

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION

TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER STANDARDS AND EDUCATION

The work session of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) was held on Thursday, December 3, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the Texas State Capitol Extension Auditorium, Room E1.004, 1100 Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas.

Commissioners attending were: Constable Charles Hall, Presiding Officer, Mr. Allan Cain, Secretary, Ms. Melissa Goodwin, Mr. Stephen Griffith, Dr. Johnny E. Lovejoy, II, Mr. Joe Pennington, Sheriff Joel W. Richardson, Ms. Patt Scheckel-Hollingsworth, and Chief Ruben Villescas.

Also attending was Assistant Attorney General John Beauchamp and Raymond Winter. Commission staff attending included: Executive Director Timothy A. Braaten, Director Chris Davis, Director Brian Roth, Director Kim Vickers, Claire Allman, Darla Dixon, Roger Floyd, Lisa Fontenot, Dennis Graffious, John Helenberg, Nicole Hendrickson, John Hunt, Dr. Ivan Messer, Gregg Moore, Kaye Wilson, and Mary Kay Wright.

Presiding Officer Hall announced that today's meeting is being broadcast through the internet.

Agenda Item #4 – Items of Interest

Presiding Officer Hall asked if any commissioner had questions on any of the listed items. There were no questions asked.

Agenda Item # 5 – Receive public comment and discuss the application of the Houston Independent School District Police Department as an approved training provider

Robert Mock, Assistant Chief, Houston ISD Police Department addressed the commissioners in support of the application and made himself available for questions from the commissioners. In response to a question from Commissioner Pennington, Assistant Chief Mock stated that the agency will not exclusively train their own officers, but will be available to train officers from other agencies. This will be in-service training only as they are not asking for an academy designation.

Agenda Item #2 – Presiding Officer's Report

Presiding Officer Hall introduced the three new commissioners and asked each to address the audience. Melissa Goodwin is a former justice of the peace and District Judge, and is now in private practice. Ruben Villescas is the chief of the Pharr Police Department, a 115 officer department with 55 support staff. Joe Pennington is a Senior Patrol Officer with the Houston Police Department.

Agenda Item #7 – Discuss the final orders of amendments to existing TCLEOSE rules

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Agenda Item #9 – Receive comment from the Odessa College Law Enforcement Academy reference their training agreement

Presiding Officer Hall called on Frank Woodall, former director of education and training with TCLEOSE to give a history on the performance of the Odessa College Law Enforcement Academy

(LEA). Mr. Woodall stated the academy had a long history of non-compliance in both peace officer and jailer licensing exam pass rates. The LEA entered into an agreement with TCLEOSE. This agreement had certain criteria that the LEA must meet in order to maintain their academy status. Mr. Woodall stated that other academies in the state have entered into similar agreements and have increased their pass rates. Questioning from commissioners led Mr. Woodall to state that TCLEOSE sent both staff evaluators and field service agents to the LEA to offer best practices and to try to help them become compliant. Mr. Woodall did not offer an opinion as to why the LEA failed to comply with the agreement. Director Kim Vickers, the former field agent for the Odessa area noted that the LEA has made progress, but they have not reached the benchmarks set in the agreement. Roger Floyd, academy assessor with TCLEOSE, talked about his visits to the LEA over the past several years and the number of times he presented the coordinators with best practices.

Tim Burton, chief of the Odessa Police Department, spoke on behalf of the LEA and asked for a bifurcation of the agreement which would allow the LEA to keep the license to teach the basic peace officer course and forfeit the license to teach the basic county corrections course. Sgt. Jerry Harvell, training officer with the Odessa Police Department, also spoke in support of the LEA. Dr. Greg Williams, President of Odessa College, addressed the commissioners stating that one of their programs has a 96.15% pass rate and the other has an 81.25% pass rate. He fielded several questions from the commissioners. Dr. Gregory South and Dr. Brad Miller, both with Odessa College addressed the commissioners and responded to questions.

Executive Director Braaten offered a clarification that the agreement signed by the LEA was voluntary. The LEA had a choice of presenting their case at a SOAH hearing on the original revocation of the license or enter into the agreement with TCLEOSE.

Agenda Item #10 – Adjourn

Commissioner Griffith made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cain seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Allan Cain, Secretary
AC/kw

TCLEOSE

Request to Address the Commission

Turn in completed form to executive assistant or any TCLEOSE staff member

Name: ROBERT MOCK Date: 12-3-09

Address: 2500 TANA

Phone: 713 842 3728 Email: rmock@houstoniso.org

1. I wish to speak on agenda item: HND APPLICATION FOR APPROVED TRAINING
PROVISION

I am: (☒) For (☐) Against (☐) Neutral

2. I am authorized to speak on behalf of: N/A

Reference agenda item: _____

3. I do not wish to speak, but want my position recorded on agenda item: _____

I am: (☐) For (☐) Against (☐) Neutral

Agenda Item # 9 Work session
TCLEOSE

Request to Address the Commission

Turn in completed form to any TCLEOSE staff member wearing a blue lanyard

Name: FRANK Woodall Date: 12-3-2009

Address: 6 P.O. Box 4087 Agestr

Phone: 434-2218 Email: frank.woodall@^{txdps}~~talent~~state.tx.us

1. I wish to speak on agenda item: 9 Odessa College

I am: () For (☒) Against () Neutral

2. I am authorized to speak on behalf of: _____

Reference agenda item: _____

3. I do not wish to speak, but want my position recorded on agenda item: _____

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

Agenda Item # 9 work session
TCLEOSE

Request to Address the Commission

Turn in completed form to any TCLEOSE staff member wearing a blue lanyard

Name: Tim Burton Date: 12/3/07

Address: 205 N. Grant Ave, Odessa Tx 79760

Phone: 432 335.3335 Email: tburner@ci.odessa.tx.us

1. I wish to speak on agenda item: 9

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

2. I am authorized to speak on behalf of: Odessa P.D. (City of Odessa)

Reference agenda item: Odessa College Police Academy Training

3. I do not wish to speak, but want my position recorded on agenda item: _____

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

Agenda Item # 9 Work session
TCLEOSE

Request to Address the Commission

Turn in completed form to any TCLEOSE staff member wearing a blue lanyard

Name: Jerry Harvell Date: 12-3-09

Address: 205 N. Grant Ave

Phone: 432-335-3362 Email: jharvell@ci.odessa.tx.us

1. I wish to speak on agenda item: #9

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

2. I am authorized to speak on behalf of: Odessa P.D.

Reference agenda item: #9

3. I do not wish to speak, but want my position recorded on agenda item: _____

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

Agenda Item # 4 Work session
TCLEOSE

Request to Address the Commission

Turn in completed form to any TCLEOSE staff member wearing a blue lanyard

Name: GREG WILLIAMS Date: 12-3/09

Address: 102 E. University - Odessa, TX

Phone: 432-335-6400 Email: _____

1. I wish to speak on agenda item: #9

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

2. I am authorized to speak on behalf of: Odessa College

Reference agenda item: _____

3. I do not wish to speak, but want my position recorded on agenda item: _____

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

TCLEOSE

Request to Address the Commission

Turn in completed form to executive assistant or any TCLEOSE staff member

Name: D. Gregory South Date: 12/3/09
 Address: ~~207~~ / P.O. Box 13177 Odessa
 Phone: 432.335.6685 Email: g.south@odessa.edu

1. I wish to speak on agenda item: _____

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

2. I am authorized to speak on behalf of: Odessa College

Reference agenda item: _____

3. I do not wish to speak, but want my position recorded on agenda item: _____

I am: () For () Against () Neutral

Agenda Item #

7 work session
TCLEOSE

Request to Address the Commission

Turn in completed form to executive assistant or any TCLEOSE staff member

Name:

Brad Miller

Date:

12-3-09

Address:

201 W. University

Phone:

335-6505

Email:

bmiller@odessa.edu

1. I wish to speak on agenda item: _____

I am:

(☒) For

(☐) Against

(☐) Neutral

2. I am authorized to speak on behalf of: _____

Odessa College

Reference agenda item: _____

9

3. I do not wish to speak, but want my position recorded on agenda item: _____

I am:

(☐) For

(☐) Against

(☐) Neutral