



SOAR Meeting Minutes

State of Ohio Accreditation Resource

October 16, 2009, 10:00 am
Columbus Police Department
1000 N. Hague Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43204

President Craig Stone called the meeting to order. Present were 22 attendees, representing 17 law enforcement departments/agencies.

1. Approval of Minutes. The members reviewed the minutes. Brenda Gisewite (Montgomery County Sheriff's Office) made a motion to approve the minutes, with Amy Stevens (Cincinnati PD) seconded the motion.

2. Recognition of New Members/Visitors.

1. Regina Shoopman from OSU Police Department assisting Alex Rayner with Accreditation.
2. Jon Wheeler from Springboro Police Department.

3. Reports from Officers:

1. President Craig Stone – Present

- Did an On-Site for Scottsdale (AZ) Police Department. Stated this was a BETA On-Site (two assessors). Suggested to coordinate with your team leader and get as many files out as possible. Suggested sending out possible problem files so you have time to correct any issues as soon as they are returned because you don't have much time to fix them while the assessors are there.
- CALEA wants the assessors to get out in the community, but with the short time frame given hard to find time. In AZ, they did not have time to get out to the community so they had an interview panel, brought community leaders to the assessors and they interviewed and questioned them. Worked out for them but assessors would prefer to get out into the community and interact with them.
- President Stone indicated that he is currently on 2 panels. One with OPOTA for curriculum building and another for creating scenarios.
- Made a point to new Accreditation Managers, if assessors have an issue with a file that is O, and you have not met your 20%, don't waste time trying to fix it just 20% that file and move on.
- President Stone indicated that he and Teresa will be attending the Salt Lake City CALEA Conference to support Experience Columbus in winning the bid to host the July 2012 conference. Asked that any members attending this conference come to the Outreach Committee Meeting on Friday morning and support them. Indicated that he spoke with the Hyatt and they agreed to donate \$10,000.00 towards transportation.

2. Vice President Jeff McDaniel – Not Present had to work a double shift last night.

- No report

3. Treasurer Howard Niemeier – Present

- No Expenditures
 - U.S. Bank Checking Account balance is \$6,624.18
 - U.S. Bank Savings Account balance \$21,290.87 (includes \$9.62 interest)
 - Total Available Funds of \$27,915.05
- As of October 15th, SOAR has 61 Paid Membership Agencies; up from 42 from last year.
- 2 Warrants returned to agencies due to being expired. (OPOTA and OSHP)

4. **Secretary Deborah Gearhiser** – Not Present.

- No report from Secretary. Sherri Allen (Ohio State Highway Patrol) taking notes.

4. **Old Business**

1. **Recent On-sites**

No recent On-Sites indicated.

2. **File Review Committee**

- a. Webmaster Kathy Mahl has posted a list of procedures for a voluntary SOAR File Review Process. Please review them on the website: <http://www.soar-pac.com/>. Use the Forum/Resources tab and select the File Review Request link. The link will pull up the suggested file review process.
- b. Sherri Allen (Ohio State Highway Patrol) is the coordinator for the File Review Committee. Reported that if anyone is requesting a File Review to complete the form and she will coordinate with SOAR members wishing to assist. Indicated that we have limited the files to 9, but take into consideration files that have multiple bullets. Question raised about the beginning time. Sherri advised that when the request is made she will take that into consideration and indicated that we can start at 9 am and finish up after the SOAR meeting. Will advise volunteers of the same if the agency is traveling a long distance.

3. **By-Law Committee**

Vice President Jeff McDaniel advised that he will have recommended changes to By-Laws ready to be posted to the website by December 1, 2009 for review by members and ready for discussion at the December meeting.

6. **New Business**

1. Upcoming On-Sites/Mock Assessments

- a. **Xenia PD** – Mock scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st.
- b. **Knox County Sheriff** – Looking for a team to complete a mock on either **October 21 or 28**. This will be their first reaccreditation.
- c. **Tiffin PD** – Mock scheduled for Friday, October 23rd.
- d. **Highland Heights** - On-Site scheduled for December 6-7th.

2. CALEA Change Notice 5.6

- a. 83.2.7 – Language change to bullet d – “DNA evidence to **accredited** laboratories.”
- b. 84.1.6 – Language change to bullet b – “an audit of property....”
Discussion on this with concerns about “audit” meaning their entire evidence stock. After reading the Appendix I, states only when custodial change.

3. SOAR sponsored Hospitality

- a. Jeff McDaniel is the Chairperson for the Hospitality committee, other members on the committee are Brenda Gieswite (Montgomery County), Eric Vogelphol, Amy Stevens (Cincinnati PD – Host Agency), Kathy Mahl (Ohio State Highway Patrol) and Deb Gearhiser (BCI&I). The committee will have a proposal at the December 2010 meeting. Reminded everyone that we will have plenty of things that need to be done and can use all the help we can get for the Hospitality Night.

4. Election

- a. Will hold elections for President and Secretary (2010 – 2012) at our December meeting
 - i. Recommendations for President – suggested Craig Stone run again he is doing a great job. No other recommendations at this time. Craig indicated that he is enjoying it and will run again

- ii. Recommendations for Secretary – suggested Deb Gearhiser. No other recommendations at this time.
- b. Suggestion made to possibly add this on the website for members who were not present at meeting to submit recommendations. President Stone indicated that was a good idea and advised to have a deadline date of December 1st for recommendations. Will pass this along to our webmaster Kathy Mahl.

5. Future Meetings

- a. Will select 2010 meeting dates and locations at December meeting. Indicated some request to possibly have a meeting north/south once a year or so. Having meetings centrally located has worked for most but some agencies not able to get to meetings.

8. **Open Discussion**

- a. Howard Neimeier (Newport PD) shared his experience at the FBI Academy. 10 week training with 250 in the class from all 50 states and 25 different countries. 17 hours of college required for either Grad or Undergrad. Had 5 different goal areas to work on. Physical Fitness is mandatory, from the first day had to run one mile on the yellow brick road and it was uphill from there with the conclusion at the end of the 10 weeks being a 6.2 miles. Trainers were excellent. Several enrichment series with speakers such as the Ex CIA Director, Michael Durrant from Blackhawk Down and a Louisiana Trooper who was shot in the face discussing their experiences. A very rewarding, challenging and eye opening experience. They had an International Night where different cultures shared their food and drinks. They had a NYC trip, left on Friday and returned Sunday, non stop tour with demonstrations and visiting their Communications Center and Emergency Center. Recommended if anyone has the opportunity to experience this they should. He would do it again if possible.

9. **Adjournment**

- a. Next meeting will be at the Columbus Police Academy. Anyone wanting a tour of the facility please contact Lt. Craig Stone in advance at 614-645-4603 or at his e-mail listed below.
- b. Greg Barber (Grove City PD) made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with Alex Rayner (Ohio State University PD) with a second to the motion.

Future Meeting Dates and Locations:

October 16 – Columbus Division of Police Training Academy, 100 N. Hague Avenue, Cols 43204

December 11 – Columbus Division of Police Training Academy

Officers:

President:

Lieutenant Craig Stone
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Secretary:

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Treasurer:

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Immediate Past President:

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