

WASHINGTON STATE CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION

19010 1st Avenue South, Burien, wa 98148

COMMISSION MEETING PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10 AM

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Myers (Chair), Chief, Hoquiam Police Department
Ken Hohenberg (Vice-Chair), Chief, Kennewick Police Department
Laura Wells, Citizen at Large - West
Kurtis Robinson, Citizen at Large - East
Tim Reynon, Tribal Representative, Puyallup Tribe
Brian Burnett, Sheriff, Chelan County
Joshua Kelsey, Sergeant, Lynnwood Police Department
Robert Latter, Sergeant, Clark County
Dan Satterberg, Prosecuting Attorney, King County
De'Sean Quinn, Councilman, City of Tukwila
Penelope Sapp, Lieutenant, Kitsap County Jail
Donald Voiret, SAC, FBI
Steve Sinclair, Secretary, Department of Corrections
Robert Snaza, Sheriff, Lewis County

WSCJTC STAFF PRESENT:

Monica Alexander, Interim Executive Director
Jerrell Wills, Deputy Director
Kevin Zeller, Assistant Director
Norma Moreno, Executive Assistant
Marisa Peer, Manager, Human Resources
Bart Hayes, Manager, Advanced Training Division
Johnny Alexander, Commander, Basic Training Division
Derek Zable, Manager, Government Affairs & Agency Records
Valerie Jenkins-Weaver, Manager, Corrections Certification
Ethan Swenson, Administrative Assistance, Information Technology Unit

GUESTS PRESENT:

Tienney Milnor, Assistant Attorney General, WA State Attorney General Justin Kato, Assistant Attorney General, WA State Attorney General Rob Huss, Captain, Washington State Patrol

OPENING

Jeff Myers, Commission Chair

Chair Myers called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

Norma Moreno conducted a roll call of the Commissioners. A quorum was present.

Chair Myers announced that this meeting was being hosted on Zoom instead of in-person. **Chair Myers** also announced that there would be no public comment period in the meeting due to the technology restrictions and concerns.

Chair Myers thanked Commissioner Sinclair for his service and time spent on the Commission and asked that his replacement have experience running a jail. Chair Myers thanked Commissioner Latter for his service and time spent on the Commission representing the Commission and community members of the state, noting how seriously he has taken his responsibilities. Chair Myers thanked Commissioner Wells for her service and time spent on the Commission, noting that her abilities and perspective will be missed on the Commission. Commissioner Wells' last Commission Meeting will be in June.

Introduction of New Commissioners

Chair Myers introduced to the Commission three new Commissioners: Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Reynon, and Commissioner Voiret who each shared a bit about themselves to the Commission.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Myers called for review and approval of the meeting minutes from December 2020 and January 2021.

Commissioner Snaza moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Kelsey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with the exception of Commissioners Robinson and Reynon, who abstained.

Executive Director Search

Chair Myers nominated the following Commissioners to be a part of the selection committee responsible for determining the Executive Director search process: Commissioners Burnett, Kelsey, Reynon, Robinson, Sapp, and lead by Vice-Chair Hohenberg.

Commissioner Snaza moved to approve the nominations. Commissioner Latter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Position on Commission Structure - Senate Bill 5051

Chair Myers brought the proposed personnel changes to the Commission, as proposed by Senate Bill 5051 to the attention of the Commission.

Commissioner Wells shared her fear that if the Commission replaces one sheriff, one chief, and one line officer with community members, the Commission will lose consistency, and her belief those voices are needed. She believes those positions inform and educate those without law enforcement experience and assist the Commission to make good decisions. She stressed the importance of maintaining a balance between law enforcement and community members.

Commissioner Wells further went on to repeat an earlier quote from Commissioner Robinson that it is really important to socialize best practices on both sides of the badge.

Commissioner Quinn mentioned the Commission has a responsibility to the state and its communities and asked if the Commission is doing enough. Commissioner Robinson stated it should be the goal of the Commission to address things known to be problematic.

Commissioner Burnett expressed his opinion having representations of law enforcement in local communities is important. Commissioner Reynon pointed out the agency is filled with

subject matter experts who can inform the Commission, that the proposed legislative bill balances out with people of color and affected family members.

Chair Myers mentioned that expanding the size of the Commission would allow for all voices to be kept. Commissioner Snaza declared that adding non law enforcement individuals to the Commission would continue to facilitate engaging conversations. Commissioner Robinson recommended that the Commission support SB 5051 as is. Commissioner Wells shared her belief the three law enforcement positions be added back into SB 5051 to bring the Commission total up to 20 Commissioners. Commissioner Robinson shared he could support that position as it would bring balance to the Commission. Commissioner Satterberg shared with the Commission he has benefitted from the experience of law enforcement officers. Commissioner Quinn advised whatever decision is made be publicized and socialized. Commissioner Kelsey did not believe the Commission should take an official position on pending legislation. Commissioner Robinson disagreed. Commissioner Wells stated that overall support of SB 5051 is problematic due to how expansive the bill was in current form. Director Alexander instructed the Commission they would have a better chance of getting the change to 20 Commissioners if the Commission supported it. Chair Myers asked about the possibility of limiting the focus of support to be solely on the Commission makeup aspect of the bill. Commissioner Wells offered up the option to have alternate Commissioners in the event law enforcement Commissioners cannot be present for a meeting. Commissioner Reynon expressed support for SB 5051 as currently written and is open to considering the idea of alternate law enforcement Commissioners if the positions are removed from the Commission makeup. Chair Myers stated that utilizing alternates can get unwieldy very quickly.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Monica Alexander, Interim Executive Director

Organizational Structure Changes and Staff Introductions

Director Alexander informed the Commission of organizational changes and new staff hires. Previous manager of the Applied Skills Training Division, Jerrell Wells, has been promoted to Deputy Director, and will oversee all training divisions. Kevin Zeller has been hired as Assistant Director and will oversee Certification and the Support Units. Bart Hayes has been hired as the new Advanced Training Division Manager. Norma Moreno is the new Executive Assistant, replacing Marisa Peer who is now Human Resources Manager. Taking over as the Applied Skills Training Division Manager is Sean Hendrickson. Scott Wells is transitioning from TAC Officer to the LETCSA Program Manager. Former Commander Rick Bowen will be retiring as the 21 CPL & Building Public Trust Program Manager and taking his place will be Mike Devine.

BLEA Update

Director Alexander updated the Commission there are currently seven basic training academy classes and one correction academy class operating at the time of the meeting. **Director Alexander** informed the Commission the wait time from application to enrollment is approximately two months.

Attorney General's Report

Director Alexander discussed the agency's response to the Attorney General's report, that CR101 has been filed with the Code Revisor's office to begin the WAC review process and have selected two dates for meetings in the coming weeks to discuss the negotiated rulemaking

changes. CR102 will be filed with the Code Revisor's office by mid-April with the Commission's first review at the upcoming June 9, 2021, Commission Meeting with regards to compliance with the Independent Investigation Team protocols.

Legislative Update

Director Alexander alerted the Commission the agency has requested additional FTEs based on the nature of the legislative mandates. A full budget report will be provided in the next Commission Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Variance Request

Valerie Jenkins-Weaver, Corrections Certification Manager

Valerie Jenkins-Weaver provided the Commissioners with a packet containing variance request for Trevor Hansen of the Port Townsend Police Department.

Commissioner Kelsey moved to deny the variance request for Trevor Hansen.

Commissioner Burnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The variance was denied.

Canine Evaluator Applications

Valerie Jenkins-Weaver, Corrections Certification Manager

Valerie Jenkins-Weaver provided canine evaluator applications for Roland Garcio of the King County Sheriff's Office and Todd Belitz of the Spokane Police Department in the patrol discipline.

After reviewing the applications, **Commissioner Wells** moved to approve them. **Commissioner Sapp** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously**.

OLD BUSINESS

Reserve Program WAC Review – 1st Reading

Tom Hill, FTO, PTO, Reserves Academies Program Manager

Tom Hill read to the Commission the first reading for Reserves Program WAC.

WAC 139-05-800 addresses a tier training process for new reserves through the Reserves Academy, with Level 1 requiring 248 hours of training. Following graduation of Level 1, a reserve officer requires an additional 640 hours of training to receive certification for a Level 2 status, which includes 150 hours with an FTO/PTO and 490 hours with a certified peace officer.

Commissioner Snaza asked what mechanisms exist to ensure completion of those training hours. Tom Hill responded that the mechanism is signed attestations. Commissioner Latter sought clarity if post-academy training allows for the inclusion of first aid and other various trainings or if it is limited to hours spent with a FTO, further pointing out the WAC, as written, does not take away the permissibility of agencies to allow reserve officers make traffic stops or operate patrol vehicles. Commissioner Wells requested if it was possible for a signature acknowledging post-academy training be required when applying to the Reserve Academy. Tom Hill indicated that the same application used by BLEA is used for the Reserve Academy but that a new form can be designed specifically for reserves. Commissioner Snaza

addressed concerns regarding post-academy training inconsistencies. Chair Myers pointed out that this WAC mentions Reserve Level 1 certification does not occur until after signing the training attestation, which is in place to address aforementioned inconsistencies.

Commissioner Reynon pointed out exigent circumstances are included in the WAC which could be used to circumvent restrictions. Chair Myers further expanded upon that, stating the definition of exigent becomes important. Tom Hill mentioned that this was written in an attempt to not handcuff agencies and their use of reserves. Commissioner Reynon made a recommendation to clarify the phrase exigent circumstances. Commissioner Latter suggests more restrictive language in the WAC.

Commissioner Reynon moved to amend the language in WAC 139-05-800 section 2B to read as follows, "... except in exigent circumstances, at that moment, at the discretion of the sponsoring agency, for a singular event, a Level 1 Reserve shall not be regularly assigned to work unsupervised or to operate a patrol vehicle." Commissioner Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Latter moved to amend the language in WAC 139-05-800 section 3C subsection 6 to strike, "...work as a solo officer car..." and replace with, "...work in conjunction with full time officers to augment..." Commissioner Reynon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

WAC 139-05-810 provides clarification on when reserves can apply unless certification eligibility has been reinstated, as officers who have had their certification revoked or suspended cannot apply.

WAC 139-05-810 Section 4 establishes that reserves must attend an academy within the first 6-months, utilizing the same language included in the BLEA WAC. **Chair Myers** suggested changing, "hire," to, "appointment as a reserve officer."

WAC 139-05-810 Section 9 removed redundant language. Commissioner Snaza asked if these WACs address when reserves can wear uniforms. Tom Hill answered by stating that this is not addressed. Commissioner Wells inquired whether language exists in the WACs preventing officers from representing their agency prior to receiving their training. Commissioner Burnett indicated this is not addressed in the WACs and is instead determined by individual agencies as a matter of liability.

WAC 139-05-825 deconflicted with WAC 139-05-800, and clarified the basic training program does not include other training programs not approved by the Commission. **Chair Myers** shared a need to revise this WAC to address the retention of retirees as reserves.

WAC 139-05-825 Section 3C reads all state officers will start as Reserve Level 1.

Commissioner Burnett pointed out agencies would need to have a trackable program. Chair Myers stated the Commission should require post-academy training.

WAC 139-05-824 Section 8 establishes approving instructors and associated timeframes. Commissioner Reynon mentioned sections C-E state records of training but fails to mention de-escalation or I-940 mandated training. Tom Hill responded by stating I-940 exempted reserves but that de-escalation training is integrated throughout the Reserve Academy, though it requires the correct instructors to do so, as the Commission does not supply instructors for the Reserve Academy.

Public Record Request WAC Cleanup

Derek Zable, Government Affairs and Agency Records Manager

Derek Zable proposed to the Commission a change in WAC 139-02-040 which establishes how to contact and get records from the agency, specifically to clarify contact information, eliminating a fax line, updating the email address, and updating the website address.

Commissioner Kelsey moved to accept the changes to WAC 139-02-040 as proposed. **Commissioner Reynon** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Myers announced that there would be no executive session. **Chair Myers** asked if anyone had anything further. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 1:48 PM.

	Next Meeting: June 9, 2021, 10 AM, WSCJTC	
Written by:	Monuell Morcio	6/9/2121
	Norma Moreno, Executive Assistant	Date
Reviewed by:	Monica Alexander, Interim Executive Director	<u></u>
Approved by:	Jeff Myers, Commission Chair	0-15-9031 Date

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



INTEGRITY

DIGNITY

COMMITMENT

PRIDE

Adam Fortney, Sheriff

June 16, 2021

Criminal Justice Training Commission 19010 1st Ave S Burien, WA 98148

Re: Deputy Arthur Wallin #1464

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter in support of Deputy Arthur Wallin, #1464, as a canine evaluator for the CJTC. Deputy Wallin has my full support as an evaluator for CJTC to certify canine teams on department time, as approved.

Deputy Wallin has served the citizens of Snohomish County for 15 years and has been actively involved in the WSPCA since 2007. Additionally, Deputy Wallin has been our K9 Patrol Generalist Handler since 2013 and Master Handler since 2018.

Thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Fortney

Snohomish County Sheriff