

**BOARD ON JAIL OFFICER
STANDARDS AND TRAINING**

**MINUTES
FOR THE MEETING OF
12 JUNE 2014**

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Exhibits

(Exhibits are kept on file and copies are available upon request.)

Exhibit One -	House Bill 1091	Appendix A
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Minutes
Board on Jail Officer Standards and Training
Ridgeland, Mississippi
12 JUNE 2014

Call to Order

Chairman Sollie called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Roll Call, Introduction of New Board Members and Guests

Chairman Sollie conducted roll call and declared for the record that a quorum was present.

The following Board members, staff, advisors and guests were participants:

BJOST Members present:

Mr. Ronnie L. Bowen, Chief, Amory Police Department
Mr. Perry Hood, Mississippi Association of Supervisors
Mr. Bill Newsom, Mississippi Association of Supervisors
Mr. Martin Pace, Sheriff, Warren County
Ms. Missy Saxton, Exec Assistant, MS State Board for Community and Junior Colleges
Mr. Billy Sollie, Sheriff, Lauderdale County

BJOST Members not present:

Mr. Ricky L. Banks, Sheriff, Leflore County
Dr. Linda Keena, PhD, Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police
Mr. Danny Rigel, Sheriff, Lamar County

BJOST Counsel not present:

Mr. Jimmy Dale, Special Assistant Attorney General

BJOST Staff Members present:

Robert Davis, Director, Standards & Training
Donald Beard, Director, Juvenile Monitoring Unit
Bebea Boney, Administrative Assistant
Tim Brown, Projects Officer IV, Special
Irene Turner, Certification Specialist

Advisors and Visitors present:

Brand Huffman, Warden, Chickasaw County Sheriff's Department

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Sollie asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes from the previous meeting.

Mr. Hood moved to adopt the minutes as submitted and Ms. Saxton seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition on a voice vote.

Old Business

Discuss proposed changes to Jail Officer Enabling Legislation and Juvenile Detention Standards.

Director Davis presented copies of and explained HB1091 (**Exhibit One**). The bill, which did not pass this session, was brought about to make changes to the Juvenile Detention Officer Standards as proposed by an appointed task force. The task force did not complete the proposed policy changes but did ask for and was granted a one year extension. One of the focal points proposed was the reduction (to one year) for training to be completed by all juvenile detention officers. It would consist of additional hours of training after completion of the present BJOST curriculum. This training would be above and beyond the present training. An in-service requirement of forty (40) hours per year was also included.

Mr. Donald Beard came before the board addressing this issue. Mr. Beard is presently part of this task force that is in the process of creating new standards for juvenile detention facilities. Mr. Beard advised that the task force feels that the present juvenile officer training is inadequate. An additional sixteen (16) hours is on the table which would bring the present BJOST juvenile specific curriculum up to forty (40) hours. Director Davis added that the task force is considering recommending that all the juvenile detention facilities in the state be licensed and their license would be revoked if the standards are not met. Mr. Beard spoke to the need of Mississippi developing specific standards for the juvenile detention officers or end up having the DOJ come in and mandate their idea of standards to the state.

New Business

Discuss current training requirements

Mr. Brand Huffman came forward with a proposal for the possibility of conducting a portion of the present BJOST training curriculum online. Discussion centered around making available some of the non hands-on portions. All material covered online would be tested in the classroom. This would benefit some smaller jails by decreasing the hours that an employee would be away during training. There would also be a potential reimbursement saving since the student would actually be away from his agency attending training for a shorter period of time. Clarification was made that even if approved, there would still be two separate delivery systems for the course (online and traditional classroom). Mr. Huffman offered to craft a pilot program utilizing some of the existing training modules. Discussion was to gather a group of trainers from across the state to attend a brainstorming session. This session would be for general feedback to determine what modules, if any, would be best presented online. Chairman Sollie asked Mr. Huffman if he would be willing to chair this assembled group of trainers. Huffman stated that he would. A proposal was made, by Sheriff Pace and seconded by Mr. Hood, to contact the trainers and conduct the meeting and report back to the board at a later date. The motion passed without opposition.

Certification of Officers

Tim Brown presented a list (**Exhibit Two**) of 414 detention officers (335 adult, 79 juvenile) for certification. Ms. Saxton offered a motion to approve the list for certification and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

Certification of Training Facility

Tim Brown presented two (2) (**Exhibit Three**) training facilities for certification, one from the Hinds County Sheriff's Department and one from Mississippi Delta Community College. Sheriff Pace offered a motion to approve the training facilities certification and Mr. Newsom seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

Certification of Instructors

Tim Brown presented a list (**Exhibit Four**) of fourteen (14) instructors who have completed the application process and met the standards for instructor certification. Mr. Newsom offered a motion to approve the instructors. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hood and passed without opposition.

With today's certifications, the State now has 11 active training facilities, 40 active instructors and has issued 5218 Detention Officer Certifications.

Director's Report

Director Davis expressed a concern that the number of active instructors and training facilities seemed to be lessening and hoped that we could maintain an adequate number to meet the training needs across the state.

Next Scheduled BJOST meeting

The next BJOST Board meeting will be announced after the committee meets.

Concluding Remarks & Adjournment

Chairman Sollie observed the business of the Board was complete and entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion was provided by Ms. Saxton and seconded by Mr. Newsom and passed without opposition. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.