

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION
MICKELSON CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER
Conference Call
Pierre, SD
October 15, 2020

The South Dakota Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Training Commission conference call was called to order on October 15, 2020, in the commission conference room at the George Mickelson Criminal Justice Center in Pierre, South Dakota.

Roll call was taken with the following members responding: Steve Allender, Rapid City Mayor; Matt Burns, Sioux Falls Chief of Police; Gary Gaikowski, Sisseton-Wahpeton Chief of Police; Andy Howe, Clay County Sheriff; Jason Ravnsborg, Attorney General; and Robert Perry, Special Agent, FBI. Others present included Chad Mosteller, Executive Secretary; Janelle Keller, Basic Coordinator; and Bob Mercer, KELO news. Commission Member Randall Rosenau, Lawrence County Commissioner joined the meeting later. Commission Members Miller, Fulton, and Wollman were absent

With a quorum present, Chairman Natvig called the meeting to order.

Following SDCL1-25(1), official meetings open to the public, time was allowed by Chairman Natvig for public comments. The floor was open for public comments of which there were none.

Law Enforcement Training is asking to restore six student's basic eligibility to continue in the current basic training academy:

- Kolby Brooks - Pierre Police Department
- Austin Prue - Rosebud Police Department
- Brandon Watts - Rapid City Police Department
- Connor Campbell - SD Highway Patrol
- Cole Hansen - SD Highway Patrol
- Matthew Henry - SD Highway Patrol

These students failed the mid-term and the retake exams. All six were dismissed on October 14, 2020. Training Administrator Mosteller allowed them to continue attending classes so they would not fall behind pending commission decision. Mosteller reviewed the LET documented issues of test results, late and incomplete assignments for each of the students for commission members.

Sixty-two students took the mid-term exam, nine of them failed in the Pierre academy, none failed in the Sioux Falls academy. Of the nine students that failed, there are only six here today for basic eligibility reinstatement. One withdrew and two failed for other academic reasons. The two academies were tested on six weeks of training thus far.

The way of delivering the curriculum changed for this session. One-week orientation, five weeks of online training, and seven-weeks in-house skills training.

Course information is found in the training guides. Students need to go through the guides carefully, thoroughly and focus. There was a lack of attention to detail.

LET owns some of the failure, but the students own most of the failure. There are things Law Enforcement Training can do differently for the next sessions:

- More training on the D2L online delivery system
- More time in the first week at the academy with online delivery
- Better prepare for success, explain a syllabus and how to use and study off the training guides
- The importance of taking the time and do assignments thoroughly
- Read instruction thoroughly
- Ask questions
- Remind students to study often

LET would ask to reinstate back into the academy this one time only to allow a third attempt to pass the exam for reasons stated by Mosteller. Students would take another version of the mid-term exam.

Motion by Commission Member Rosenau to approve recommendations by Mosteller, motion amended to include a one and one only attempt to pass the mid-term exam, if do not pass, are dismissed from the academy, **second** by Commission Member Burns, motion **approved**.

The meeting adjourned on a **motion** by Commission Member Perry, second by Commission Member Howe.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 18, 2020, in conjunction with the LECC conference/training. LECC has been canceled due to COVID. The game feed is still scheduled. A December meeting will be scheduled in Pierre.