

Minutes of the meeting of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees held at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy on Friday, May 13, 2022.

Board Members Attending:

Detective Sgt. Lincoln Ryder – Vice Chair
Commissioner Michael Sauschuck
Commissioner Randall Liberty
Chief Charles Rumsey IV
Deputy Chief David Bushey
Mr. Nathan Poore
Sheriff Scott Nichols
Detective Seth Blodgett
Ms. Marie Hansen
Colonel John Cote
Chief Matthew Dana
DA Kathryn Slattery
Ms. Francine Stark
Mr. Mateo Mendoza

Board Members Excused:

Colonel Dan Scott
Ms. Elizabeth Ward Saxl
Special Agent Brian Pellerin – Chair
Ms. Kimberly Russell

Participants:

Director Rick Desjardins
Attorney Andrew Black
Karen Green, Board Clerk

Guests - Visitors:

Chief Deputy Naldo Gagnon – Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office
C.O. Michael Archibald – Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office
Kevin Kidd – Department of Corrections
Rebecca O’Keefe – Department of Corrections
Laura Rodas – Department of Corrections

I. Item One on the Agenda: Call to Order

As there was a quorum, Vice Chair Lincoln Ryder called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

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

Vice Chair Ryder requested that Secretary Green conduct a roll call and had the members and visitors introduce themselves. He then led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the March 4, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting and to be placed on file with the secretary.

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

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

A. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Requests:

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

1. Officer Matthew S. Campbell – Boothbay Harbor 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 1/12/2023.

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

2. Officer Kevin M. Koberger – Cape Elizabeth 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 11/15/2022.

Moved by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Chief Dana. **Motion Carried.**

3. Deputy Noah Tamulonis – Penobscot County Sheriff’s Office

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of Maine Crash Reporting Training, the 2020 and 2021 Mandatory Trainings, and the Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 1/6/2023.

Moved by Colonel Cote and seconded by Chief Rumsey. **Motion Carried.**

4. Chief Daniel J. Ahern – South Portland 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 2/15/2023.

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

5. Officer Jacob F. Coffey - Ogunquit 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 1/27/2023.

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

6. Officer Martin F. Monaco – York Police Department

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Crash reporting Training, and Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 1/14/2023.

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

7. Deputy Marc A. Derr, Jr. – Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Crash Reporting Training, and Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 12/15/2022.

Moved by Sheriff Nichols and seconded by Chief Dana. **Motion Carried.**

8. Officer Jeremy R. Riddle - Sanford Police Department

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver, pending successful completion of the Maine Crash Reporting Training, Maine Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification Examination by 10/12/2022.

Moved by Det. Blodgett and seconded by Chief Rumsey. **Motion Carried.**

B. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Extension Requests.

Director Desjardins presented the following Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Extension Request.

1. Officer Ethan C. Jacques	Houlton Police Department	6/2/2021
2. Officer Nicholas T. Lariviere	Buxton Police Department	6/16/2021
3. Officer Daniel M. Rodgers	Ashland Police Department	6/28/2021
4. Officer Marc J. Rousseau	Winslow Police Department	7/12/2021
5. Officer Michaela A. Trudeau	Hallowell Police Department	7/28/2021
6. Officer Scott R. Getchell	Gardiner Police Department	8/2/2021
7. Officer Matthew J. Dahms	Buxton Police Department	8/2/2021

MOTION: To approve the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension required to attend the August 15, 2022 BLETP.

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

8. Officer Erica Fredrick-Rock – Augusta Police Department

MOTION: To approve the 180-day Basic Law Enforcement Training Program Waiver Extension so that she can be medically cleared to complete the MARC Scenario requirement for the 41st BLETP.

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

C. Basic Corrections Training Program Waiver Request:

None at this time.

D. Basic Corrections Training Program Extension Requests:

1. C.O. Lauren Swimm – Aroostook County Jail

MOTION: To approve a Basic Corrections Training Program Waiver Extension so she can attend the August 1, 2022 BCTP.

Moved by Sheriff Nichols and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

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. Physical Fitness and Nutrition

Coordinator Kevin Kidd of the DOC gave an outline of the changes the committee made for this Basic Corrections Training Program course, such as the updating of the old teaching platform “My Food Pyramid” to the new “MyPlate” and teaching the students how to make smart goals whether it is for Physical Fitness or Nutrition.

MOTION: To approve the changes and updates made to the 18-hour BCTP Physical Fitness and Nutrition Class.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Sheriff Nichols. **Motion Carried.**

2. Foundations of an Effective Correctional Officer

Coordinator Kidd gave an outline of the advice of the Corrections Advisory Committee made for this Basic Corrections Training Program course. They suggested merging and updating “History of Law in Corrections” and “The Role of a Corrections Officers in the New Millennium” into one module which will make it more engaging and interactive. One particular change is that “Evidence Based Practices” that wasn’t in the curriculum and now it is. “Operational Security and Developing Professional Rapport with Inmates” has also been added. Another topic, “Mentoring and Coaching” has been added as the Committee wanted to make sure that Correction Officers are interacting with inmates in a way that is encouraging residents to come up with their own solutions to situations through life skills and

motivational interviewing. The committee also revised the “Restored Justice” content to make sure it was updated by running it by other DOC employees who work in that area.

MOTION: To approve the changes and updates made to the 3.5-hour BCTP Foundations of an Effective Correctional Officer.

Moved by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Sheriff Nichols. **Motion Carried.**

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

Director Desjardins presented the list of the 128 certifications that were issued since the last Board Meeting on March 4, 2022.

MOTION: To accept the Certifications that were issued by Director Desjardins on behalf of the Board since the Board meeting held on March 4, 2022.

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

At this time Vice Chair Ryder requested that the Board take New Business – C. BLEPT Completion Request: Deputy Michael Archibald of the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office out of order due to the guests present.

Director Desjardins shared a letter sent to the Board from Cumberland County Sheriff Kevin requesting that Michael Archibald be able to complete his MARC requirement so that he can receive his full-time law enforcement certification. Chief Deputy Naldo Gagnon spoke on behalf of Dep. Archibald telling the Board that Archibald has kept up with all training and certifications and Cumberland County was looking forward to having him as a patrol deputy.

MOTION: To approve the Waiver to complete the required MARC program and receive his Full-time Law Enforcement Certification.

Motion made by Sheriff Nichols and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

V. Item Five on the Agenda: Committee Reports

A. Complaint Committee: Det. Seth Blodgett

Det. Blodgett told the Board that the committee has a little more than 32 cases with more to come from the Director regarding failure to complete Mandatory Training. He stated several cases were still pending in court and that they would be presenting nine cases at today’s meeting.

B. Administrative Rules Committee: Deputy Chief David Bushey

Deputy Chief Bushey presented a copy of Specification S-3A – Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program (J-BCTP) showing changes that the Committee had made and asked the Board for a vote to accept the changes.

MOTION: To approve Specification S-3A: Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program (J-BCTP) with the changes made.

Motion made by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Colonel Cote. **Motion Carried.**

MOTION: To rescind Specification S-3A Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program.

Motion made by Colonel Cote and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck. **Motion Carried.**

MOTION: To table Specification S-3A until further action is taken by the Committee.

Motion made by Colonel Cote and seconded by Chief Dana. **Motion Carried.**

C. Law Enforcement Training Committee: Sergeant Lincoln Ryder

No report at this time.

D. Corrections Training Committee: Commissioner Randall A. Liberty

Commissioner Liberty told the Board that the Corrections Training Committee has been very active and have been meeting monthly with State and County Corrections to prepare the new program. Today he wanted to present the Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program (J-BCTP) as a program specifically geared to correction officers who will work with youths in the juvenile corrections facility. Director Desjardins said he was very pleased with the quality of the program, as it took hundreds of hours and many different agencies collaborating to make this new program a reality. When asked when this new program could be rolled out, Director Desjardins said a date hasn't been set yet, but he would be working with DOC to get it up and running with a full class relatively soon.

Attorney Black asked if the intention of this program was to create a separate and distinct certification and Commissioner Liberty said "Yes, it was". Attorney Black then asked if a person going through this new program would also be required to go through the Basic Corrections Program and Commissioner Liberty replied that the J-BCTP is intended to be a stand-alone program for Long Creek only. Attorney Black then explained that the Board may not have statutory authority to create and vote to approve a new certification program. Vice Chair Ryder asked Attorney Black what he recommended the Board should do at this point and was told that voting to table this program for now until more research can be done on the statutory authority of the Board to create a new certification for just Juvenile Corrections Officers would be best. If it was found that the Board does not have the authority, it would need to seek Legislative approval before this matter could move on.

Laura Rodas of DOC requested that the Board approve the curriculum of this program and have it as an "add-on" to the Basic Corrections Program so the people who have been hired to work at the youth facility can be trained properly to work with juveniles. She explained, that by her calculations, this would be an additional 3 weeks of specialized training.

At 10:18 a.m. Vice Chair Ryder requested a break while Ms. Rodas, Ms. O'Keefe and Mr. Kidd could review the JV curriculum and come to an agreement on which classes would be added to the Basic Corrections Training Program. Meeting reconvened at 10:32 a.m.

MOTION: To accept the specific class curriculum for Juvenile Basic Corrections training that was submitted by the Committee.

Motion made by Colonel Cote and seconded by Mr. Mendoza.

AMENDED MOTION: To accept the class curriculum for the Juvenile Basic Corrections Training and removing the redundant classes that a student took

in the BCTP. In addition to the BCTP students would also have to take 96 additional hours of JV content training in:

16 hours Adolescent Development
4 hours Supporting Equity for LGBTQ+ Youth
8 hours Youth Suicide Prevention (though they will have already had MHFA)
4 hours Trauma and Its Impact on Youth
8 hours Youth Mental Health First Aid
16 hours Calm Every Storm De-escalation and Crisis Intervention Program (CCG)
16 hours Motivational Interviewing
4 hours Restorative Practices
1 hour Mandated Reporter
5 hours Diversity, Culture and Communication
2 hours Collaborative & Proactive Solutions
2 hours Leadership & Communication
1.5 hours Peer Mistreatment
3 hours Developmental Disabilities
2 hours Workplace Harassment
1 hour Narcan / Naloxone Administration
4 hours CPR

Motion made by Colonel Cote and seconded by Mr. Mendoza. **Motion Carried.**

E. Policy Standards Committee: Chief Charles Rumsey IV

Chief Rumsey told the Board that he would be asking for a vote on a change to Minimum Standard, Policy 5 – Response to Mental Illness, Involuntary Commitment & Protection from Substantial Threats. He stated there was reference to a statute in the Minimum Standards that doesn't exist anymore and because of that, it will be removed to make it mirror the way the current statute reads.

MOTION: To approve the update made to Policy #5.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Chief Dana. **Motion Carried.**

VI. Item Six on the Agenda: Report from the Chair - Vice Chair Sgt. Lincoln Ryder.

No report at this time.

VII. Item Seven on the Agenda: Report from the Director - Director Richard Desjardins.

- Graduation of the 41st BLETP is scheduled to be held on May 20, 2022. We had hope to hold the in-person graduation on the parade deck starting at 10:00. The key-note speaker will be Chief Jared Mills. Chief Mills is the chief of the Augusta Police Department and the current president of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association.
The class is doing very well, and all 68 cadets appear poised to graduate on the 20th, making this the largest class to graduate our program. We'll have a few records to report out next week during our awards ceremony.
- The 42nd BLETP will begin in-person training on August 15, 2022. We will take the maximum number of cadets and will be working over the next few weeks to confirm the eligible applicants and work with

agencies to complete all the necessary entrance standards, paperwork, and other related materials. Orientation for the next class will be in July.

- Discussion on how we are currently select the classes continue, and we have also met with representatives of the Maine Chiefs and Sheriff's Associations to review the changes in selection.
 - Cadre assignments have been set and representatives from, South Portland, Portland, Androscoggin S.O, Maine Wardens and MSP will lead this class.
 - The class selection will primarily on date of hire (oldest to newest) first, cadre assignments and volunteer hours will also be considered.
- Building issues
 - Simmons group continue to conduct facilities assessment
 - The physical plant study has identified a list of priorities and we will begin to see work on the building envelope sometime in the late summer or fall. We currently have 2.6 million allocated for the first phase of the project, with additional money coming over the next few years.
 - Operations assessment is also progressing and should accompany the completed facility study.
- Staffing
 - Staff are incredibly busy with the loss of one of our office associates and the work to complete 41st BLETP, and continuing to run BCTP classes virtually, LEPS classes, MOI classes, SLDP, SRO and many other classes that are in the que.
 - Addition of DOC's Training Specialist has been a big help to the corrections training programs and Kevin Kidd is doing a great job. His assignment through DOC to provide some relief for the corrections programs is much appreciated.
- Awards
 - Alan Gregory was nominated and won a National award through the Moss Group for his work in corrections training and his continued response to the challenges of training during COVID.
- End of year reporting
 - As required by statute, agencies have submitted all the required material to the Academy. We have created a report for the Legislature, and you have a copy of the report in your Board packet.
 - We delivered the completed report to the legislature in April.

Initiatives

- Conversion of the Alert test to electronic version
 - Work is complete in our RMS platform with Informa, and the testing is going currently available and appears to be going well.
 - Issues regarding symbols (commas) and spacing has been resolved
 - MOUs and student letters have been developed and we are offering the remote testing as an option going forward.
- Working to combine MERC, MARC into a single "Defensive Tactics" training.
 - Hope to combine these disciplines and streamline the training and merge the instructors and training material.

- Working with our Purchases division to procure a new simulation trainer
 - The 10 plus year old FATS machine has become inoperable and needs to be replaced
 - I have identified funds for the purchase and will be progressing through an RFP to make a purchase through the State's procurement system.
 - We have also been approached by the US Attorney, Darcy McElwee and she has offered to donate an additional simulator that was purchased for the FBI but isn't being fully utilized. We're in the process of transferring ownership through the Federal system and are in hopes to take possession soon.

MOTION: To accept the Legacy Gift of a Wrestling Mat from the 41st BLETP.

Motion by Sheriff Nichols and seconded by Det. Blodgett. Motion Carried.

VIII. Item Eight on the Agenda: Old Business

At this time Vice Chair Ryder 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 Chief Dana.

Motion Carried Unanimously at 11:09 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 12:01 p.m.

C. Complaint Committee Cases

1. Board Case 2022-006

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to deny the waiver based on the disqualifying conduct of Theft and Burglary.

Motion made by Commissioner Sauschuck and seconded by Col. Cote. Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty and Mr. Mendoza recusing themselves.

For the discussion, Commissioner Liberty and Mr. Mendoza left the room at 11:10 a.m. and returned at 11:19 a.m.

2. Board Case 2021-014

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 Chief Rumsey and seconded DA Slattery. Motion Carried with Det. Blodgett recusing himself.

For the discussion, Det. Blodgett left the room at 10:00 a.m. and returned at 10:12 a.m.

3. Board Case 2022-004

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend Basic Law Enforcement Program.

Motion made by Col. Cote and seconded by Chief Dana.

AMENDED MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend Basic Law Enforcement Training Program and to issue a letter of guidance as it relates to truthfulness in official matters.

Motion made by Col. Cote and seconded by Chief Dana.

Motion Carried.

4. Board Case 2022-005

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program.

Motion made by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.
Motion carried.

5. Board Case 2022-007

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to grant the waiver to attend the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program and to issue a Letter of Guidance regarding adhering to relevant State and Federal laws.

Motion made by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Commissioner Liberty.
Motion carried with one opposed.

6. Board Case 2022-008

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 Chief Rumsey and seconded by Dep. Chief Bushey. **Motion carried.**

7. Board Case 2022-009

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

Motion made by Col. Cote and seconded by Det. Blodgett.

Motion Carried with one opposed.

8. Board Case 2021-028

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to take no further action due to insufficient evidence of disqualifying conduct, but to issue a Letter of Guidance truthfulness in all matters.

Motion made by Chief Rumsey and seconded by Det. Blodgett. **Motion Carried.**

9. Board Case 2021-020

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee to revoke the officer's Corrections Certificate of eligibility based on the conduct of assault.

Motion made by Sheriff Nichols and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried with Commissioner Liberty and Mr. Mendoza recusing themselves.

For the discussion, Commissioner Liberty and Mr. Mendoza left the room at 11:10 a.m. and returned at 11:19 a.m.

IX. Item Nine on the Agenda: New Business:

A. Elections – Officers of the Board of Trustees: Chief Charles Rumsey

Chief Rumsey called for nominations for Board Secretary.

Nomination made by Vice Chair Lincoln Ryder – nominating Chief Charles Rumsey for Board of Trustees Secretary.

Nominations were closed and a rollcall vote taken. **Vote was unanimous for Chief Charles Rumsey.**

Chief Rumsey called for nominations for Board Vice Chair.

Nomination made by Sheriff Nichols – nominating Lincoln Ryder for Board of Trustees Vice Chair.

Nominations were closed and a rollcall vote was taken. **Vote was unanimous for Sgt. Lincoln Ryder.**

Chief Rumsey called for nominations for Board Chair.

Nomination made by Lincoln Ryder - nominating Brian Pellerin for the Board of Trustees Chair.

Nominations were closed and a rollcall vote was taken. **Vote was unanimous for Brian Pellerin.**

B. Update Phase I on-line options (Police One – Dirigo): Director Desjardins

Director Desjardins told the Board that he has had meetings with both businesses and that Police One will be moving the JPMA data over to their platform and will continue to provide PHASE I to individuals who are in the recertification process or those who want to start the LEPS program. The fee structure will stay the same as it was with JPMA which is good news. They are also updating the JPMA lesson plans to make them more interactive for the students and hope to have them up and running in a couple of months. Dirigo Safety also has a platform for on-line training and have offered to supply the same opportunity for individuals to take the Phase I class with them. The Director said he was just waiting for everything to be put into writing by those companies so contracts and MOUs could be written.

C. BLETP completions request – Heard earlier in the meeting.

D. Staff Updates: Director Desjardins

Director Desjardins explained to the Board that over the next few meetings he would like to have the Academy Staff come in and give an overview of how their programs as a way to keep the Board up to date with changes and how things are progressing.

Board Clerk, Karen Green, who is the supervisor of the MCJA front office staff gave the Board some stats on how many classes, programs and Alert tests had been given since the beginning of the year and told them that one of the ladies in the front office had quit at the beginning of January and left State employment. She said the other 2 remarkable women pitched in and did a fantastic job of getting the end-of-the year reports sent out, tracked, and filed while taking over the responsibilities of the BLETP Secretary, as the 41st BLETP was ready to start. All that extra clerical work was done while still completing everything that they needed to do every week. Ms. Green was happy to report that the vacant position of BLETP Secretary had finally been filled and that the new person would start on May 23rd.

Director Desjardins then touched on a letter he had received from Susan A. Deschambault, Senate Chair and Charlotte Warren, House Chair regarding LD 1939, An Act To Protect School Administration Officials from Harassment and Abuse. He said that he was asked to review the MCJA curricular to see if there was anything that could be done to modify training.

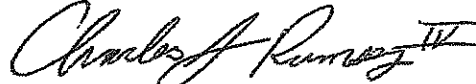
X. Item Ten on the Agenda: Adjournment

Vice Chair Ryder called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: To adjourn the 5/13/2022 Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees Meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Liberty and seconded by Commissioner Sauschuck.

Motion Carried.



Charles J. Rumsey, IV