

# MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE/WORTHINGTON

## LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE AGENDA

Wednesday October 27, 2021  
Noon in Room 113

**MEMBERS:** Troy Appel, Matthew Sorenson, Jeff Markquart, Kenneth Willers, Jim Marshall, Ryan Kruger, Gary Nordseth, Chad Cummings, Shawn Haken, Jeremy Steinle, Evan Verbrugge, Shawn Langseth, Shawn Haken, Galen McCarthy, Eric Wallen, Jason Purrington, Tom Whitehead, Steve Tekamp, Jason Lichty, Michael Hunter, Scott Peterson, Donna Mercy, Dannial Myers, Rochelle Hanson, Jared Bergeman, Roger Pohlman, Jeff Winker.

Present: Shawn Haken ~ Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Shawn Langseth ~ Adrian Police Department, Jeff Markquardt ~ Martin County Sheriff's Office, Michael Hunter ~ Fairmont Police Department, Jeff Winker ~ Marshall Police Department, Daniel Myers ~ Cottonwood County Sheriff's Office, Chet Anderson ~ St. James Police Department, Roger Pohlman ~ Lakefield Police Department, Ryan Kruger ~ Nobles County Sheriff, Nathan Grimmus ~ Worthington Police Department, Chad Cummings ~ Radio Works, Ron Schwint, Mike Cumiskey, student representatives ~ Kalen Brands and Edwardo Carillo, Trisha Heidebrink.

Unable to attend: Tom Whitehead ~ Slayton Police Department, Evan Verbrugger ~ Rock County Sheriff, Steve Telkamp ~ Murray County Sheriff, Janson Lichty ~ Tracy Police Department, Scott Peterson ~ Windom Police Department, Jason Purrington ~ Cottonwood County Sheriff, Jared Bergeman ~ Watonwan County Sheriff, Eric Wallen ~ Lyon County Sheriff, Jim Marshall ~ Marshall Police Department, Matthew Sorenson, Kenneth Willers ~ Minnesota State Patrol, Gary Nordseth ~ DNR, Jeremy Steinle ~

**Mike told the group why we have advisory... we are mandated by Minnstate to have an advisory committee. We are supposed to meet twice a year.**

**Minnstate taskforce is making recommendations on what they would like to see done with our Law Enforcement training. It is everything that is happening right now in Law Enforcement and what we are adding per their recommendations.**

**Mike thanked the group for volunteering to be on the committee. Mike introduced himself, Ron, Trisha, Eduardo Carrillo (a first-year student from Luverne), and Kalen Brands (second year student from Worthington).**

### **New Business:**

1. Program status fall of 2021 – Mike
  - The program is down a little this year. We are not sure if this is due to COVID or society after the George Floyd incident. Our first-year program is at 14 students and our second-year program is at 15 students. We usually have 17 to 20 students.
  - AAS, which is an Associates of Applied Science, which means that skills are combined in the program. This is a two-year program. Almost the entire second

year is the skills. Mike handed out our flyer with our courses listed on it. Ten schools in the state offer the AAS program. The rest of the schools offer an AS program. In an AS program you do a summer skills program.

- Building proposal ~Mike handed out the new building proposal. Minnesota State put in a building proposal to update the second floor for our nursing program. This would allow for a new building for our Law Enforcement program. Last week we had the State Representatives Finance Committee tour the campus. Today the Senate Finance Committee was touring the campus. If they ask why we need the building, it is because we are over in the Annex, which has reached the end of its life expectancy. We use the annex for use of force training, wrestling, etc. We are not all encompassed in one building. We are proposing that Law Enforcement to be all encompassed in one building. The building will include: a training area that will be used for continuing education, classroom, a squad room classroom that will mimic an actual squad room, an indoor 5 lane shooting range, and a Milo and simulator classroom. We will be able to do some sponsoring for customized training purposes for our local Law Enforcement. We will be able to bring in firearm instructors and Taser Instructor Development courses.

Initially when this was submitted to the state, we did not score high. Somehow, our proposal was brought up again. Our Chancellor believes in the project for the both the nursing and law enforcement program. This will be going up for bonding this year for both planning and building.

Someone asked what the bonding ask was Ron thought it was high because they are looking at making the entire second floor nursing simulator labs. The nursing simulators are \$180,000.00 each.

Ron added that that back open bay would be like Alexandria it would have a Hogans Alley, which will be tied to the Milo system. It will have overhead doors so we can come in and stage traffic stops. It will have movable walls; we already have 15 movable overhead walls, so when we do searches we can switch it up. The heat team has come over to our annex to do search training. It will have a fitness area. There will be a track up above that the instructors will be able to watch the students. Ron said they are really pushing for the indoor shooting. This would be available to local Law Enforcement to come in and do some shooting. We will bring in firearms instructors and Taser instructor it would be nice to get the instructor development courses here. We would teach both general instructor development and reality-based instructor development. We only have the Annex for 4 hours a day now because of athletics so it is hard to over those courses.

Chad Cummings report the ask is 1.9 million to the state.

## 2. PPOE MN Post changes (This is the professional peace officer education post.)

- We have the autism items that need to be complete by July 1, 2022. The state is going to require that anyone that has been through post after July 1, 2022 complete the Autism training. Anyone that graduates after July 1, 2022 the state will assume that individual has been through the autism training. Mike said, they have thought about doing Autism Training as a part of Customized Training.
  - We have the use of deadly force or do we? We do not know right now. Everyone in Law Enforcement is back to the old standards it was doing, but we were told by post we must teach both old standards and new standards. We are also explaining the deference's between old and new standards as we teach them.
3. Taskforce recommendation and action steps ~ Minnstate put together a taskforce on law enforcement following the George Floyd incident. This is the Law Enforcement Education reformation. Mike pulled this in because this shows all of the things they are looking for from Law Enforcement.
- a. Outcome I is reform Law Enforcement education by creating anti-racism Law Enforcement Education Programs. Everyone is going through bias training so this is nothing new to law enforcement it is just a new name.
  - b. Outcome II Propose/develop competencies for Law Enforcement education programming that prepare graduates for transformative policing of our communities. It goes over the action steps of the recommendations they are making.
  - c. Action Step 1.3 Program Advisory Committee membership and training. They want to make sure the Advisory Committee goes through the bias training. The taskforce recommendation and action steps are still a work in progress as they are deciding how to get the information out to everyone.
4. Summer skills update –
- We will not be doing summer skills. We have done summer skill for the past 4 years. Skills is a tight market. The students we get, other than our own students are students that did not qualify during the regular school year. We would get the students that did not apply in time for Alexandria Skills program. We would get students that had been denied at other institution. Our students did all right in our skills program. We had nine students the first time we offered skills. Then we were down six students. We tried to get the students to come from Marshall. We are not getting those students unless they had been turned away from Alexandria. We would get two or three students and then we would have to try to recruit because it was too late for those two or three students to go somewhere else. It just takes too much time to recruit for skills. We are going to focus on recruiting for our two-year program.

Mike likes how Rochester does their program. They start in January the students will get more hands on than they would in the 8-week program. The 8-week block program is good for students that are really on top of things, but there are those students that you are on the fence. Mike suggests they come here for a year. You get more hands on. Students seem to be more confident with their skills when they are done with the program. This is a better alternative.

Mike is trying to recruit from Marshall again. The program would start in January and run on Saturdays all the way until graduation. Then they would come into the 8-week block program. They would have their use of force done. They would come in with more repetition. Mike has not heard back from SMSU. Minnstates enrollment is down. Minnesota West's enrollment is up 1% there is less students going into Law Enforcement.

5. MN West Pre-law enforcement EVOC Course at the Merit Center in Marshall. We decided to do this because we were sending students originally up to St. Cloud and then we sent them to Dakota County. This came out of our skills program because several students did not have EVOC. There are seven learning objectives. Objective 1 is you need a driver's license. EVOC it is not complicated.

Jeff Wenkler asked how the track is working out at the Merit Center. Mike responded it is a great track and it is nice because you have classrooms there. Jeff said they are working on the Skid panel to keep it more wet, it dries to quick per Jeff. Mike said, that some departments just use their airports. However, if you cannot use the airport Mike suggests using the Merit Center. It is not expensive \$200 to rent the track for the day and the classroom comes with it. Ron, Mike and Kevin are trained to do the instruction on the simulator.

We are getting used vehicles. They will be coming. They sold our vehicles we originally wanted so they are getting us 2 -2017 and 1- 2018 SUV's.

6. Update: Fitness Court, Vehicles and Driving Simulator – Mike/Ron Fitness court is done we paired with Minnstate, National Fitness Counsel, The City of Worthington, Worthington Regional Health Care. The Fitness Court is open to the public. Ron will be giving a tour of the simulators.

7. Customized Training – Discussion

Mike asked the group what we could do for their agencies. We do not need answer today but email Mike or Trish with your needs. Let us know what your department needs without sending your employees to the BCA for training. Milo or driving simulator are also available for training.

Chad said, we almost pulled the plug on the program and the changes that Mike and Ron have made are amazing.

Chad also spoke about the Autism training. As a parent with a nonverbal child with autism, they started the tracking bands through project lifesavers. This is for Downs, Alzheimer, Dementia, and Autism. Chad has stickers for vehicles available that let people know there is someone on board with Autism. If anyone needs some please let Chad know.

8. Your input on how to improve the program and add new members – Advisory Committee Members and suggestions for the students

They asked, Eduardo if he was going to state patrol? Eduardo said yes but he is not sure. Eduardo said he is good at communication. Community office would get more possibility of communicating with people.

Chad said the Mock interviews are pretty eye opening. These interviews give the students many ideas and make them better, ready, and more attractive. Not all students have sat through an interview. We go through the new post testing. It is a dress rehearsal.

Mike state we have received a ton of emails for departments asking if they can come talk to the students because they are looking for help. Jeff said the market is very tight. For one job opening, they are down to only receiving four applications. Jeff stated it use to be that you would get 200 application. Fifty-seven agencies need help.

Mike said to feel free to come into talk to the students.

South Dakota gave reciprocity test. Unions have contacted Chad to recruit people for out of state for law enforcement jobs. How fun is it to keep our students in Minnesota. It is hard to keep them in a position. We would rather retain people to stay in Minnesota. Unions are coming to the radio to recruit. Bonuses are being offered for lateral transfers. Florida is offering \$20000.00.

Fill out job application correctly; you will not get your foot in the door if you do not. Jeff Winkler told the kids to keep a good background and reminded them Social Media is part of the backgrounds. Do not have your mom call about your application.

Roger reminded the students work ethic is important. Many kids now days do not work. I will take someone that had a part time job over someone who did not. Get you basics here and we can teach you on the job.

Volunteering is huge. Do not say you are passionate without support to back it up.

**Old Business:**

None

**Next meeting:** TBD