Seattle King County Department of

Public Health regarding the use of the WSCJTC's dormitory and facilities in the event of a SARS epidemic. At that meeting, questions were raised; therefore, Diane Bonne was invited to address those questions.

The agreement has been revised by the Seattle King County Department of Public Health, and the Director has made suggestions on items he would like added to the agreement.

1. The Director would like the agreement to be focused on SARS. According to the current agreement, the WSCJTC could be used for other problems.
2. The Director would like more education provided by the Seattle King County Department of Public Health for staff, students, agencies, and the community.

Ms. Bonne stated that SARS caught the world off guard in 2003; therefore, this agreement will provide the opportunity to have a secure facility to house those individuals who have had the potential of being exposed to SARS, but are not ill. The individuals would be quarantined, so they could be observed during the incubation period (approximately 10 days). This would occur, so they do not potentially expose others.

Quarantine only works for a select number of types of diseases and those are respiratory diseases.

Once the virus is external to an enclosed space, beyond personal space, the virus is very fragile. The guidance that the Center for Disease Control has given the Seattle King County Department of Public Health is that if a 100-foot perimeter is secured around the building, the potential for the virus to be spread past the perimeter is eliminated. Ms. Bonne stated that the safe distance is actually much shorter than 100 feet. Quarantined individuals will be confined to the dormitory and not allowed to leave.

The potential of others on campus being affected by the disease would be eliminated since the immune compromised individuals would not be allowed to leave the dormitory and all meals would be delivered to them while they are monitored on a daily basis.

Commissioner Crawford asked if the dormitory would ever be able to be used again after people with SARS were quarantined in it.

Ms. Bonne stated that it would be able to be used again. As she stated before, once the virus gets out, it is very fragile. A simple disinfectant, bleach solution, would be used to clean the dormitory.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick asked if the Commissioners are being asked to agree to enter into the agreement today or is this simply an education piece.

The Director stated that if there is no need for further discussion, he would like to enter into the agreement.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick stated that, as she discussed before, in good conscience she cannot vote to support the agreement at this time. Her giving her vote is contingent on the legal questions being answered. She would like to know what her position will be as a Commissioner if the WSCJTC enters into the agreement and then a situation arises where a Chief or Sheriff says they are not going to send their recruit to the academy. Are people going to be held insubordinate? Until she knows the legal answer, she cannot agree to use this facility for that purpose.

She went on to state that she has a staff member who is currently a member of the BLEA cadre. She wants to know what her response should be if that staff member refuses to report to work when there is a contract in place with the State. If Sheriffs and Chiefs have recruits that refuse to attend training, will they be forced to terminate those employees? There are fall outs and questions that have not been properly addressed.

In addition, if she can not get her recruit through the academy because they do not have to come and she is then forced to terminate them, then how is she supposed to get her people trained?

Commissioner Crawford suggested a subcommittee of three-to-four Commissioners to discuss the concerns relating to this issue. The subcommittee would then report back to the Commission at the meeting in March 2006.

The subcommittee will consist of: Commissioner Kirkpatrick (Chair), Commissioner Vail, Commissioner Crawford, Michael Parsons, Carri Brezonick, Shannon Inglis, Elizabeth Brown, and Brian Maxey.

Commissioner Daniels asked if there is no potential health risk to the students, why a waiver would be necessary.

Commissioner Thayer asked that the subcommittee address how the WSCJTC would proceed with training.

Ms. Inglis stated that the reality is that this is a way to get the agreement in place and to plan. The WSCJTC could say no to the agreement, but if there is a public health emergency the Governor could order the WSCJTC to provide the facilities needed and there would not be time for planning.

Commissioner McKenna stated that the concerns that have been raised are not just concerns that will come up in the context of the request for a quarantine facility. In the event of an epidemic or pandemic, a lot of concerns will be raised from people who do not want to gather in spaces with lots of other people. Whether this facility is used for a quarantine facility or not, contingency planning to answer questions from officers, or their superiors, who are concerned about sending them to group settings are going to come up; therefore, it makes sense to view this as part of a larger contingency planning process so the WSCJTC is prepared to answer these questions and to plan accordingly.

Ms. Bonne stated that if the subcommittee needs additional health information, her Disease Control Officers can answer those specific questions.

OPEN MEETING

Shannon Inglis, Assistant Attorney General, AG's Office

Members of the Commission will be attending the Governor's Board and Commissions Conference tomorrow. She wanted to reiterate that although there may be a quorum present, no official business will be conducted.

Commissioners need to be cautious not to discuss Commission business or anything that could be construed as Commission business.

WAC RULE REVIEW

Sonja Hirsch, Confidential Secretary

WAC 139-05-200

Requirement of Basic Law Enforcement Training

WSCJTC staff in conjunction with Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies, the Washington Department of Natural Resources, the Washington State Gambling Commission, and the Washington State Liquor Control Board proposed the rule.

Reason for change: Tribal police officers in Washington State, natural resource investigators employed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources, special agents employed by the Washington State Gambling Commission, and liquor enforcement officers employed by the Washington State Liquor Control Board (officers/investigators/agents) who attend the basic training or basic equivalency training are not recognized in the same manner as Washington peace officers who meet the same training requirements. When they return to their agency, they may be cross-commissioned by local law enforcement agencies to enforce Washington laws and laws pertaining to their agency. Their law enforcement service is not recognized as on-going law enforcement service. This means that if they leave their agency and are employed as a Washington peace officer, the time served at their agency is considered a break in law enforcement service for the purpose of this WAC. This requires the officer/investigator/agent to complete another equivalency academy before they are eligible to be certified. This change will recognize their law enforcement service with their agency as on-going law enforcement service if the officer/investigator/agent completes the Basic Law Enforcement Academy or the Basic Law Enforcement Equivalency Academy.

Mr. Blair stated that the initial issue involved tribal police officers who had completed either the Basic Law Enforcement Academy or the Equivalency Academy. When certification of peace officers went into effect in 2002, the WSCJTC issued letters to people who had successfully completed either of those two academies to have their time recognized as ongoing law enforcement service and not count against their 24-month break.

When the WSCJTC found out it could make this change in WAC initially only tribal officers were included. The question was then asked, how about others? Mr. Blair

then did the research and checked with the Gambling Commission, the Chief Enforcement Officer of the Liquor Control Board, and the Chief of the Department of Natural Resources to see if, in fact, they should be included. Currently, as a condition of employment, all of these agencies require their employees to go through either the Basic Law Enforcement Academy or the Equivalency Academy. Thereafter, they engage in some type of law enforcement work to a certain degree. Most all of them are allowed to enforce all of the laws of the state of Washington, but are limited to their particular interest or issue (i.e. Gambling Commission, Liquor Control Board, and Department of Natural Resources).

In talking with the Chiefs, Mr. Blair determined that the agencies' ongoing training is very much like and sometimes done in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies.

Mr. Blair proposes, by this WAC change, that the WSCJTC recognize their time in service with their agency as continuous law enforcement service.

Commissioner Thayer asked about the submission to decertification.

Mr. Blair stated that this change has nothing to do with certification. This change is merely recognizing the ongoing time as not having to come back through the Equivalency Academy to work for an agency where certification is required; and certification for these entities is not a requirement at this time.

Commissioner Crawford asked what would happen if a person committed an act, while working for one of the other agencies that if they worked for an agency where they could be certified would cause them to be decertified.

Mr. Blair stated that if at the time of the application, the act was brought to the WSCJTC's attention by a law enforcement agency, the WSCJTC would investigate.

Commissioner McKenna stated that all of the feedback he has heard has been positive about these changes for tribal officers and state officers.

The WSCJTC staff, Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies, the Washington Department of Natural Resources, the Washington State Gambling Commission, and the Washington State Liquor Control Board recommend approval for filing.

Commissioner McKenna moved to approve WAC 139-05-200, Requirement of Basic Law Enforcement Training for filing. Commissioner Kirkpatrick seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Blair stated that if questions arise regarding these changes, to please contact him.

WAC 139-10-530
Basic Community Corrections Officers Academy Curriculum

WSCJTC staff in response to a request from the Washington State Department (DOC) of Corrections.

Reason for change: Originally, the DOC planned to introduce Defensive Tactics training into the Community Corrections Officer (CCO) Academy in September 2005. This WAC was updated accordingly to include Defensive Tactics. In a recent DOC message, the introduction has been deferred for further study. The DOC requested that Defensive Tactics not be included at this time in the WAC covering the CCO curriculum.

WSCJTC staff and the DOC recommend approval for final action.

Commissioner Vail moved to approve WAC 139-10-530, Basic Community Corrections Officers Academy Curriculum, for final action. Commissioner Crawford seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Michael D. Parsons, Executive Director

Employee Recognition

Cory Ahrens, Telecommunicator Project Manager

Cory Ahrens has been the Telecommunicator Project Manager at the WSCJTC for over six years. The project is funded by the Washington State Department of the Military State E9-1-1 Office.

Cory began her career in 1972 as a matron/clerk for the Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office in Kelso. Over the next 20 years (minus three years "off" while she had three children) she worked for several local agencies and eventually the combined communications center in Cowlitz County, first as a dispatcher and then as the Chief Dispatcher.

In 1993 she moved to King County where she worked for the King County E9-1-1 Program Office for one year as the Assistant Program Manager, 4.5 years at the Bellevue Police Department Communications Center as a Dispatcher, and one year at Valley Communications Center, in Kent, as their first Custodian of Records. She had been instructing for several years in the Telecommunicator Program cadre when, in August 1999, she took the Project Manager position.

Since that time, she has converted the Basic Call Receiver and Basic Dispatcher curricula into problem based learning. Cory has also developed or delivers several other advanced training courses for telecommunicators from around the state of Washington.

She serves on several national committees for the International Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, Inc. (APCO), including a committee that reviews or establishes minimum training standards for public safety communications personnel. In addition, she is one of four persons who serve on the APCO Institute Advisory Committee, representing the APCO membership from the Western US on that committee.

In the last year she was asked to serve on a small committee headed by the APCO International President to make recommendations on the creation of an industry Executive Leadership Program.

Cory lives in Des Moines. She has three grown children, and 3.75 grandchildren (she has a granddaughter with a due date of Christmas Day).

Brian Elliott, Financial Manager

Brian was born and raised in the Olympia area. He has been married for 10 years and has two daughters (one is seven years old and the other is 11 months).

He enjoys playing recreation sports like softball, basketball, and volleyball. He enjoys going camping with his family and going to his oldest daughter's sport events.

He started working for the state in 1993 at the McNeil Island Correctional Center in their fiscal office. In 1994, he went to work for the Attorney General's fiscal office. He went to school at nights to finish his associate's degree in accounting from Pierce Community College. He has been at the WSCJTC since 2000.

Brian is responsible for the supervision of all four of the staff in the fiscal office. He is responsible for preparing the agency budget, preparing responses to legislative fiscal note requests, and providing agency staff with budget information. He also ensures that the WSCJTC is in compliance with state, federal, ACA, and CALEA fiscal rules and standards.

Special Recognition

Chris Fischer, Director, Valley Communications Center

Director Fischer started her career with Valley Communications Center on August 1, 1977, the first day of operations of the new agency. She was one of 11 Dispatchers hired for the new Center, and she previously worked as a Dispatcher for the City of Renton, WA.

She first worked as a Dispatch Supervisor and then promoted to Deputy Director in 1980. She was appointed Director in September 1987.

Valley Communications Center (Valley Com) is a nationally accredited (CALEA) consolidated police/fire/EMS emergency communications center in South King County, Washington. Director Fischer is responsible for overseeing the 9-1-1 call answering and public safety dispatching for 27 agencies serving 655,000 citizens with a staff of 113.

In 1994, she led a discussion on behalf of the Washington State Chapter of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, Inc. (APCO) with the newly formed State Enhanced 9-1-1 Office to include as part of the statewide enhanced 9-1-1 implementation, a training component. She convinced the state office that it was imperative to include training of personnel alongside the installation of new equipment and technology. She also recommended that the training be coordinated out of the WSCJTC. She has served as the State E9-1-1 Advisory Committee

Chairperson for several years, and has been the chair of the Training Sub-Committee that oversees the WSCJTC Telecommunicator Program since its inception. She is the recognized leader in training for the industry in the state of Washington.

Director Fischer is a Life Member of the APCO who has served and continues to serve the APCO International Board of Officers in a multitude of capacities including those committees that have established national training standards for public safety communications personnel. She was chosen as the APCO International Director of the Year in 2004 when she also received the prestigious Weldon Joe Blair Award for Leadership.

She was recently elected 2nd Vice President of APCO International where she serves on the Executive Board. She will assume the APCO International presidency in August 2008.

Budget/Legislation

The WSCJTC recently received approval from the Governor's Office for the introduction of legislation regarding the certification of tribal police officers, as tribal officers.

What you may not know is that the history of tribal officers in this state is long, very proud, and very quality oriented; however, it has often times not been recognized for a multitude of issues. The WSCJTC thinks that there are ways to work toward recognizing the professionalism, standards, and the training of tribal officers by introducing this bill, which would certify tribal officers as tribal officers. It is a step in recognizing those tribal officers who do the same work as peace officers across the state.

There is no fiscal note associated with this bill.

Chief Goss stated that he appreciates the efforts, within the last few months, of the WSCJTC, the Governor's Office, and the Attorney General's Office. He stated that there has been a coming together, a change of attitudes, and a recognition that the tribes and the Native Americans really look forward to.

The Director stated that the participation regarding the certification of tribal police officers is on a voluntary basis; therefore, the tribes are not mandated to participate. If a tribe chooses to participate, they would sign an agreement with the WSCJTC; therefore, giving the WSCJTC access to their personnel files.

If the WSCJTC certifies tribal officers as tribal officers, the WSCJTC will also be able to decertify tribal officers as tribal officers.

Basic Law Enforcement Academy Funding

The WSCJTC has requested \$850,000 for the Basic Law Enforcement Academy. Approximately four years ago, the WSCJTC was training 12 classes in the Basic Law Enforcement Academy; however, the budget was bad across the state and agencies had to cut back in terms of hiring officers. Due to the cutbacks, the

WSCJTC went to eight classes rather than 12 per year. As a result of the cutback, the WSCJTC had an excess of \$1.2 million dollars, which the Legislature immediately took. Now, the economy is good and agencies are hiring more than in past years, which is creating a problem for the WSCJTC and the agencies. For the last academy class, there were approximately 90 applicants for a class of 36 students. The remaining 54 had to be put on a waiting list for future academies, which creates a problem for the law enforcement community.

The WSCJTC will need \$850,000 to train recruits for the next 18 months. The request is in the Governor's budget.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick asked if the 12 classes per year will catch the WSCJTC up with the backlog.

The Director stated that if it doesn't, the WSCJTC will make it happen.

Dormitory Replacement

The Director has been talking to legislators regarding Dorm One (Hawthorne). The WSCJTC submitted a capital budget request two years ago to replace the dormitory; however, it was not a priority due to other building programs with higher education and the DOC and other needs at the time. Although this is a short session, there have been some discussions with several legislators for the WSCJTC to get the as builts/architectural designs.

HB 1081

The WSCJTC is working with the author (Representative Joyce McDonald) of HB 1081. HB 1081 made it that all law enforcement officers and reserves would have to have a polygraph, background, and so on. The bill was worded incorrectly, so it implied that the polygraph examiner would basically certify voice recognition kinds of training, people to be trained in that, which they can't do. The WSCJTC has talked to the author of the bill who will introduce the changes to the Legislature.

Ms. Inglis stated that the bill is also unclear as to whether each time a person was employed by a different agency they would then need to take and pass the psychological and polygraph tests or if it was only after a break in service. The WSCJTC has also been working on this language as well.

Ms. Brezonick stated that, as it reads now, the tests would be required after any offer of employment; therefore, any time a law enforcement officer laterals to a different agency the tests would need to be taken. This was not the intent of the author of the bill. The WSCJTC is asking to add the language to read that the tests would only need to be taken when there has been more than a three-year break in service.

The Director stated that the bill was a result of the David Brame case in terms of how he was hired and why he was hired. The intent of the bill was to make sure that people had their backgrounds checked, passed a polygraph test, etc.

Scott Parsons Resignation

Scott Parsons has resigned from his position as the Manager of the Professional Development Division as he has decided to seek other opportunities.

The WSCJTC is now looking at options for filling that position.

Accreditation: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies

The WSCJTC passed the CALEA Accreditation, due to the hard work of Cheryl Price and others within the agency.

In March 2006, the WSCJTC will go before CALEA to make some comments. They will, at that time, receive the award.

The WSCJTC will be the first training academy, in the United States, to be accredited by both CALEA and the American Correctional Association (ACA).

Trainers Conference

The WSCJTC will hold its first Trainers Conference in the fall, which Steve Lettic will coordinate. The Conference will be a way to keep in touch with the trainers of the WSCJTC, to acknowledge how important they are, and provide updates.

Patch Display Boards

The Director thanked Sonja Hirsch, Tisha Ehret, and the others who helped collect the patches and assemble the boards.

OC Spray

The Director stated that when the Basic Law Enforcement Academy was conducting the 440-hour academy, rather than the current 720 hours, OC spray was not a mandated part of the training curriculum.

When the academy was converted to the 720-hours of training, OC spray was made part of the curriculum. The OC Spray segment has been taught to each recruit for the last five years and each recruit has been sprayed with OC Spray.

The Director stated that, as a law enforcement officer, if you are going to be using OC Spray the officer needs to know how to react to it, if it gets in their eyes during an encounter with an offender, in order not to get hurt.

Tacoma Police Department has been advised by their safety officers that there are some concerns from the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) and the potential for fines for spraying recruits directly in the face with OC Spray.

The Director stated that state of Washington and other states have been conducting this type of training for years. The WSCJTC has not had any litigation filed against it by L&I, have never been cited, and have never been contacted by a law enforcement agency, to the Director's knowledge, to voice an issue with the OC Spray training.

Mr. Bragg stated that the concern about OC Spray, and of course exposure to it, is to the eyes. As you look at the research, which was provided, it is more of an issue in regard to the specific products in OC Spray.

He stated that, according to research that has been conducted, essentially there is no damage to the eye by the use of OC Spray. Some recruits have been sent to the work clinic, but the biggest issue is irritation.

Mr. Bragg provided a packet of information on studies regarding the use of OC Spray.

Lieutenant Kelly stated that the Tacoma Police Department does not object to the exposure to OC Spray, they understand that it is a necessary part of training; their objection rises to the direct spray in the face. A discussion took place about possibly spraying in the chest area and allowing the fumes to rise up rather than directly into the face area.

Mr. LaRocque stated that if you intentionally spray into the eyes, in the face area, there are a small percentage of employees who are asthmatic and allergic to OC Spray and they can react to it. He stated that the WSCJTC has a tremendous liability applying it to this number of people. He stated that you do not put something that is a known irritant into someone's eyes on a routine basis.

It was brought up that a class would go through the OC training tomorrow and that there were Tacoma Police Department recruits in the class. It was confirmed by Lieutenant Kelly that the recruits would participate in the training.

Mr. Bragg stated that if the recruits were sprayed in the chest area rather than the face, it would be like watching a sports game versus actually playing the game. There is no comparison.

He stated that by simply breathing the OC, there tends to be more of a respiratory effect. The difference of simply breathing it rather than being sprayed with it is the reaction time is much different and the level of pain is much more intense if you are directly exposed.

The drills are called OC survival drills. The drills help prepare recruits for when they are exposed on the job, which most times occur during the act of an arrest.

The Assistant Commander stated that the recruit is instructed to stand there with their eyes and mouth closed. The target (a stream, not fog) is the forehead area above the eyes. The recruit then opens their eyes and goes through the drill of striking the dummy and retaining their weapon. It is very typical to see the pain reaction approximately half a second after the exposure.

The Director stated that he wants the Commissioners to be aware of the issues as far as the OC Spray, and the dialog concerning it will continue with the City of Tacoma. He stated that training, as it is, will continue.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Inglis stated that Brian Maxey will be taking over her position with the day-to-day advice to the WSCJTC. Brian Maxey is currently located in Olympia and will work with the DOC and the WSCJTC.

Shannon Inglis will be working strictly with the Washington State Patrol.

Commissioner McKenna thanked Shannon for her work with the WSCJTC.

He also stated that he has proposed to the Governor a review be done of 43.101.030, on membership, to add a representative of tribal law enforcement to the Commission. The Governor responded positively to the suggestion, so Commissioner McKenna asked the Commission to produce an analysis of issues that may be unknown. The Commissioner wanted to bring this topic to the Commission in the event that the Governor attaches this to the bill regarding the certification of tribal police officers.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:27 PM.

Next Meeting: March 8, 2006, at 10:00 AM

Written by:	_____	_____
	Sonja Hirsch, Confidential Secretary	Date
Reviewed by:	_____	_____
	Michael D. Parsons, Executive Director	Date
Approved by:	_____	_____
	Thomas Metzger, Commission Chair	Date