

Law and Justice Commission

MTU 8

Minutes

December 16, 2014

Members Present:

Rick Davis	Tim Stanesa	Jon Sandage	Mike Scott
Nichol Bleichner	Dale Sparks	Greg Allen	Tony Childress
Larry Mowery	Rick Bleichner	Tim Henson	Mark Doran
Chris Lane	Eric Klingele	Mike Kemp	Kathy Davis
			Brendan Heffner (1:45 pm)

Staff Present:

Mark Kotte Denelle Hetrick

Members of the Public Present:

Randy Wilson

- I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Davis at 1:05 p.m. at Heartland Community College in Normal, IL
- II. Roll call and establishment of quorum: Sign-in sheet passed around and quorum established.
- III. Motion was made by R. Bleichner and seconded by Sparks to approve October 14, 2014 meeting minutes – all in favor - motion carried
- IV. Davis presented a plaque to Kotte for 5 years of service to MTU 8. Davis stated he will mail Beth Kimmerling a plaque for her 11 years of service as the Treasurer as she has moved out of state.
- V. Financial Report: Motion to approve October and November expenses made by Mowery and seconded by Henson – voice roll call vote taken with all voting yea – motion carried.
- VI. Correspondence
 - A. Director stated MTU 8 received a letter from IMRF confirming the employer contribution rate for 2015 as 16.13%.
- VII. New Business
 - A. N. Bleichner stated the announcement for the Coordinator position was posted on three websites. There were ten responses. The interview committee then narrowed it down to six and ended up interviewing four candidates. After the interviews, the committee narrowed the candidates down to two and performed background and reference checks. The interview committee selected Bob Siron who retired as Assistant Chief from Bloomington Police Department. Motion to hire Bob Siron as the new Coordinator was made by Sandage and seconded by R. Bleichner - voice roll call vote taken with all voting yea - motion carried.
 - B. Resolution for new Coordinator to be Registered Agent for ASSIST grant: Motion to appoint Bob Siron as the Registered Agent was made by Sparks

and seconded by Scott - voice roll call vote taken with all voting yea - motion carried.

- C. N. Bleichner stated Pat Hahn wanted to make sure MTU 8's policies stated Training Coordinator instead of Director to follow statute language. She went through the policies and made the changes. She stated she added an addendum that was made in 2006 stating part-time employees shall be scheduled to work a minimum of 2-hours. In the event the work they are scheduled to perform is completed in less than 2-hours they shall receive pay for 2-hours to the Personnel Policy. She stated the by-laws need to be updated. She will present these changes at the next meeting. She also recommended the MTU post all policies on the website. Motion to replace the title of Director to Coordinator in all policies was made by N. Bleichner and seconded by Henson - voice roll call vote taken with all voting yea - motion carried.
- D. IMRF Authorized Agent - Motion to appoint Bob Siron as the IMRF Authorized Agent with an effective date of 1/1/15 was made by Childress and seconded by R. Bleichner - voice roll call vote taken with all voting yea - motion carried.
- E. Davis stated the Treasurer vacancy needed to be filled. N. Bleichner nominated Jon Sandage with Childress seconding the nomination. Motion to close nominations was made by Doran and seconded by N. Bleichner - all in favor - motion carried. Motion to appoint Jon Sandage as Treasurer was made by Kemp and seconded by Davis - voice roll call vote taken with all voting yea - motion carried.
- F. Director stated he received a letter from Jay Smithson, the Mayor of Ellsworth, requesting for Ellsworth Police Department to become a member of MTU 8. Motion to approve Ellsworth Police Dept. as an MTU 8 member was made by Scott and seconded by Sparks. R. Bleichner requested to have discussion on the issue. R. Bleichner questioned if there would be conflict of interest as Steve Silvey is the Chief of Ellsworth Police and he is also a part-time employee of MTU 8. Scott withdrew his motion and the topic was tabled until the next meeting.
- G. Approval of Kotte's severance package - Davis stated at Kotte's retirement date on December 31, he will have 72 hours of vacation time which he needs to be compensated for at a rate of \$25.08, totaling \$1,805.76. He also will have 308 hours of sick time. 15% of unused sick time is compensated for. 15% of 308 hours is 46.2 hours equals \$1,158.70. Kotte is choosing not to put the amount for sick time into IMRF. He will also be using two holiday days before the end of the year. The total to be paid to Kotte for vacation and sick time is \$2,964.46. Motion to pay Kotte \$2,964.46 for unused vacation and sick time was made by Scott and seconded by Henson - voice roll call vote taken with all voting yea - motion carried
- H. Director stated Heartland Community College's campus is closed from December 24, 2014 through January 1, 2015. Staff will be checking email from home and phones will be transferred.
- I. Director stated the IROCC qualification shoot was held on 10/2/14. Kevin Henderson with Normal PD was hired as the instructor. Thanked Bloomington Police Dept. for use of the range.

- J. Director stated the Needs Assessment will be sent out in January. Encouraged departments to complete and return the survey as the FY2016 course plan will be built using the needs assessment.
- K. Director stated the PPCT and the February TASER Instructor courses will be held at the National Guard Armory in Bloomington.
- L. Director stated MTU 8 offices have moved to the NRC and the majority of classes held at Heartland will be held in this building.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Reminder to all Police Chiefs & Deputy Police Chiefs regarding State mandated training – 20 hours annually (Public Act 94-354).

IX. Curriculum

- A. Klingele asked if other departments would be interested in attempting to have a DRE training program held at MTU 8. Hetrick stated the MTU could apply for grant funding for the course. There was interest shown.
- B. Childress inquired about the topic of ALICE training that had been tabled. R. Bleichner stated it may be a good idea for area departments to reach out to Mark Jontry, the Regional Superintendent, to possibly coordinate a joint effort with school administrators and law enforcement to bring a course in. Henson stated Dwight Police Dept.'s SRO attended an ALICE instructor course. They think it's a good program.

- X. Executive Session - Motion was made by Kemp and seconded by Lane to go into executive session - all in favor - motion carried. Entered executive session at 1:50 p.m. Adjourned from executive session at 2:28 p.m.

- XI. N. Bleichner stated a vote needed to be taken on what was discussed in Executive Session. Doran read from page 7 of the investigation the following "It is the recommendation of the Executive Board Mark Kotte is suspended for one-day for the violation of the Ethics Policy. Due to the retirement letter being received prior to this recommendation, the one-day suspension will be held in lieu of no further policy violations for the remainder of the employee's time of employment with the Law & Justice Commission Mobile Team Unit #8. If a policy violation is made during this time, the full day of suspension will be served." Motion to approve the recommendation was made by N. Bleichner and seconded by Henson - roll call vote was taken with 11 voting yes, 2 voting no, and one abstaining - motion carried.

Kotte stated he received a copy of the investigation for the FOIA request but has not received a copy for himself. N. Bleichner stated he could make a copy of the investigation that he was given for the FOIA request for himself.

- XII. Doran asked the Director, if as far as MTU 8 is concerned, does he feel an attorney should be obtained to review the FOIA request. Kotte stated since he is the FOIA Officer for MTU 8, it may be a conflict. He would prefer to have an attorney handle it so there are no questions. The FOIA request was read by N. Bleichner. She stated Kotte replied to the Pantagraph stating some of the documents are not in MTU 8 staff possession. The Pantagraph replied stating someone has to have them so MTU 8 needs to find them and provide them. The Pantagraph was also told some of the documents requested pertain to an ongoing investigation so they can't be provided. An extension was requested for the original FOIA request and the Pantagraph then requested additional

documents. Heffner stated he will contact Attorney Jeff Jurgens and ask him if he would review the FOIA request and also ask for a quote.

Mowery stated Executive Session minutes must be reviewed two times per calendar year and audio must be retained for 180 days.

Mowery stated he would like to remind everyone it is an illegal act and a violation to speak of items discussed in Executive Session.

Sandage stated he would also like to remind everyone to be cognizant of the Open Meetings Act.

XIII. R. Bleichner asked the Advisory Board to review III., a. on page 7 and B., 2. on page 8 of the Ethics Policy to make sure MTU 8 is in compliance with its own policy.

XIV. No public input was requested

XV. Motion made by Kemp and seconded by R. Bleichner to adjourn - all in favor - motion carried

Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at Heartland Community College, Room CCB 1406.