

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, May 12, 2023.

**Board Members Attending:**

Special Agent Brian Pellerin – Chair  
Detective Sgt. Lincoln Ryder – Vice Chair  
Commissioner Michael Sauschuck  
Commissioner Randall Liberty  
Detective Seth Blodgett  
Dir. Anna Love  
Chief Charles Rumsey IV  
Deputy Chief David Bushey  
Colonel William Ross  
Ms. Kimberly Russell  
Colonel Dan Scott  
DA Kathryn Slattery  
Ms. Francine Stark  
Mr. Nathan Poore  
Mr. Mateo Mendoza

**Board Members Excused:**

Ms. Marie Hansen  
Officer Matthew Dana  
Ms. Elizabeth Ward Saxl  
Sheriff Scott Nichols

**Participants:**

Assistant Director Jack Peck  
AG Andrew Black  
Karen Green, Board Clerk

**Guests:**

Molly Plaisted – Slalom  
Laura Rodas - DOC

**I. Item One on the Agenda: Call to Order**

As there was a quorum, Chair Pellerin called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

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

Chair Pellerin introduced Molly Plaisted of Slalom and Dir. Anna Love of the Attorney General's Office Investigation Division who will be taking Det. Blodgett's place on the Board. He then requested that Secretary Green conduct a roll call and after, led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Pellerin requested that #2 of New Business be taken out of order, as Ms. Plaisted and Assistant Director Peck had a presentation to give regarding the strategic planning for the Academy.

**IX. Item Nine on the Agenda: New Business**

**2. Slalom Presentation – Molly Plaisted and Jack Peck**

Ms. Plaisted and Assistant Director Peck gave a thorough overview of the progress of the strategic planning for the academy focusing on the building itself, the lack of staff and technology, the Academy's budget and the future of the programs and classes given at the Academy. The strategic

plan centers around what the Maine Criminal Justice Academy is trying to achieve in the next 5 years and broke it up with a plan for each year. For year one, it would build a foundation, proposing more staff and instructors. Year two would focus on modernizing the Academy by curriculum updates, a proposed larger budget and major upgrades in technology and cloud space. Year three – five would focus on evolving for a future hybrid model academy.

Chair Pellerin requested that #1 of New Business be taken out of order and that the Board go into executive session at 10:15 a.m. for the discussion surrounding the position of Director.

**IX. Item Nine on the Agenda: New Business**

**1. Selection of the Director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy**

**MOTION: I move to go into executive session, pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405 (6)(A), to discuss the selection of the next director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.**

Motion made by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Sgt. Ryder. **Motion Carried at 10:14 a.m.**

Assistant Director Peck and Laura Rodas were asked to leave the room during the discussion.

**Meeting resumed at 10:23 a.m.**

**MOTION: I move that we accept the recommendation of Jack Peck as the Director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Sgt. Ryder.  
**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**MOTION: I move that we accept the recommendation made by Commissioner Sauschuck for the Director's salary to be at the top-step.**

Motion made by Mr. Mendoza and seconded by Ms. Stark.  
**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Chair Pellerin requested that Detective Seth Blodgett come up to the front of the room. Chair Pellerin presented Det. Blodgett with a plaque and thanked him for his years of service to the Board. He has been a member of the Complaint Review Committee for all the years he has been on the Board and chaired the committee for the past 3 years. He has also been a member of every committee except for the Corrections Committee, many times being a member of 2 or 3 committees at the same time over the years.

Chair Pellerin then thanked Dir. Anna Love for stepping in to take Det. Blodgett's place on the Board as a representative of the Attorney General's Office.

He went on to advise the Board that Sgt. Ryder would be retiring from the Waterville Police Department and would be stepping down as well. Sgt. Ryder told the Board that after 29 years in Law Enforcement, he would be retiring at the end of June.

**III. Item Three on the Agenda: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**MOTION: To accept the minutes of the March 17, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting and to have it be placed on file with the secretary.**

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Col. Scott **Motion Carried.**

**IV. Item Four on the Agenda: Certifications, Waivers and Extensions**

**A. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Requests:**

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

1. Officer Dustin Brozell – Lewiston Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training and the Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 6/20/2024.**

Moved by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.  
**Motion Carried**

2. Officer Wade Caron - York Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting and the Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 3/27/2024.**

Moved by Col. Ross and seconded by Mr. Mendoza. **Motion Carried.**

3. Deputy Matthew Cremonni – Knox County Sheriff’s Office

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Training, Emergency Vehicles Operations Course and the Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 4/5/2024.**

Moved by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Chief Rumsey. **Motion Carried.**

4. Trooper Kaitlyn Deering – Maine State Police

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 2/17/2024**

Moved by DA Slattery and seconded by Col. Scott.  
**Motion Carried with Col. Ross and Commissioner Sauschuck recusing themselves.**

5. Officer David Hilton – Old Town Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Crash Reporting Training and the Maine Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 4/3/2024.**

Moved by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Dep. Chief Bushey. **Motion Carried.**

6. Deputy Neil McMillin – Somerset County Sheriff's Office

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Crash Reporting Training and the Maine Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 3/6/2024.**

Moved by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Col. Ross. **Motion Carried.**

7. Trooper Jake Mowry – Maine State Police

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 2/17/2024.**

Moved by Dep. Chief Bushey and seconded by Sgt. Ryder.

**Motion Carried with Col. Ross and Commissioner Sauschuck recusing themselves.**

8. Officer Frank Porfido - Lincoln Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Crash Reporting Training and the Maine Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination by 2/20/2024.**

Moved by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

9. Officer Michael Valeri – York Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Law Enforcement Officer's Examination by 10/10/2023.**

Moved by Dep. Chief Bushey and seconded by Chief Rumsey. **Motion Carried.**

**B. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Extension Requests:**

Assistant Director Peck presented the following Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Extension Requests.

1. Officer Mark Belanger – Fort Kent Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension so that he can attend the August 2023 BLETP.**

Moved by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

2. Officer Joseph Corson – Carrabassett Valley Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension so that he can attend the August 2023 BLETP.**

Moved by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.  
**Motion Carried.**

3. Deputy Taylor Keeran – Penobscot County Sheriff’s Office

**MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension so that he can attend the August 2023 BLETP.**

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Col. Ross. **Motion Carried.**

4. Ranger Joshua Noyes – Maine Forest Service

**MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension so that he can attend the August 2023 BLETP.**

Moved by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.  
**Motion Carried.**

5. Officer Shawn Levasseur – East Millinocket Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension so that he can attend the August 2023 BLETP.**

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Sgt. Ryder. **Motion Carried.**

6. Officer Daniel Plourde – Fort Kent Police Department

**MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension so that he can attend the August 2023 BLETP.**

Moved by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Mr. Mendoza. **Motion Carried.**

**C. Basic Corrections Training Program Waiver Request:**

None at this time.

**D. Basic Corrections Training Program Extension Requests:**

None at the time.

**E. Law Enforcement Pre-service Program Waiver Requests:**

None at this time.

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

None at this time.

**G. Course Certification Requests:**

**1. School Recourse Officer Certification Program**

Director Peck told the Board that he was presenting 3 courses that would expand on the current SRO Program. Restorative Practices for Maine Schools from 2 to 7 hours, Introduction to Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management from 4 to 16 hours, Introduction to Emotional Intelligence Training for SRO's: Primary Prevention for Maine Schools from 3 to 8 hours, Trauma Informed Practices, Child Brain Development and the Impact of ACE's from 3 to 7 hours, adding Food Insecurity and Asset Mapping which is a 2 hour class, adding Introduction to School Emergency Management: Before, During and After an 11 hour class, adding Communicating in a Diverse World a 4 hour class and adding McKinney-Vento Homeless Education a 1 hour class.

He told the Board that the classes would be presented earlier this year to accommodate those educators and SROs that would be getting ready for the 2023-24 school year. This year it will be held at the Winslow High School in July which will fall in line with the annual SRO Summit in June.

**MOTION: To approve all eight of the new and improved courses which will expand the School Officer Certification Program from a 40-hour to an 80-hour program and to add the following to the Instructional Goal of Unit Number 6.11.0: "It is not the intent of this training module to adequately prepare an SRO to lead or facilitate a restorative justice process or session. Additional training is recommended."**

Moved by Ms. Stark and seconded by Mr. Poore. **Motion Carried.**

**2. Crime Scene Processing for Corrections**

Director Peck gave an overview of the 2023 Mandatory Training for Corrections submitted to the Board for approval by Rosalie Morin, Staff Development Specialist at Mountain View Correctional Facility.

**MOTION: To approve the 2023 Mandatory Training: Crime Scene Processing for Corrections.**

Moved by Chief Rumsey and seconded Sgt. Ryder. **Motion Carried.**

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

Director Peck presented the list of the 45 certifications that were issued since the last Board Meeting on March 17, 2023.

**MOTION: To accept the Certifications that were issued by Director Peck on behalf of the Board since the Board meeting held on March 17, 2023.**

Motion made by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by DA Slattery. **Motion Carried.**

Chair Pellerin requested that the Board break for lunch at 11:28 a.m. The meeting resumed at 12:03 p.m.

**V. Item Five on the Agenda: Committee Reports**

**A. Complaint Committee: Chief Charles Rumsey**

Chief Rumsey told the Board that the CRC met on April 20, 2023, and held five Informal Conferences and stated that they would present 5 cases today. He said that after today's meeting there would be 12 cases pending plus any that have been submitted to the Director since the March meeting.

**B. Administrative Rules Committee: Colonel Dan Scott**

Col. Scott told the Board that he had been working with Attorney Black to get guidance regarding rule making and getting a letter drafted for interested parties.

**C. Law Enforcement Training Committee: Sergeant Lincoln Ryder**

Sgt Ryder stated that he had no report at this time, but that he would continue to work on projects with the committee right up until the end of June.

**D. Corrections Training Committee: Commissioner Randall Liberty**

Commissioner Liberty told the Board that the Corrections Training Committee has been very busy, and he was pleased with the participation of the County Jails. At their April meeting they had 12 Counties and all State facilities represented. He said they were prepared to invest some resources to enhance technology as they go forward. Right now, there are 62 students attending a BCTP in various locations around the State with each of those sites having their own cadres and training coordinators ensuring quality and high level of training.

The Committee is still looking at developing curriculum to evolve the program a couple of classes at a time. He touched on the Basic Corrections Training Program Regional Training Center Standards which outlines the general requirements and the facility and staffing criteria for hosting a BCTP.

He told the Board that as of right now they have four BCTP programs scheduled for the coming academic year and has asked Director Peck and the Academy staff to check over the handout regarding Regional Training Center Standards and get it ready to be voted on at the July meeting.

Laura Rodas told the Board that she had made a substantial edit to Specification S-3. The Corrections Committee tried to simplify the language and clarify the language that there were two types of certifications – The Provisional Corrections Officer and the full certificate of eligibility – Full Time Corrections Officer. They removed the minimum Alert score from the original wording.

Ms. Rodas explained that the wording now was in line with Specs 24 and 31 and the changes they will be making will be presented soon. There has been some confusion regarding probationary periods, and they made changes defining that point.

Attorney Black told the Board that these changes would have no legal effect in Spec-3, and it wouldn't be enforceable unless it went through the rules process.

**MOTION: To accept the changes made to Specification S-3 by the Corrections Committee.**

Moved by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Mr. Mendoza. **Motion Carried**

**E. Policy Standards Committee: Dep. Chief David Bushey**

Dep. Chief Bushey told the Board he had copies of Specifications S4 and S5 that Brian MacMaster has been working on. Spec.4: Executive Certifications. After discussion on Spec. 4 the Board decided to table it and do a little more research.

Specification S-5: Certification of Academy Training Courses.

**MOTION: To adopt the changes made to S-5: Certification of Academy Training Courses.**

Motion made by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Chief Rumsey. **Motion Carried.**

**VI. Item Six on the Agenda: Report from the Chair – Chair Brian Pellerin**

Congratulations once again to Det. Seth Blodgett and thanks for his many years of service to the Board. Director Love will be representing the AG on Board matters in Det. Blodgett's place going forward.

Congratulations on Vice Chair Lincoln Ryder's Retirement from Waterville PD. Deputy Chief Ryder will be missed and has been a valuable member of this Board since 2011.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> BLETP is scheduled to hold their graduation ceremony on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, on the parade deck at the Academy, weather permitting.

In accordance with the Board's by-laws, Board elections will take place at the conclusion of this meeting and Board committee assignments will be made and announced at the July 2023 Board meeting.

**VII. Item Seven on the Agenda: Report from the Director – Assistant Director Jack Peck**

The Basic Law Enforcement Training Program (BLETP) will graduate on May 19<sup>th</sup> in an outdoor ceremony. Sixty-four Cadets from forty-nine different agencies are scheduled to graduate.

On April 26<sup>th</sup> we hosted the BLETP "Chiefs Day". All forty-nine agency heads were invited, and we had approximately seventy in attendance.

The following day we hosted the BLETP "Family Day". Eighty-three family and loved ones signed up to see and hear presentations by myself, Training Coordinator Daley, Cadre and Chaplain staff. The presentations centered around expectations and preparation to support your law enforcement family member.

BLETP Scenario and MARC finals were completed on May 5<sup>th</sup>. On May 16<sup>th</sup> the BLETP will travel to attend the Law Enforcement Memorial Service in Augusta.

The largest Basic Corrections Training Program (BCTP) started on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Sixty-four correctional Cadets started with twelve physically at the Academy and the rest attending via the Zoom platform.

We have all been working on a daily basis with Slalom and we hosted two work sessions with the Slalom Team developing a five-year strategic plan for the academy.

I testified at several public hearings and work sessions on bills that will impact the MCJA. These included bills on a non-residential academy, trauma informed practices and the training and certifying of Animal Control Officers.



**MOTION: To accept the legacy gift from the 43<sup>rd</sup> BLETP of a Podium and a Magnetic Whiteboard.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Sgt. Ryder. **Motion Carried.**

**VIII. Item Seven on the Agenda: Old Business**

None at this time

**IX: Item Nine on the Agenda: New Business**

**A. Selection of the Director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.**

Mr. Jack Peck was voted in as the new Director at the beginning of the meeting.

**B. Slalom Presentation**

This presentation was given at the beginning of the meeting.

**C. Complaint Committee Cases**

At this time Chair Pellerin requested that the Board go 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 Chief Rumsey and seconded by Sgt. Ryder.

**Motion Carried Unanimously at 12:55 p.m.** The meeting reconvened at 1:50 p.m.

1. Board Case 2022-037

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to revoke the Full Time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification.**

Motion made by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Commissioner Liberty. **Motion Carried.**

2. Board Case 2023-006

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver with a Letter of Guidance.**

Motion made by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Ms. Stark.

**Motion Carried with 7 voting for and 6 voting against.**

3. Board Case 2023-008

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to deny the Waiver.**

Motion made by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Ms. Russell. **Motion Carried.**

4. Board Case 2023-011

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to enter into a consent agreement where there will be a letter of guidance and a civil penalty of \$50.00.**

Motion made by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Co. Ross.

**Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty and Mr. Mendoza recusing themselves. During the discussion of this case Commissioner Liberty and Mr. Mendoza left the room at 1:44 p.m. and returned at 1:47 p.m.**

5. Board Case 223-012

**MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to enter into a consent agreement where there will be a letter of guidance and a civil penalty of \$50.00.**

Motion made by Mr. Mendoza and seconded by Sgt. Ryder. **Motion carried.**

**D. Acceptance of the 43<sup>rd</sup> BLETP Legacy Gift**

The Legacy Gift of a Podium and White Board was voted on and excepted at the end of the Directors Report.

**E. Election of Officers of the Maine Criminal Justice Board of Trustees**

1. **Chair of the Board of Trustees.** Secretary Chief Rumsey opened the nominations for the position of Board Chair.

**MOTION: I nominate Brian Pellerin as the Chair of the Board of Trustees.**

Motion made by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

**Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.**

2. **Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees.** Secretary Chief Rumsey opened the nominations for the position of Board Vice-Chair.

**MOTION: I nominate Chief Charles Rumsey as the Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees.**

Motion made by Sgt. Ryder and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.

**Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.**

3. **Secretary of the Board of Trustees.** Secretary Chief Rumsey opened the nominations for the position of Board Secretary.

**MOTION: I nominate Ms. Kimberly Russell as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.**

Motion made by Chair Pellerin and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.

**Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.**

**X. Item Ten on the Agenda: Adjournment**

Chair Pellerin reminded the members of the Board that the July meeting will be July 14, 2023, and then called for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION: To adjourn the May 12, 2023, Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees Meeting at 1:59 p.m.**

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck

**Motion Carried.**

Ms. Kimberly Russell