

Minutes of the meeting of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees held at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in the Brian MacMaster Board Room on **Friday, January 16, 2026.**

Board Members Attending:

Chief Charles Rumsey IV – Chair
Deputy Chief David Bushey – Vice Chair
Commissioner Michael Sauschuck
Commissioner Randall Liberty
Colonel Dan Scott
Colonel William Ross
Sheriff Scott Nichols
Detective Larry Morrill sitting in for Director Anna Love
District Attorney Kathyn Slattery
Major Jason King
Dr. Michael Kamorski
Officer Matthew Dana
Ms. Francine Stark
Mr. Thomas DiTomasso
Ms. Elizabeth Ward Saxl

Board Members Excused:

Mr. Eric Dos Santos
Mr. Mateo Mendoza

Participants:

Director Lincoln Ryder
Assistant Director Joshua Daley
AAG Kathryn Horst
Karen Green, Board Clerk
Cassandra Pierce, Asst. Board Clerk

Guests:

Bob MacKenzie - Kennebunk Police Department
Katie Warwick – Attorney General’s Office
Adam Lee – Attorney, Trafton, Matzen, Belleau & Frenette, LLP

I. Item One on the Agenda: Call to Order

Chair Rumsey called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

II. Item Two on the Agenda: Roll Call and Introduction of Board Members

Chair Rumsey requested that the roll call be conducted, stated there was a quorum, then led in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance. He then requested introductions be made, as there were guests in attendance.

Chair Rumsey requested taking a number of items out of order on behalf of the guests present at the meeting.

VI. Item Six of the Agenda: Committee Reports

C. Law Enforcement Training Committee: Deputy David Bushey

1. Proposed 2027 Mandatory Training topics for 2027 – Law Enforcement Advisory Committee – Chief Robert MacKenzie, Chair

Chief MacKenzie gave an overview of the history, membership and responsibilities of the Advisory Committee. He told the Board that they were looking at the following topics for 2027.

1. Firearms
2. Law Updates
3. Scams regarding Krypto Currency
4. First Amendment Rights - Civil Unrest
5. Law Enforcement Resources for the Unhoused
6. Continuation of the Mechanics of Arrest Restraint and Control

Chief MacKenzie said that three other topics the Committee discussed were Inter-Agency Response to Mass Shootings, Immigration Issues, and Minimal Fact Timelines for CAC Interviews.

MOTION: To approve the 2027 Mandatory Topics from the Sub-committee as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.
Motion Carried.

Chair Rumsey then asked to discuss item Nine – Old Business.

X. Item Ten of the Agenda: Old Business

A. Hearing Officer Recommended Decision, Board Case #2024-014

Director Ryder handed out the case packet with the Amended Decision of the Hearing Officer, Prosecutions Comments on the Recommended Decision and Attorney’s Response to the proposed findings for CRC Case # 2024-014 for the Boards consideration.

MOTION: To table this matter until the March meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Major King.

Motion Carried. During the discussion of this matter, AAG Kathryn Horst recused herself by leaving the room. AAG Warwick served as Board Counsel for the purposes of this case.

Chair Rumsey requested that the meeting resume according to the agenda.

III. Item Three on the Agenda: Minutes of Previous Meetings

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the November 14, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting and to have it placed on file with the secretary.

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.

IV. Item Four on the Agenda: Complaint Review Committee Cases

Chair Rumsey requested a motion to move the Board of Trustees into Executive Session.

MOTION: To move the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees into Executive Session pursuant to Title 25 MRS§ 2806-A (10) to discuss confidential business matters.

Motion made by Deputy Chief Bushey and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.

Motion Carried Unanimously at 9:22 a.m. The meeting was reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

Chair Rumsey stated that there has been a discussion to take a slate of 11 waivers all together and asked for a motion.

MOTION: To move Board Cases # 2025-091, 2025-074, 2025-082, 2025-087, 2025-089, 2025-088, 2025-105, 2025-106, 2026-002, 2026-001, 2025-103 and accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to Grant the Waivers to attend Academy Training.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.

Motion Carried with Major King, Commissioner Liberty and DA Slattery recusing themselves from the vote. For the discussion of these cases Major King, Commissioner Liberty and DA Slattery left the room, returning at 9:40 a.m.

12. Board Case 2025-111

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action as no waiver was required.

Motion made by Major King and seconded by Deputy Chief Bushey. **Motion Carried.**

13. Board Case 2025-101

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, grant the waiver to attend the BCTP and to enter into a Consent Agreement with 3 years' probation upon completion of certification.

Motion made by Deputy Chief Bushey and seconded by Colonel Ross.

Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty recusing himself from the vote.

For the discussion he left the room at 9:44 a.m. and returned at 9:47 a.m.

14. Board Case 2025-102

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend the BCTP for educational purposes only.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Scott.

Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty recusing himself from the vote. For the discussion he left the room at 9:44 a.m. and returned at 9:47 a.m.

15. Board Case 2025-109

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action, as no waiver was required.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Major King.

Motion Carried.

16. Board Case 2025-093

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action, due to the lack of evidence requiring a waiver.

Motion made by Deputy Chief Bushey and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.

17. Board Case 2024-021

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to issue a Letter of Guidance.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Deputy Chief Bushey.

Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty recusing himself. For the discussion Commissioner Liberty left the room from 10:04 a.m. to 10:06 a.m.

18. Board Case 2025-058

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of misconduct.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Scott.

Motion Carried.

19. Board Case 2024-039

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to enter into a Consent Agreement with three years probation.

Motion made by Deputy Chief Bushey and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried with DA Slattery recusing herself. For the discussion DA Slattery left the room at 10:10 a.m. and returned at 10:12 a.m.

20. Board Case 2025-060

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to issue a Letter of Guidance.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Scott.

Motion Carried.

21. Board Case 2025-048

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Deputy Chief Bushey.

Motion Carried.

22. Board Case 2025-051

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to issue a Letter of Guidance.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.

Motion Carried.

23. Board Case 2025-065

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of misconduct.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Deputy Chief Bushey.

Motion Carried.

24. Board Case 2024-072

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to offer a Consent Agreement to include a voluntary surrender of the officer's Law Enforcement Certification with the caveat that if he should request a recertification, he would enter into 3 years of probation.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Major King.

Motion Carried.

25. Board Case 2025-070

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to modify the existing Consent Agreement allowing reinstatement of his Law Enforcement Certificate with the issuance of a Letter of Guidance.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.

Motion Carried with one opposed.

26. Board Case 2024-044

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to Revoke the correction officer's certificate of eligibility for the Class C conduct of Assault on a minor under six years of age and a guilty plea to the Class D charge of Reckless Conduct.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.

Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty recusing himself from the vote. For the discussion Commissioner Liberty let the room from 10:27 a.m. to 10:32 a.m.

27. Board Case 2025-090

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to enter into a Consent Agreement with 3 years probation.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.

Motion Carried.

28. Board Case 2025-076

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to issue a Letter of Guidance regarding truthfulness and following policy.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.

Motion Carried with Colonel Ross recusing himself from the vote. For the discussion, Colonel Ross left the room at 10:35 a.m. and returned at 10:37 a.m.

29. Board Case 2025-039

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to dismiss the case due to no grounds for disciplinary action.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.

Motion Carried.

30. Board Case 2025-029

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to deny the BLETP waiver and revoke the officer's Pre-Service Law Enforcement Certification for falsifying material facts in obtaining a certificate.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Major King.

Motion Carried.

31. Board Case 2025-086

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to enter into a Consent Agreement with a voluntary surrender of the officer's full-time Law Enforcement Certification.

Motion made by Colonel Ross and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried.**

32. Board Case 2025-061

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Major King.
Motion Carried.

33. Board Case 2025-062

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Major King.
Motion Carried.

34. Board Case 2025-103

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend Academy training.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Colonel Ross.
Motion Carried.

35. Board Cases 2023-071 and 2019-016

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to Revoke the officer's full-time Law Enforcement Certificate of eligibility.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Deputy Chief Bushey.

Motion Carried. With Colonel Scott recusing himself from the vote. During the discussion, Colonel Scott left the room from 10:45 a.m.- 10:47 a.m.

V. Item Five on the Agenda: Certifications, Waivers and Extensions

A. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Requests:

Assistant Director Daley presented the following Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Requests.

1. Gabidson Boisrond – Kennebunk Police Department

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver pending successful completion of EVOC, Maine Crash Reporting and Investigation and the successful completion of the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Certification Examination by 11/14/2026.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.
Motion Carried.

2. Virginia Helton – Bar Harbor Police Department

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver pending successful completion of EVOC, Maine Crash Reporting and Investigation, and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Certification Examination by 11/26/2026.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.
Motion Carried.

3. Calli Pollet - Westbrook Police Department

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver pending successful completion of Westbrook Police Department's Field Training Program, Maine Crash Reporting and Investigation, and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Certification Examination by 11/21/2026.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.
Motion Carried.

4. Dominic Zampiceni – Maine State Police

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver pending successful completion of the Maine State Recruit Training Troop, EVOC, Maine Crash Reporting and Investigation and the Maine Full-time Law Enforcement Certification Examination by 12/2/2026.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.
Motion Carried with Colonel Ross abstaining from the vote.

B. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program 180-Day Extension Requests.

Director Ryder presented the following Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Requests.

1. Liam Corson – Livermore Falls Police Department

MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program waiver extensions so he may attend the 50th BLETP in August 2026.

Moved by Major King and seconded by Deputy Chief Bushey. **Motion Carried.**

C. Basic Corrections Training Program Waiver Request:

1. Samuel Montoya – Androscoggin County Jail

MOTION: To approve the Basic Corrections Training Program waiver, as all requirements have been met along with a successful completion of the MCJA Board approved Corrections Certification exam on 12/24/2025.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.
Motion Carried.

D. Basic Corrections Training Program 180-Day Extension Requests:

Director Ryder presented the following Basic Corrections Training Program 180-Day Extension Requests.

1. Kyle Worster – Kennebec County Jail

MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Corrections Training Program waiver extensions so he may attend the BCTP.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.
Motion Carried.

E. Law Enforcement Pre-Service Program Waiver Requests:

1. Clint Watkins – Maine State Police

MOTION: To approve the Law Enforcement Pre-Service Training Program waiver, pending successful completion of at least 80 hours of Field Training (LEPS Phase III).

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.
Motion Carried with Colonel Ross abstaining from the vote.

F. Part-time Law Enforcement Officer 1040 Hour Extension Requests:

1. None

G. Course Certification Requests:

1. Drugs & Substance Use Awareness - JBCTP

MOTION: To approve the Drugs & Substance Awareness 5-Hour Course for the Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program.

Moved by Major King and seconded by Commissioner Liberty. **Motion Carried**

H. Course/Program completion Certifications issued by the Director.

Director Ryder presented the list of the 192 certifications that were issued since the Board Meeting on November 14, 2025.

MOTION: To accept the 192 Certifications that were issued by Director Ryder on behalf of the Board since the Board meeting held on November 14, 2025.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.

VI. Item Six on the Agenda: Committee Reports

A. Complaint Committee: Major Jason King

Major King advised the Board that the committee had been very busy and met twice over December and January to assure they could get all the cases in for this meeting. They reviewed 41 cases and ended 2025 with 111 cases.

B. Administrative Rules Committee: Colonel Dan Scott

Colonel Scott passed around a draft form that dealt with Title 25 M.R.S. § 2805-B(4)(B). He stated that the Academy was tasked with passing a rule to adopt a request for Release of Employment Records and in that Statute it includes the request from the perspective hiring agency to release the employee's employment records of current or previous LE agencies and under Title 25 M.R.S. § 2805-B(5) where any disqualifying conduct found in a background investigation or a Polygraph examination be shared with the agency as well.

Colonel Scott said that the form had been approved by the AG's Office and Deputy Bushey suggested adding "I hereby release you, your organization and others from any liability or damage which may result from furnishing this information request, including any liability pursuant to any State of local code or ordinance or any similar laws."

MOTION: To approve the form as presented which includes the wording suggested by Deputy Chief Bushey.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Deputy Chief Bushey.

Motion Carried.

C. Law Enforcement Training Committee: Deputy Chief David Bushey

1. Proposed 2027 Mandatory Training Topics for 2027 – Chief MacKenzie

Heard earlier in the meeting.

2. LD 1646 – Possible additional 2027 topic: Maine's "Good Samaritan Law" – 17-A MRS § 1111-B

Chair Rumsey said that he would like to discuss possible additions to the 2027 Mandatory Training topics. The first one came about as the Director has had conversation with the Legislature regarding LD 1646 which was aimed at enlarging Maine's Good Samaritan Statute. Unfortunately, it was so broad and confusing that the sponsoring legislator proposed to strike the language of the bill or replace it with a resolve that when passed will require the Academy Director to stand up a committee for a year to meet and propose mandatory training for Law Enforcement around the use of the Good Samaritan Statute. Director Ryder spoke with Chair

Rumsey about this topic and Chair Rumsey proposed that the Board discuss this as a mandatory training topic, so it can be presented to the Legislature.

MOTION: To establish an additional Mandatory Training Topic for Maine Law Enforcement for calendar year 2027 entitled Law Enforcement Response to suspected drug related overdoses and Maine's Good Samaritan Statute. As part of this motion, it is recommended that development of the training, MCJA staff consult subject matter experts as necessary, but at a minimum the following individuals will be invited to offer their input.

- 1. A representative of a statewide advocacy board that specializes in substance use, disorder and recovery;**
- 2. An individual with lived experience, as recommended by a statewide advocacy organization that specializes in substance use disorders and recovery;**
- 3. A representative from the Maine Prosecutor's Association;**
- 4. A representative from the Maine Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers';**
- 5. An individual with experience as a medical emergency services provider;**
- 6. A representative with experience in opioid response and prevention within the Governor's Office of Policy and Innovation and the Future;**
- 7. A representative from the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services;**
- 8. A representative of the judicial branch;**
- 9. A representative from the Maine Chiefs of Police Association;**
- 10. A representative from the Maine Sheriff's Association, and;**
- 11. A representative from the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency.**

Motion made by Deputy Chief Bushey and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.

At 11:27 a.m. Chair Rumsey requested that the Board break for lunch. The meeting resumed at 12:02 p.m.

Chair Rumsey call the meeting to order and then proposed that the Board create another Mandatory Training topic for 2026 around the Red Flag Law with the understanding that if the Board votes to make this a mandatory topic, an MCJA Training Coordinator will be assigned to meet with Lt. Johnston of the Maine State Police who has been instrumental in putting together training for the State Police regarding this new law.

MOTION: To approve the 2026 Mandatory Training Topic surrounding the Red Flag Law.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.

D. Corrections Training Committee: - Commissioner Randall Liberty

Commissioner Liberty told the Board that there was a BCTP starting on Tuesday, January 20th and he believes, between State and County officers, there were approximately 59 attending this class. He said the Committee is still active in improving the classes and curriculum and have had both County and State officers working together on this project. He also said that several County and State officers have gone through MARC training. A Probation Training Committee, which is a sub-committee, has been established and they have already started working on the training.

E. Policy Standards Committee: - Dr. Michael Kamorski

Dr. Kamorski told the Board that he had nothing other than what would be discussed around the Red Flag Law under New Business.

VII. Item Seven on the Agenda: Report from the Chair – Chief Charles Rumsey IV

1. In early December, Major King and I met with Director Ryder and AAG Horst to discuss ways to move CRC cases through our system as efficiently as possible. Following that meeting, we all collaborated extensively through email and as a result, we have a proposed update to Board Policy 4 for your consideration.
2. One effort our group thought would be helpful was the ability of the CRC to meet remotely to handle waiver requests, some of which can be quite time sensitive. To facilitate that, AAG Horst drafted a remote meeting policy for us to consider today. Thank you, Kate!
3. In addition to Board Policy 4, Director Ryder and I discovered that there are a number of other Board Policies needing review. I'll plan to work on these with the intent of proposing updates on one or two of them at our next meetings.
4. Also in early December, Colonel Scott and I met with Director Ryder and AAG Horst to discuss some of the rulemaking we need to tackle this year. Col. Scott can report out on that further.
5. On December 19th, I attended the BLETP Graduation to represent the Board. There was a huge crowd on hand, and the Director and his staff did an amazing job of managing the ceremony.
6. Over the past month, I worked with Dr. Kamorski and a small group to prep the draft changes to incorporate the state's new red flag law into one of our minimum standards. Thank you to Dr. K for the help, and he'll have more on that during his committee report.
7. I've also had conversations with a number of stakeholders about the implementation of the new red flag law, and whether an additional mandatory training topic for 2026 might be necessary. We will discuss that under new business.
8. Over the past few months, I worked with Commissioner Liberty and some of his people to stand up a new Probation Mandatory Training Subcommittee. I also drafted an update to our Board bylaws to officially capture that Subcommittee as well as those for Law Enforcement and Corrections.
9. I sent out a request for information from Maine Chiefs members on fair police. I received some very interesting and concerning information, and plan to make this a priority in the coming months. This is likely to require some statutory remedy.

VIII. Item Eight on the Agenda: Report from the Director – Director Lincoln Ryder

Director Ryder spoke on the following topics.

The 88th Basic Corrections Training Program begins on January 20th and will graduate on February 28th. The class has 61 students enrolled, currently and staff is finalizing the roster and logistics for delivery.

The 49th Basic Law Enforcement Training Program is scheduled to begin on February 2 and staff is in the process now of establishing the class list. Orientation occurred on January 5 with 89 eligible cadets. Unfortunately, 18

cadets failed the physical fitness test (PFT) for entry (a 20.2% failure rate). A second PFT was administered on January 12th. Of the 20 participants, 11 passed on that attempt (2 additional students were in attendance that day that were not in attendance for orientation.) A third PFT will be administered on January 21st with a target of seating up to 86 students in the class. At this time, we have 83 students eligible to be seated in the class, which will graduate on June 5th.

A paralegal was hired for the newly created position and will start on January 21st. Jen Coursey was the successful candidate of the original 6 applicants. Ms. Coursey is currently a paralegal at the Office of the Attorney General, Criminal Division. She has previous experience in the private sector as a paralegal, as well. We look forward to Ms. Coursey joining the team and believe that her work will have a strong, positive impact on operations. Ms. Coursey will assist with Complaint Review Committee and Board work, and the processing of complicated FOAA requests. Complaint Review Committee cases reached a high of 110 cases in 2025.

Staff is conducting upgrades to the Tac Center weight room. Older Cybex equipment is being removed and new lifting rigs (44' and 24') and a new stair stepper are being added to support class workouts.

IX. Item Nine of the Agenda: Report from the Assistant Director – Assistant Director Josh Daley

Assistant Director Daley spoke on the following topics.

Work continues on the COPS FY24 Safer Outcomes Grant. Over the past 6 months, staff and partnering SMEs met with IADLEST contractors to develop a job task analysis which will be in online survey form and sent to full-time law enforcement officers having graduated from the BLETP since 2018 years and their supervisory staff. The line officers will score job task frequency while the supervisors will score the job task criticality which will be used in a needs assessment to inform changes to the BLETP curriculum. From this information, additional lesson plans will be developed for de-escalation and crisis response training to be appropriately integrated into the new BLETP curriculum. The survey had closed on November 22nd at midnight. On January 13th, 2026 the Curriculum Advisory Group (CAG), met with IADLEST team members at the MCJA to analyze the results of the survey and make a determination of inclusion on particular topics that were “statistically borderline”, as well as to provide IADLEST with the current BLETP curriculum. IADLEST is currently conducting a comprehensive review of the curriculum and will be providing a comparative analysis between the current curriculum and the results of the survey in April of 2026.

As a result of the Board of Trustees approval of the newly proposed Basic Firearms Qualification and associated feedback regarding training opportunities for currently certified firearms instructors prior to the implementation of the new standard, the Firearms Committee proposed a training calendar for the 2026 year that will run from March of 2026 to August of 2026 at various locations throughout the state. The Firearms Committee was able to schedule and will deliver (10) training dates to begin the preparation for the transition to the new standard. Each training date will include (2) sessions lasting approximately (3) hours a piece to maximize the number of instructors that we can provide the training to in each session. After the (10) sessions have been completed, the firearms committee and I will reassess the need for instructors beyond the planned training events and will deliver additional trainings based on the need. Each session will include a briefing of the changes to the firearms qualification, as well as a detailed explanation regarding the implementation of the new standard to ensure consistency and accuracy throughout the state. The first training session will be offered on March 20th at the Summerhaven firearms range in Augusta.

X. Item Ten of the Agenda: Old Business

A. Hearing Officer Recommended Decision, Board Case #2024-014

Heard earlier in the meeting.

XI. **Item Eleven of the Agenda: New Business**

A. **BLETP & BCTP Reimbursement Rates**

Director Ryder gave an overview of the Board's responsibility to review and determine the training costs annually and make adjustments and provide that determination to all law enforcement and corrections agencies in the State. Traditionally the Board has researched the Consumer Price Index annually for all urban consumers in the Northeast Region. That number for 2025 is 3.3% increase.

MOTION: To Increase the tuition reimbursement rate for the BLETP by 3.3% and to ask MCJA staff to look at salaries and wages.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.

Motion Carried.

B. **BCTP Reimbursement Rates**

MOTION: To Increase the tuition reimbursement rate for the BCTP by 3.3% and to ask MCJA staff to look at salaries and wages.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.

Motion Carried.

C. **Discussion regarding polygraph timeframe requirements for entrance standards.**

Director Ryder and Ms. Ward Saxl explained that the previous timeframe for accepting a polygraph application was if it was done within one year of submitting it to the academy. During COVID it was changed to 2 years because of logistical issues COVID created. Ms. Ward Saxl explained that a lot could happen in 2 years and was wondering if the timeline could be moved back to 1 year again.

MOTION: To update Board Policy #1 to change the requirement for a polygraph to within one year of attendance in any MCJA programs unless the applicant is currently and has been continually employed by a law enforcement agency.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Major King. **Motion Carried.**

D. **Update to MCJA Board Mandatory Policy Standard #5: Response to Mental Illness, Involuntary Commitment, & Extreme Risk Protection Orders Under Maine's Yellow Flag and Red Flag Law**

Chair Rumsey told the Board that Dr. Kamorski, the Policy Standards Committee and a team of SMEs worked on updating the Board Mandatory Policy Standard #5.

MOTION: To approve Board Mandatory Policy Standard #5 as presented.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.

AMENDED MOTION: To approve Board Mandatory Policy Standard #5 as presented with the word changes proposed by Dr. Kamorski, and the adoption date of January 16, 2026, and the effective date being July 1, 2026.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.

E. Proposed Bylaw Change to add Mandatory Training Subcommittee

Chair Rumsey proposed an addition to the bylaws that would make it clear as to how many people are on a sub-committee, how they get appointed, and what their job entails.

MOTION: To adopt the proposed bylaw addition changes.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.

Motion Carried.

F. Mandatory Training Subcommittee Assignments: Law Enforcement, Corrections, and Probation and Parole.

Chair Rumsey spoke, referring to the handout given to the Board regarding the 2026 Appointments to Law Enforcement, Corrections and Probation Mandatory Training Subcommittees. There were ten members listed for the Law Enforcement Subcommittee, six members for the Corrections subcommittee and ten members listed for the Probation Mandatory Training Subcommittee.

G. Additional 2026 Mandatory Law Enforcement Training – Chief Robert MacKenzie

Heard earlier in the meeting.

H. Open Board Seat Discussion

Chair Rumsey told the Board members that there are two positions open on the Board. One of those positions is for a Municipal Official, which is a municipal official who has never been a law enforcement officer and the other spot is for a Defense Attorney. He said he would welcome any feedback from the Board if anyone knew of someone who might be able to fill those seats.

I. Remote Meeting Participation Policy Discussion

Staff Attorney Kate Horst talked to the Board regarding remote participation for Board meetings and outlined the pros and cons to having remote meetings. One major consideration was the security issues some other Boards are experiencing. Another consideration was the travel time some members and law enforcement officers had to attend the Board meetings.

MOTION: To adopt the remote meeting participation as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Ms. Ward Saxl.

Motion Carried.

J. MCJA Board Policy #4: Review and Disposition of Reports of Disqualifying Conduct Discussion.

Chair Rumsey presented new wording to Policy #4's Appendix 1, which would allow the MCJA Director, the Board Chair and the Complaint Review Committee the ability to grant certain waivers without the need for an Informal Conference and present their decisions at the next Board meeting. This would expediate the CRC process by eliminating certain waivers requests that do not actually need a waiver.

MOTION: To approve with two amendments:

- 1. If Staff reviews the waiver application and determines the conduct application and determines the conduct outlined does not require a waiver, Staff MAY dismiss it and notify the submitting agency that said conduct does not require a waiver. Staff will then report back to the Board those decisions.**
- 2. To Policy #4, Appendix 1, section I(b)(i): Add Chapter 35, Sex Trafficking Crimes under 17-A §§ 852 and 853.**

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Dr. Kamorski. **Motion Carried.**

K. Federal Department of Homeland Security Agency Policies for Board Review

Director Ryder gave an overview of Specification S-32 which deals with Certification of Federal Officers Limited Authority to enforce Maine Law. The Board members would need to review this specification, and the policies submitted by the U.S. Boarder Parol and United States Customs and Boarder Protection. Questions were asked regarding the timeline of this topic, and the importance of officer safety in Maine counties and communities close to the U.S. Boarder.

MOTION: To approve Appendix C and D, the policies of the USBP and the USCBP.

Motion made by Major King and seconded by Dr. Kamorski.

Motion Carried by a vote of 7 to 3.

L. Request for Waiver of Specification S-20: Canine Team Assistant Training Certification Requirements.

1. Officer Taylor Reynolds – Bangor Police Department

MOTION: To approve the waiver for Canine Team Assistant Training Certification.

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Colonel Scott. **Motion Carried** with Deputy Chief Bushey abstaining from the vote.

XII. Item Twelve of the Agenda: Adjournment

Chair Rumsey called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: To adjourn the January 16, 2025 Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees Meeting at 1:44 p.m.

Motion made by Ms. Ward Saxl and seconded by Major King.

Motion Carried.



Mr. Mateo Mendoza