

Law Enforcement Advisory Board

April 25th, 2022 – Minutes

1. Call to Order – 0935 hours

Members present included Shawn Burke, Matthew Romei, Anthony Facos, Jennifer Harlow, Jason Batchelder, Matt Valerio, Heather Simons, Gwynn Zakov, John Campbell, Michael Schirling, and John Federico.

The Law Enforcement Advisory Board meeting was held via the Microsoft Teams application due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The in-person option for this meeting was held in the Robert Miller Community Room – 19 Gregory Drive South Burlington, Vermont.

2. Agenda Additions

None

3. January 24th, 2022 Minutes

Matt Valerio made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Director Facos – no further discussion.

4. Body Worn Camera Policy Update

The board members present were prepared to take testimony from stakeholders on the model BWC issued by the Vermont Criminal Justice Council in 2022. The relevant stakeholders were not prepared or not in attendance. Representatives of the LEAB agreed to revisit this agenda item its next scheduled meeting.

5. The role of the LEAB and the model CEW policy.

During the audit process of the VPA / VCJC a question was posed to Chief Burke regarding the LEAB's role in updating the model CEW policy. Chief Burke explained to the LEAB that there are some inconsistencies in the direction given to the LEAB by virtue of the 2016 legislation (Act 180) and the more recent legislation related to the new use of force policy. By all appearances the new state-wide model use of force policy has the contemporary CEW policy in place – in fact addressing the question raised by the audit.

Director Simons advised that the audit process has been illuminating on a number of issues. Director Simons advised that once the audit process is complete she anticipates a number of areas will undergo review.

Chief Romei raised an issue related to the Vermont specific CEW training. The discussion revealed that the training is available but, the audit may indicate that the training standard may not have been adopted universally.

6. Next meeting date

July 25th, 2022 at 0930 hours – Teams / In person at 19 Gregory Drive South Burlington, VT

7. Meeting adjourned