

Law Enforcement Advisory Board
DPS Headquarters, 3rd Floor Large Conference Room, Waterbury VT
Minutes of Meeting
December 20, 2018

- Chair Richard Gauthier called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm with the following present: Commissioner Tom Anderson, Department of Public Safety; Colonel Matthew Birmingham, Vermont State Police; Sheriff Bill Bohnyak Vermont Sheriff's Association; Kraig LaPorte, U. S. Attorney's Office; Nelson Tift, Vermont Constable Association; Thomas Hanley, Vermont Chief's Association (via conference call); Seth DiSanto (Newport PD, via conference call); Jason Batchelder, F&W; Lt. John Flannigan, VSP; Captain James Whitcomb, VSP; and Suellen Royea, DPS/CJS. The quorum requirements were met.
- **Review Minutes from August 15, 2018: William Bohnyak made a motion to accept the minutes. Nelson Tift seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Agenda Changes:** Tom Anderson requested to add an update on E-Ticket.
- **Old Business:**
 - **Law Enforcement Legislative Meeting Update:** It was reported that the group met in October and identified the following goals: expungements, marijuana and oral fluid testing. It was noted that the Council meets monthly during the session to review issues that arise. A suggestion made was to hold the next LEAB meeting later in January. An additional note was that the Governor's Marijuana Commission recently approved oral fluid testing.
- **New Business:**
 - **DRE Statewide Manager Position Move to Council:** Rick Gauthier reviewed the Council created a sub-committee to review the proposal; invitations were sent out, and two (2) to three (3) meeting dates will be determined for January. Maintaining the quality of the program and funding were major concerns discussed. One funding suggestion was to reallocate a portion of the current GHSP Grant to support this position. (George Merkel arrived at 1:19 pm). It was noted that GHSP is now State Highway Safety Office. Some thoughts/suggestions included: to start the position as full time as the program will most likely grow; may need more DREs in certain areas; and create a fact sheet for the Legislators that shows when the program started and where the program is now. Rick Gauthier will keep the group updated on the sub-committee status.
 - **Dispatch Report:** Rick Gauthier reviewed the proposed dispatch report for developing statewide dispatch services. The proposal included: an increase in the universal service fund as a funding source, a management model similar to the SIU model to include an overview committee, and responsibility to be maintained at the local level. It was thought that this would follow the 911 or SIU boards where the board would establish funding/baseline of services and would encourage regional dispatching. Some concerns expressed included that the Governor is not likely to support an increase in taxes and the creation of another board that does not answer to anyone. Some discussion was held regarding including this report as an LEAB product in our annual report. There was

concern expressed regarding the identified funding. However, with the addition of language noting other possible funding options and oversight, support for including this report in our annual report could be given. Rick Gauthier will review the report and forward changes for Board review.

- **E-Ticket Update:** Tom Anderson shared that the prototype works, interface with Courts works, the funding source for hardware is available through NHTSA, and funding for maintaining the software has been secured through VTrans. The next step is to continue rolling out the program. Some concern was expressed regarding how the program works in remote areas and the cost. It was noted that there are no current plans to mandate participation.
 - **2018 Annual Report:** It was noted that the Dispatch report, DRE position, and an E-Ticket update will be included in the LEAB Annual report. Rick Gauthier will update the Dispatch report and write the DRE section; Tom Anderson will write an update on E-Ticket. The report due date is January 15, 2019.
- **Next Meeting, January 16, 2019:** To be scheduled later in January.
 - **Adjournment:** Colonel Birmingham made a motion to adjourn. Bill Bohnyak seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2: 02 pm.