



TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Minimum Standards for Law Enforcement Agencies October 9, 2023

On Monday, October 9, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., an advisory committee meeting for the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) was held at the TCOLE Headquarters, 2nd Floor, Training Room, 6330 East Highway 290, Austin, Texas, 78723.

Committee members attending were: Roy Boyd, Jaime Ayala, Bill Avera, Paul Christ, Solomon Cook, Bob Lydia, Ronald Phillips, Derreck Rose, Marvin Ryals, Derreck Watson, and John Wilkerson.

TCOLE Executive staff attending were: Interim Executive Director John Beauchamp; Credentialing, Education and Field Services Director Cullen Grissom; Information Technology and Special Services Director Jessica Capraro; Enforcement Major T.J. Vineyard; Finance Director Brian Roth; and Government Relations Director Gretchen Grigsby.

Agenda item 1, Call to order.

Roll call of members was called, and a quorum was present.

Presiding Officer Roy Boyd called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and made welcoming remarks.

Agenda item 2, Discuss and take action on Advisory Committee procedural and preliminary matters, if necessary.

Presiding Officer Boyd turned over to Interim Executive Director John Beauchamp who introduced TCOLE staff and Commissioner Jason Hester in attendance. Interim Executive Director Beauchamp welcomed the Advisory Committee members and thanked them for their willingness to participate.

Interim Executive Director Beauchamp thanked those Committee members that had completed their required training.

Committee members discussed future meeting ideas and approved those meetings to include in-person and virtual options. Discussed the idea of meeting in a minimum of four different regions across Texas to allow more members of the public access to attend Advisory Committee meetings. Determined Presiding Officer Boyd would be available in-person at each meeting location.

Agenda item 3, Discuss and take action on matters related to developing minimum standards with respect to the creation or continued operation of a law enforcement agency based on the function, size, and jurisdiction of the agency as established under Texas Occupation Code §1701.163.

Presiding Officer Boyd read over the Memo for the TCOLE Advisory Committee: Law Enforcement Agency Standards to clarify this Advisory Committee's scope of responsibility and noted the due date for final adoption of proposed rule is March 1, 2024. Interim Executive Director clarified to advised that the proposed rule must be ready for review and adoption by the TCOLE commissioners at the Commission Meeting scheduled for late February 2024.

Director Jessica Capraro gave a brief overview of TCOLE agency creation process. Captain Gary Connella discussed in more detail the required application documents and procedure.

Director Cullen Grissom advised that TCOLE Field Service Agents (FSA) currently review document compliance for agencies as part of their audit process. No rule at present requires a re-review of facilities after an agency has been created. If one were to be created, it would likely become the responsibility of TCOLE's FSAs.

Committee members discussed the importance of Independent School Districts (ISD) across the state. Discussion included data presented by Director Capraro and Director Gretchen Grigsby concerning ISD numbers and percentages of law enforcement agency sizes. Director Grissom noted the importance of any new standards will need to equate to all agency types and sizes.

Committee members considered new minimum standards for agency creation to possibly include a necessity clause. Presiding Officer Boyd explored the option to include city representatives during agency audits.

Agenda item 4, Discuss and take action on future Advisory Committee meeting dates and location, including videoconferencing.

Discussed future meeting dates, members agreed Tuesdays worked best for most. Meetings to include several regional locations across the state, with multiple Committee members voicing their desire to host or assist in finding appropriate meeting locations for greater public participation. Presiding Officer Boyd discussed consideration of expertise working groups with specific talks and subject matter. Members were advised to assess their areas of contribution and prepare to present their thoughts at the next meeting.

Agenda item 5, Receive public comment on any topic, without action.

No public comment.

Agenda item 6, Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

