

Use of Force Committee Meeting 11 October, 2016

Prepared by: Jason Williams, Training Coordinator

Members Present: Sheriff Donald Keeler, Captain Drew Bloom, Sergeant George Crowe, Sergeant Matthew Murano, Corporal Randy Lopes, Corporal Michael Akerlind, Sergeant Eugene Duplissis, Officer Scott Fisher, Lieutenant Walter Smith

Other persons present: None

Academy Representatives: Director of Training Cynthia Taylor-Patch, Training Coordinator Jason Williams

Members Absent: Chief Lianne Tuomey, Wade Johnson, Warden Russel Shopland

Meeting called to order: 10:01

Old Business

Item 1: Review of VCJTC statewide patrol rifle qualification course

- A revised patrol rifle course was submitted to the Committee for review before it is to be presented to the Council for adoption. Discussion ensued regarding a higher round count for the qualification course and minimum scoring ratios for passing. A discussion also took place concerning whether a patrol rifle operator should have a course of instruction prior to completing their initial qualification.

Corporal Lopes entered a motion to accept the proposed qualification course, with modifications to the scoring hit ratios as follows: A shooter must obtain a score of 3 out of 4 hits for the first three strings of fire, and must have a 100% hit ratio for all remaining strings. Additionally, language would be added to the effect that a shooter must receive training in the operation of the patrol rifle prior



to completing their first qualification, at the discretion of the patrol rifle instructor completing the qualification.

Sergeant Crowe seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Review of the 13 April, 2016 meeting minutes

- Copies of the previous meeting's minutes were submitted to the membership for review.

Corporal Akerlind entered a motion to accept the minutes as written.

Corporal Lopes seconded the motion.

Motion passed with one abstention.

New Business

Item 1: New Committee member

- T.C. Williams notified the Committee that he had received the appointment from the Executive Director that morning for Lieutenant Walter Smith of the Vermont State Police to the Committee to replace Captain Michael Henry due to his retirement.

Informational only, no action taken.

Item 2: Report on the conclusion of Use of Force and Tactics and Firearms training for the 102nd Basic Training Class

- Captain Bloom and Corporal Lopes submitted verbal reports of their experiences with the 102nd Basic Training Class in their various fields of instruction. Both noted a significant difference in this class with the ability to perform required psychomotor skills as previous classes, as a whole. It was noted that there appears to be a changeover in the abilities of younger classes to perform skills based testing recently and that perhaps there needs to be some examination into the way we teach psychomotor skills in the future.

Informational only, no action taken.

Item 3: Modification to Basic Training Proficiency Standard

- T.C. Williams noted to the Committee that the Basic Training Firearms Instructors have identified a deficiency with one of the Full Time Basic Training Standards that they wish to modify. A short discussion ensued regarding this matter.

Captain Bloom entered a motion to allow the Basic Training Core Group of Firearms Instructors to modify the Basic Training Standards at any time as they see fit. The Firearms and Use of Force Training Coordinator would thus merely be required to report these modifications back to the Committee at the meeting following the change.

Sergeant Crowe seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously

Item 4: Three missed meeting bylaw

- Sheriff Keeler noted that a Committee member has been absent for three consecutive meetings. According to the bylaw enacted by the Committee concerning meeting attendance, he asked the Executive Director to enforce that bylaw and remove that member from the Committee.

Informational only, no action taken.

Item 5: Adding handgun transition to the shotgun courses

- Captain Bloom noted in an earlier discussion that the shotgun course was inconsistent with the proposed patrol rifle course, in that the current shotgun courses did not contain handgun transitions shooting.

Officer Fisher entered a motion to add the following handgun transitions to each of the shotgun courses:

Buckshot course-2 rounds at 7 yards with the handgun after the three rounds of buckshot are fired, with a minimum hit ratio of 2 out of 2 with no time limit

Slug Course-2 rounds at 15 yards with the handgun after the three slugs are fired, with a minimum hit ratio of 2 out of 2 with no time limit

Sergeant Murano seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously

Item 6: Next meeting

- The next Committee meeting is scheduled for the 11th of January, 2017 at 1000 hours at the Vermont Police Academy.

Informational only, no action taken

Meeting Adjourned: 11:28

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Williams
Training Coordinator
Vermont Police Academy

DRAFT