

AGENDA POLICE STANDARDS ADVISORY COUNCIL

DATE: April 10, 2024

TO: Police Standards Advisory Council

FROM: Mark Stephenson, Director

SUBJECT: Meeting Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 9:00 A.M.
Library, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center
3600 North Academy Road, Grand Island, Nebraska 68803

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF MARCH 20, 2024 P.S.A.C. MINUTES

III. REPORTS

- A. Director – N.L.E.T.C.
- B. Deputy Director of Training – N.L.E.T.C.
- C. Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy
- D. Crime Commission Report

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Academy Instructor Applications

Attachment 1

Legal Original-Voting Item

Michael Wehling-Nebraska State Patrol



General Original-Voting Item

Ashley Green-Nebraska State Patrol
Jennifer Russell-Nebraska State Patrol

Professional Renewal-Voting Item

Dion Neumiller-Nebraska State Patrol

B. Waiver of Management Training In-Lieu-Of NLETC Management

1. Cory Halverson-Nebraska State Patrol-Voting Item **Attachment 2**
2. Sean Wilson-Nebraska State Patrol-Voting Item **Attachment 3**

C. Waiver of Supervision Training In-Lieu-Of NLETC Supervision

Justin Brase-Nebraska State Patrol-Voting Item **Attachment 4**

D. NCO's Eligible for Automatic Extension-Voting Item

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>16 week deadline</u>
Justin Jorgensen	Blair PD	7/31/2024
Matthew Garrelts	Gosper Co. SO	7/23/2024
Wesley Throckmorton	Lincoln Co. SO	7/8/2024
Nathaniel Hutton	Lincoln Co. SO	7/15/2024
Justin Niewohner	Madison PD	8/18/2024
Hannah Schoen	Nebraska City PD	8/5/2024
Lucas Geyer	Richardson Co. SO	7/22/2024
Louis Lamb II	Valentine PD	8/5/2024

E. Basic Police Academy/Academy Staffing-Discussion Item

Kevin Denney-Grand Island Police Department

E. Appeal Director's Denial to Attend Basic Training-Voting Item

1. Dayton Bell-Dixon County Sheriff's Office (24 PSAC 99) **Attachment 5**
2. Dexter Taft-Cass County Sheriff's Office (24 PSAC 100) **Attachment 6**

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Informational Items

1. Trainees-No action needed.

Tyrel Hoatson-Alliance PD
Joshua Bayly-Blair PD

Nathaniel Lousberg-Kimball Co. SO
Addison Halverson-North Platte PD

Anthony Faz-Buffalo Co. SO
Jaden Acevedo Avalos-Crete PD
Dayton Bell-Dixon Co. SO
Noah Miranda-Fremont PD
Tyson McFarland-Fremont PD
Jason Derr-Grand Island PD
Cheyenne DuBose-Grand Island PD
Walter Teepe-Grand Island PD
Carlos Parra Loya-Grand Island PD
James Sacco-Hastings PD

Bradley Clinesmith-North Platte PD
Ayla Yates-Otoe Co. SO
Joshua Ulrich-Otoe Co. SO
Kevin Cravey-Plattsmouth PD
Khamden Cone-Polk Co. SO
Jennifer Dotson-Monroe-Polk Co. SO
Joseph Beesom-Schuyler PD
Shane Luehm-Valley Co. SO
Jacob Wiers-Washington Co. SO

2. NCO Completed 80 hours of Training-No action needed.

Matthew Garrelts-Gosper County Sheriff's Office
Justin Jorgensen-Blair Police Department
Cory Waychoff-Keith County Sheriff's Office

B. Date, Time & Location of Next Meeting

May 15, 2024, 9:00 a.m., Library, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, 3600 North Academy Road, Grand Island, Nebraska 68801

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
POLICE STANDARDS ADVISORY COUNCIL
March 20, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Sergeant Drew Bolzer called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Legal notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on March 13, 2024. Roll call; Sgt. Drew Bolzer, Lt. Col. Buck Duis, Chief Paul Graham, Asst. Chief Brian Jackson, Chief Deputy Greg London, Sheriff Dan Osmond, Chief Steve Reeves. Mr. Matt McCarthy and Deputy Chief Sherie Thomas were absent from the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 21, 2024 P.S.A.C. MINUTES

Sgt. Bolzer asked if there was a motion to approve the February minutes.

Asst. Chief Jackson pointed out a correction. On the list for the military continuing education waivers, Jason Papke's name was spelled incorrectly. The error was corrected before the motion.

MOTION

Chief Deputy London: I'll make a motion for approval. Sgt. Bolzer: With that amendment? Chief Deputy London: Yes sir. Chief Graham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham, Asst. Chief Jackson, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer. Motion approved.

III. REPORTS

A. Director's Report

Director Mark Stephenson reported that he had received responses from the Nebraska State Patrol, Omaha Police Department and the Douglas County Sheriff's Office regarding the proposed core topics for Supervision and Management courses. Once these are finalized they will be on a future agenda for the PSAC.

NLETC is continuing to work on the Hiring Bonus initiative.



There are 29 approved applications for the 217th Basic Training Session. 14 applications are in process. If all of the packets that are still in the application process are approved the session will start with 48 students. The deadline for application is March 29th. There were 2 applications for the next basic that were denied and will most likely be on the April agenda for appeal hearings.

The continuing education audit was sent out to the agencies on March 12th. Thirty agencies were selected for the audit. Six of the agencies have returned documentation. The deadline for the audit is April 15, 2024.

Director Stephenson introduced Kristine Sabata as the new compliance coordinator on the NLETC standard's team.

B. Deputy Director's Report

Deputy Director Gene Boner reported that the 216th Basic class is down to 45 students from the original 50 that started the training.

The following training was reported:

- Field Training Officer Training-21 students enrolled
- Criminal Interdiction Training-16 students enrolled
- Online Management Course-14 students enrolled

Deputy Director Boner announced the hiring of Jesse Parker for the Defensive Tactics Instructor position. Mr. Parker comes from the Grand Island Police Department with 17 years of law enforcement experience. He will begin on March 25, 2024. The SFST coordinator position had 2 people interviewed. The initial offer for employment will be sent on March 20, 2024.

C. Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy

Captain Andy Ecklund reported that there are currently 13 recruits in Camp 69. Captain Ecklund reported on past and future training for the camp.

D. Crime Commission Report

Executive Director Bryan Tuma reported on the following items:

- Acknowledged Asst. Chief Jackson as he will be stepping down from the Council and retiring in May. Jason Stille of the Lincoln Police Department has been appointed by the Governor as his replacement on the Council.
- Misconduct cases: Ten cases were delivered to the Attorney General's office for review. Executive Director Tuma recommended to the

Governor's office of the need to hire another legal person to handle the misconduct/revocation cases. It was recommended that Executive Director Tuma look into using a contract for services concept.

- There has been discussion with the Governor's office about establishing a Post. There would be a separation of Post duties and training duties. Executive Director Tuma asked for feedback from the Council. Any legislative and budget requests would need to be submitted around July 2024.
- Executive Director Tuma is planning to identify an additional attorney as agency legal counsel that can work with Mr. Stolz. The position has been approved. The hiring process would start around July 2024.
- Executive Director Tuma suggested that there needed to be a point of contact person hired for all things relating to the expansion project. This would take pressure off of NLETC and NSP who wouldn't have to deal with the engineers and construction people during the project.
- Executive Director Tuma is realigning the Grants staff at the Crime Commission. He is also realigning the Pardons process to help approve that process.
- The design process of the expansion project is nearly completed. The cost estimates will be drawn up before the bid proposals. The bid process is scheduled to begin in early summer and hopefully by early to late fall the construction can begin. Executive Director Tuma asked if the Council would be interested in a presentation from DAS and Dewberry on the expansion project. The consensus was that the Council would like a presentation.

Asst. Chief Jackson asked if there was an update on Title 79 Chapter 8. Mr. Stolz responded that the Governor had signed Chapter 8 on March 11th. The Secretary of State reported that Chapter 8 would go in effect on March 25th. The statute says that it should go into effect five days after the Governor signs it. The Secretary of State then sent an update that Chapter 8 would be effective as of March 16, 2024.

IV. Old Business

A. Nebraska Revised Statute 81-1462 Hiring Bonus Grant

Director Mark Stephenson presented the application and the Policy and Practice Statement for the hiring bonus grant. It was suggested to add the last four digits of the social security number to the application to make easier to identify the

individuals applying for the bonus. Asst. Chief Jackson pointed out a mistake of wording on the Policy Statement. Director Stephenson recommended that the Council approve the Policy Statement and application. Sheriff Osmond asked where the application and information would be posted for people to access it. Mr. Stephenson responded that it would be on the website and sent out to the agencies by email in the Director's update. It will also be on NCJIS. It would be effective immediately after approval and would be retroactive to January 1, 2024.

Sgt. Bolzer asked if there was a motion.

MOTION

Chief Deputy London: I'll make a motion that we accept the Policy and Practice Statement and have the typo corrected and also we should approve the application for the law enforcement hiring bonus grant with the addition of the last four social security. Chief Graham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Chief Graham, Asst. Chief Jackson, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis. Motion approved.

B. Continuing Education Medical Waiver Cody Kruse-Fremont Police Department

Director Mark Stephenson reported that Cody Kruse's waiver form that was discussed and approved during executive session at the February meeting. His name was not listed on the agenda. Sgt. Bolzer clarified that his waiver was approved. Mr. Stolz recommended another vote to keep the record clear.

MOTION

Sheriff Osmond: I'll make a motion that we approve the continuing education medical waiver for Cody Kruse of the Fremont Police Department. Asst. Chief Jackson seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Asst. Chief Jackson, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham. Motion approved.

V. New Business

A. PSD Program Update

Mike Kerby-Police Service Dog Program Administrator reported on the program updates.

- On January 5, 2024, the new Handler Control Dog Team Certification was administered to a recently trained PSD team at the Omaha Police

Department. Mr. Kerby and several judges were in attendance to oversee, assess, and work out any bugs in the process.

- On April 2-3, 2024 a Judge/Evaluator in-service training will take place at NLETC. All of the judges and evaluators in the State will be in attendance to bring them up to speed on the implementation of the PSAC approved certification standards.
 - Mr. Stolz will be presenting a case law update.
 - Mr. Kerby will be presenting a Canine Psychology/Cynology review.
 - Classroom overview of the recently approved standards.
 - There will be a field application of the standards and grading requirements.
- After the completion of the in-service, the judges will begin the periodic auditing process of the evaluators as per Chapter 18.
- There are no immediate plans to conduct a new evaluator training session. There is currently only one officer interested. Future evaluator training will be held at NLETC.
- The curriculum for both Patrol and Detector Evaluator training has been completed. It will be a 4-day program with both classroom and field applications. A perspective Evaluator will understudy with a judge who will determine when they are competent to perform the duties of an evaluator and at that time they will be certified.

Lt. Col. Duis asked if there was a minimum number of evaluations that a prospective evaluator would have to complete before being certified. Mr. Kerby responded that there was not a minimum set. It is left to the judges to determine if an evaluator is competent. Asst. Chief Jackson asked for clarification if this was all in-line with Title 79, Chapter 18. Mr. Kerby responded that it was. No action was needed.

B. Academy Instructor Applications

Professional Original

Derek Dittman-Lincoln PD
Elizabeth Herink-NE State Patrol

Kevin Meyer-Lincoln PD

After review by the NLETC staff, Deputy Director Boner recommends approval of all of the Professional Original academy instructor applications as presented in the agenda.

MOTION

Sheriff Osmond: I'll make the motion to approve the Professional Original Instructor applications for Derek Dittman and Kevin Meyer of the Lincoln Police Department and Elizabeth Herink of the Nebraska State Patrol for the subject areas that are marked approved on the instructor application provided in the agenda packet. Chief Deputy London seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham. **Abstained:** Asst. Chief Jackson. **Motion approved**

C. SDLEA-Firearms and Patrol Rifle Instructor Course Curriculum Approval

Deputy Director Gene Boner reported that SDLEA has submitted the curriculum for the Firearms Instructor, Firearms Instructor Recertification, Patrol Rifle Instructor, and Patrol Rifle Instructor Recertification courses. The curriculum has been reviewed and approved by Staff Instructor Hoagland. Deputy Director Boner recommended that the Council approve the curriculum.

MOTION

Asst. Chief Jackson: I will make a motion for the approval of the SDLEA Firearms Instructor and Patrol Rifle Instructor curriculum as recommended by NLETC staff for the upcoming year. Sheriff Osmond seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham, Asst. Chief Jackson. **Abstained:** Chief Deputy London. **Motion approved.**

D. Lincoln Police Department-Firearms and Patrol Rifle Instructor Course Curriculum Approval

Deputy Director Gene Boner reported that the Lincoln Police Department Academy has submitted the curriculum for the Firearms Instructor, Firearms Instructor Recertification, Patrol Rifle Instructor, and Patrol Rifle Instructor Recertification courses. The curriculum has been reviewed and approved by NLETC Staff Instructor Hoagland. Deputy Director Boner recommended that the Council approve the curriculum.

MOTION

Chief Deputy London: So moved. Sheriff Osmond seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond. Abstained: Asst. Chief Jackson. Motion approved.

E. Douglas County Sheriff's Office Request to Conduct Supervision

Director Mark Stephenson presented the Douglas County Sheriff's Office's request to conduct their own Supervision course in-lieu-of the NLETC course. The Douglas County curriculum meets the state standards for Supervision. Director Stephenson recommended that the Council approve the request of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office to conduct their own Supervision course.

MOTION

Chief Deputy London: I'll make a motion to approve the Douglas County Sheriff's Office request to conduct Supervision course. Chief Graham seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION

Asst. Chief Jackson asked if the course would be open to other agencies. Director Stephenson responded that it is not a requirement at this time but the course would be open to the SDLEA agencies.

Voting in favor: Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham, Asst. Chief Jackson, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves. Motion approved.

F. Firearms Instructor/Patrol Rifle Instructor In-Lieu-Of NLETC Courses

Cody Admundson-BNSF Railway Police Department

Director Mark Stephenson reported that BNSF Railway P.D. has requested that his curriculum from the National Rifle Association be accepted for Handgun and Patrol Rifle Instructor. NLETC Staff Instructor Hoagland reviewed the NRA curriculum and found that it meets the Chapter 11 requirements. Director Stephenson recommended that approval contingent on the completion of the apprenticeship hours for the handgun course as well as completing the State instructor qualification for both handgun and patrol rifle. Mr. Admundson could complete the qualifications when he was at NLETC for the apprenticeship hours. Asst. Chief Jackson asked if it was a one year approval. Director Stephenson responded that it would be good for three years and his recertification courses would be completed at NLETC. Chief Deputy London asked for Director Stephenson to spell out what the motion would be. Director Stephenson responded to approve Cody Admundson's request for the handgun and patrol rifle instructor courses in-lieu-of the NLETC courses contingent upon his

attendance of the 12 hour apprenticeship and completion of the State handgun and rifle instructor qualification.

MOTION

Chief Deputy London: So moved. Asst. Chief Jackson seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham, Asst. Chief Jackson, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer. Motion approved.

G. NCO's Eligible for Automatic Extension

Dameion Cornell-Warburton-Webster Co SO
Deion Hulse-York Co SO
Violet Kluck-Aurora PD
Courtney Larsen-UNK PD

Director Mark Stephenson reported that all of the listed individuals have met the qualifications for the automatic extension and recommended that the Council grant the extensions.

MOTION

Asst. Chief Jackson: I would make a motion to grant the automatic extension of Dameion Cornell-Warburton, Deion Hulse, Violet Kluck, and Courtney Larsen as outlined in the agenda. Sheriff Osmond seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Asst. Chief Jackson, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis. Abstained: Chief Graham. Motion approved.

H. Revocation-Voluntary Surrender

Nicole Kruse-LR-232-22

Mr. Stolz entered one exhibit. Exhibit 1 is the Consent to Revocation of Law Enforcement Certificate and notice of waiver of hearing for Nicole Kruse. Sgt. Bolzer accepted the exhibit, and it was entered into the record.

Mr. Stolz provided the factual summary of the details leading up to the revocation. Mr. Stolz asked that the Council accept the relinquishment and recommends that Nicole Kruse's Law Enforcement certificate be revoked for violation of her code of ethics per Nebraska Revised Statute 81-1403(6)(c). Specifically in her code of ethics that she signed on September 8, 2014, she avowed, "I shall conduct myself at all times in a manner that does not damage or

have the likely result of damaging or bringing the public image, integrity, and reputation of the agency or myself into discredit or disrespect.”

MOTION

Asst. Chief Jackson: I'll make a motion. Based on the fact that the respondent has signed a Consent to Revocation of Law Enforcement Certificate and waiver of notice and hearing and has voluntarily surrendered her certificate, which is the Nebraska Law Enforcement certificate, I make a motion that the Council accept the surrender of Nicole Kruse's Nebraska Law Enforcement Certificate based on the recommendation outlined by Counsel David Stolz. Said revocation to be effective upon review and acceptance of the surrender by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. Sheriff Osmond seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Asst. Chief Jackson, Chief Deputy London, Sheriff Osmond, Chief Reeves, Sgt. Bolzer, Lt. Col. Duis, Chief Graham. Motion approved.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Informational Items

1. Trainees: The trainees were listed on the agenda for the Council's information. No action needed.
2. NCO's Completed 80 hours of training: Those who had completed the 80 hours of training were listed on the agenda for the Council's information. No action needed.

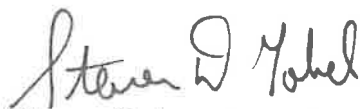
Sgt. Bolzer clarified that he would not be able to attend the April meeting. Sgt. Bolzer asked the Council to let their April attendance be known to ensure a quorum or a rescheduled meeting.

B. Date, Time & Location of Next Meeting

April 17, 2024, 9:00 A.M., Library, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, 3600 North Academy Road, Grand Island, Nebraska 68801.

Hearing no further business, Chairman Bolzer adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Gobel, Council Secretary