

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

August 11, 2022

Virtual and Call-in Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Willie C. Bolton
Captain Nicholas D. Ellis
Mr. Richard Hyde
Chief Leonard “Dee” Meadows
Commissioner Michael Nail
Mr. Samir J. Patel
Mr. Rossie Ross
Mr. Charles D. Sikes
Sheriff Joey Terrell
Chief Craig Tully
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chief Bruce Carlisle
Chief Stacey Cotton
Sheriff Dane Kirby
Commissioner Timothy C. Ward

OTHERS:

Ms. Tina Piper, Attorney General’s Office
Mrs. Jennifer Pendarvis, Board Liaison
Ms. Cheryl Buie, Department of Public Safety
Commissioner Christopher C. Wright, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Billy Hitchens, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Lt. Colonel Stephanie Stallings, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Robert Balkcom, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Josh Lamb, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Wayne Mobley, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Andrew Montgomery, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Chris Rodewolt, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Lt. Chris Nease, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Lt. Michael Burns, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Ms. Kaycee Larson, Department of Public Safety
Ms. Megan Miller, Department of Public Safety
Director Vic Reynolds, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Chris Hosey, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Ms. Rhonda Westbrook, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
SAC Chris DeMarco, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Pastor Slade Speir, North Newington Baptist Church

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the August 11, 2022 Board of Public Safety meeting to order.

Pastor Slade Speir gave the Invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Wood recognized special guests in the room: Pastor Slade Spier of North Newington Baptist Church and Georgia Bureau of Investigation Region 5 Special Agent in Charge, Chris DeMarco.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the May 25, 2022 BPS minutes. Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion to approve the May 25, 2022 minutes. This was seconded by Chief Dee Meadows and voted approved by the Board members.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Commissioner Wright, Georgia Department of Public Safety, reported the 113th Trooper School began on July 17th with 66 cadets and is in week 4 with 48 cadets remaining as of this morning.

Commissioner Wright also reported there have been 588 applicants for the 114th Trooper School that will begin in January, noting the application deadline has been extended to August 31st. Commissioner Wright advised there are 16 cadets in Motor Carrier School and are currently in field training, with graduation being on September 30th.

Concerning the crime suppression details, Commissioner Wright reported in addition to metro Atlanta, details have been held with local partners in Columbus, Warner Robins, and Savannah.

Regarding construction projects, Commissioner Wright advised the new headquarters project is moving forward and is on pace to be completed by the end of January; Post 16 Hazlehurst is complete and has been moved into, with a grand opening scheduled for Friday, September 23rd at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Wright shared former Post 16 Helena has been vacated and on July 13th, Governor Kemp issued an Executive Order officially transferring that property from DPS to the Department of Community Supervision. Commissioner Wright noted Post 33 Milledgeville will be completed in the middle of September and a grand opening ceremony will be announced. Commissioner Wright also noted the Department is in the process of finalizing the architectural plans for Post 40 in Worth County; and personnel are working on an EPS ground study for Post 18 Reidsville, and once completed it will go before the next SPC Board meeting.

Commissioner Wright announced the Georgia Association Chiefs of Police recognized the Department's Office of Public Safety Support by being awarded the Dr. Curtis McClung Award of Excellence. Commissioner Wright stated this is an honor to be recognized.

Commissioner Wright shared on August 3rd, the Department recognized its very first female pilot in the Aviation division, TFC Haley Lucas. Commissioner Wright stated he is very proud of TFC Lucas and looks forward to the opportunities she has ahead of her in the Aviation division. Commissioner Wright also announced Chris Rodewolt has been appointed Troop F Captain effective August 1st.

Director Vic Reynolds, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, advised the Board this will be his last meeting as Director of the Agency and will be appointed Superior Court Judge of the Cobb Judicial Circuit on August 15th. Director Reynolds thanked the Board for all it does to support the Bureau, stating it is a great Agency with very driven men and women, and being the director has been one of

the greatest honors of his life, both professionally and personally. Director Reynolds shared he is so proud of the work they do and is humbled by the friendships he has gained and getting to know the members of the Board.

Director Reynolds shared the Bureau has been named the President's Award from the International Association of Chiefs of Police as a result of an investigation Region 8 handled and solved.

Director Reynolds shared as he leaves his position, he is confident the backlog in the crime lab will see a significant reduction due to the largest number of scientists working that anyone has any recollection of, which is a result of support from the Board and the Governor. Director Reynolds noted the Agency continuously wrestles with issues in the Medical Examiner's Office due to the number of bodies received as a result of overdose deaths and victims of violent crimes and advised the Board the Agency is pulling an additional shift with the Medical Examiners and death investigative specialists to get the numbers down.

Mr. Charles Sikes, Mr. Willie Bolton, Captain Nick Ellis, and Mr. Samir Patel thanked Director Reynolds for his leadership as Director and wished him success in his new role.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center, advised the Board the Training Center has been awarded a three-year grant from CJCC to expand their school safety approach and SRO training to take the training on the road and use it in local schools throughout the state. Director Wigginton also stated they are working with POST to make the training a certification with a continuing education portion that once you are certified as a SRO, you can continue the training and certification.

Regarding the partnership with the University of West Georgia and the basic mandate class, Director Wigginton advised it is moving forward and the first class will be in the Spring of 2023.

Director Wigginton reported the Training Center has been approached by Georgia Military College, who had recently been approved as an Academy by POST. Director Wigginton explained during some of internal meetings, the College asked to visit GPSTC and discuss a partnership like the one in place with the University of West Georgia. Director Wigginton asked for support to continue conversations with Georgia Military College to implement a basic training program within their four-year degree program. Chief Craig Tully made the motion for GPSTC to continue conversations with Georgia Military College. This motion was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the Board Members.

DONATIONS

Major Josh Lamb, Georgia Department of Public Safety, requested approval of the following donations:

One (1) Kool Aire Ice Machine	\$3,500.00	Mr. Anthony Poole
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Minutes of Board of Public Safety

August 11, 2022

Page 4

Fifteen (15) Fenix TK 16 V2.0 Flashlights and Fifteen (15) Fenix Lithium-ion mAH Battery with USB Port	\$1,335.00	City of Dawsonville
Two (2) Stalker DSR 2X Radar Units With Instant on Remote	\$6,780.00	City of Dahlonega
Travel and per Diem for Two (2) Troopers to Attend the 103 rd American Legion National Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin	\$3,200.00	The American Legion, Department of Georgia
One (1) German Shepherd	\$500.00	Mr. Gordon Steele
One (1) Stalker DSR 2X Radar Unit	\$3,187.50	Candler County Sheriff's Office
Ten (10) DragonEye Lidar Units	\$21,000.00	Coweta County Sheriff's Office
One (1) Stalker DSR 2X Radar Unit	\$3,318.00	Emanuel County Sheriff's Office
One (1) Stalker XLR Lidar Unit and One (1) Stalker DSR 2X Radar Unit	\$5,799.00	Bryan County Board of Commissioners

The motion to accept these donations was made by Sheriff Joey Terrell, which was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the Board members.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center, requested approval of the following donations:

Ten (10) Tactical Vests	\$250.00	Snellville Police Department
One (1) Stalker Dual SL Radar	\$2,000.00	Applied Concepts / DBA Stalker Radar

The motion to accept these donations was made by Mr. Willie Bolton, which was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes and voted approved by the Board members.

RESOLUTION

Director Wigginton requested approval of a Resolution for the Georgia Public Safety Training Center to enter into negotiations with Georgia Emergency Medical Services Association and Georgia State Properties Commission for use of space at 1000 Indian Spring Drive, Forsyth, Georgia.

The motion to approve this Resolution was made by Sheriff Joey Terrell, which was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Charles Sikes made a motion to adjourn the Board of Public Safety meeting and go into the Georgia Crime Information Center Council, which was seconded by Chief Dee Meadows and voted approved by the Board Members.

GEORGIA CRIME INFORMATION CENTER COUNCIL

Ms. Rhonda Westbrook, GCIC Division Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, presented the FY2022 CJIS Security Policy Violations report for the Georgia Crime Information Center, which involves unauthorized access and dissemination of criminal justice information. Ms. Westbrook noted there were 26 violations for 25 agencies reported during FY2022. Ms. Westbrook presented the request for approval of actions taken to resolve security policy violations for FY2022 to the BPS members for their approval.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion to accept the GCIC's recommendations for the FY2021 GCIC Security Policy Violations, which was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Charles Sikes made a motion to adjourn the GCIC Council and return to the Board of Public Safety meeting, which was seconded by Chief Dee Meadows and voted approved by the Board members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Craig Tully
Secretary