

Law Enforcement Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes of Meeting
June 27, 2013

- Rick Gauthier called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm with Board members: Glen Button, Paco Aumand, Jim Leene, Karen Horn, Major Goodell, Mike O'Neil, and non-board members Jonathan Williams, and Suellen Royea present. Cindy Maguire joined the meeting at 1:06 pm and Tom Hanley joined the meeting at 1:12 pm.
- **Minutes from last meeting:** Paco Aumand made a motion to accept the minutes from April 4, 2013. The motion was seconded by Glen Button. Motion carried.
- **Discussion Regarding Tasers:** Rick Gauthier opened the discussion by reporting that Bill Sorrell attended the last Council meeting to request a review of their Taser training. At the meeting there was some discussion about the differences between training and policies. The Training Council is working on a draft training course for September. Cindy Maguire gave a presentation to the Board about Bill Sorrell's request for the Law Enforcement Advisory Board to conduct a formal review of state policies regarding Electronic Control Devices (ECD)/Tasers. Some of the topics to look at may include a threshold for training, a threshold for deployment, guidance on reporting of these incidents/a central repository, and mental health situations. Cindy reported that the Attorney General's Office held a public forum and was able to gather copies of current policies from many police departments. She also reported that the Act 80 Advisory group will be meeting tomorrow. She noted that this group assisted with developing the law enforcement officers training to recognize individuals experiencing mental health issues. There was some discussion regarding different trainings and policies. It was noted that there are about 38 agencies carrying tasers and Vermont State Police have over 200 officers carrying them. A question was asked about if the Attorney General's Office was looking for a template or a set statewide policy for everyone. It was noted that one policy may not fit every agency. Cindy suggested that it may be both a model policy ready to be adopted and key elements for an agency to create their own policy; similar to the Board's work on Fair and Impartial Policing. Rick Gauthier will send out a copy of the Attorney General's letter to Board members. Cindy volunteered to be an active participant in a sub-committee, if created. There was agreement for the Board to begin work on this request. A short discussion was held regarding how to proceed; to create a sub-committee, the entire Board take testimony, or a combination of both. Paco Aumand made a motion to form a sub-committee to review existing policies and draft a model policy and for the Board to take testimony. The motion was seconded by Glen Button. Motion carried. Paco Aumand requested to add that the Chair could appoint members. The group agreed. Rick Gauthier asked for volunteers. Those volunteering included Rick Gauthier, Cindy Maguire or designee, Tom Hanley, Major Goodell or designee and possibly Keith Clark (Rick will reach out to him as he was not present). Cindy thanked the group. A brief discussion was held about use of force training.

- No Old Business was discussed.

- New Business:
 - **S.148 – FOIA, Public Records and Criminal Investigations:** Karen Horn reported the Vermont League of Cities and Towns participated in the discussions for the passage of S.148–FOIA. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns attorneys are concerned about some local police departments’ ability to properly review FOIA requests without any training and recommend police departments to consult with their agency’s attorney before releasing information and to take the 10 days. There was some discussion regarding the changes to the statutes and how to interpret Section 5. It was noted that Section 5 relates only to criminal records and that once the case goes to court, there are different laws. A suggestion was made to give just gender, age and location in press releases, affidavits, etc. Karen was just looking to make sure everyone was aware of these changes.

 - Jim Leene made a motion to have summer time meetings in his conference room. There was no second to the motion.

- **Next Meeting:** The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 22, 2013 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Public Safety Headquarters. Rick Gauthier will set up something with the sub-committee.

- Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.