

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

February 13, 2020

Georgia Bureau of Investigation

Decatur, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chief Bruce Carlisle
Chief Stacey L. Cotton
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Mr. George Hartwig
Mr. Richard Hyde
Sheriff Dane Kirby-via phone
Commissioner Michael Nail
Mr. Mark Revenew
Mr. Charles D. Sikes
Sheriff Joey Terrell
Chief Craig Tully
Commissioner Timothy C. Ward
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Rossie Ross

OTHERS:

Ms. Tina Piper, Attorney General's Office
Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Russell D. Powell, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Tommy Waldrop, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Lt. Colonel Jason Johnson, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Kevin Rexroat, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Mark Perry, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Chris Wright, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Mark Hambert, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Jeremy Vickery, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Major Billy Boulware, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Wayne Mobley, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Al Whitworth, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Ms. Joan Crumpler, Department of Public Safety
Director Vic Reynolds, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Scott Dutton, Deputy Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Chris Hosey, Inspector, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mrs. Nelly Miles, PIO Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Ms. Natalie Ammons, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Ms. Joy Moore, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Ms. Mabelle Jones, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Ms. Christine Boone, Georgia Bureau of Investigation

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Tony Hightower, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Cindy Jones, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. John Hutcheson, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Tim Melton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Chadd Wilson, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Butch Ayers, Executive Director, Georgia Association Chiefs of Police
Mrs. Melissa Rodgers, Retired, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Jeremy Eller, Appalachian GBI

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the February 13, 2020 Board of Public Safety meeting to order.

Mr. Dan Kirk gave the Invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Bruce Carlisle introduced Mr. Butch Ayers, Executive Director for the Georgia Association Chiefs of Police. Mr. Ayers stated he is honored to be in the position as Executive Director for the GACP and to continue to work with the goals of law enforcement in Georgia.

Director Vic Reynolds, Georgia Bureau of Investigation introduced new Board member, Mr. Richard Hyde. Mr. Hyde shared he was glad to be here today.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked everyone to stand and introduce themselves.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the September, October, November and December minutes. Chief Craig Tully made the motion to approve the September, October, November and December minutes. This was seconded by Chief Bruce Carlisle and voted approve by the Board members.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety stated one of the big topics this day and time, is officer involved shootings and have heard from Director Reynolds about the needs of the GBI to investigate the officer involved shootings. Commissioner McDonough added in the last three weeks, troopers have been involved in three officer involved shootings, which led him to look back over the past few years and noted since 2011, troopers have been involved in 48 officer involved shootings. Commissioner McDonough stated this is a topic that all law enforcement wrestles with, as the violence against police officers go through the roof. Commissioner McDonough stated as far as DPS is concerned, he is proud that he has not had to go through what Chief Cotton has gone through with his agency and since December 27, 2010, there has not been a line of duty death, which is a testament to the grace of God and also a testament to the training the troopers are involved in and the way they conduct themselves. Commissioner McDonough noted we all live in interesting times, but thinks the answer to it are programs like Below 100, where one brings into focus what is important to the officer and keep their minds on what they should be doing and should not get buried and distracted.

Commissioner McDonough gave Chief Tully an update on Survival Flight in SW Georgia and advised they are moving forward with making an application for the service to southwest Georgia but will not be a quick one. Commissioner McDonough stated Survival Flight will not be operational until June or July and they are the only ones that have designated an interest in the area and are moving forward with it.

Regarding the Aviation consolidation, Commissioner McDonough advised one aircraft has been sold since the last meeting to a private individual in Louisiana and this month one was sold to some Panamanians. Commissioner McDonough stated the OH58, a public use aircraft designated for cannibalization all the money that has gone into the maintenance of this aircraft, they are able to pull all the stuff off before turning the hulk of it back into the federal government.

Commissioner McDonough reminded the Board members of the investigation of the 106th Trooper School, gave an overview at the press briefing and gave an overview of where the DPS is at this time. Commissioner McDonough stated after graduation of the 106th Trooper School, they received an anonymous tip from a young lady indicating that one of the troopers had contacted her and given her his username and password to go in and take an exam for him. Commissioner McDonough advised DPS acted upon this and in the investigation, it was found that this did occur and as a result of this, the individual was terminated. Upon his termination, Commissioner McDonough stated he indicated to the department that other members of the school were involved in cheating in the on-line program and after a 3 month investigation that wrapped up in the middle of January, all 30 members of the class were terminated. Commissioner McDonough stated DPS has asked POST Council to do a complete audit of the training program, a lot of the groundwork has been completed and have not received the written part of the investigation. Commissioner McDonough stated POST Council is moving forward separately with two investigators to investigate the circumstances of each individual cadet and their discipline.

Director Vic Reynolds, Georgia Bureau of Investigation asked Board member, Mr. Charles Sikes to share some positive news about the GBI with the group. Mr. Sikes shared the IACP has a list of individuals under 40 who are upcoming and leaders in the profession of being police officers. Mr. Sikes stated in October, Mrs. Lindsey Wilkes, SAC of Region 12 in Eastman was picked for this honor and is quite an honor internationally, congratulated SAC Wilkes on this honor. Director Reynolds advised the GBI is very honored and very proud of SAC Lindsey who does a tremendous job in that region and made a big deal about it inside the GBI as it was well deserved and are very proud of her.

Director Reynolds stated the first ever gang data base is now operational, with between 17,000-18,000 gang members in the data base and have over 100 gangs defined in the data base. Director Reynolds shared when the public announcement was made last week, there were 25 or so new agencies that reached out to the GBI immediately with a request to join us. Director Reynolds declared this could not have happened in the time frame that it happened without the partnerships of Commissioner Nail and his people at DCS and Commissioner Ward and his people at DOC, as they went above and beyond working through the holidays to make sure the gang data base was operational after the first of

the year. Director Reynolds stated he can not tell the Board members enough how important it is for these partnerships to exist in law enforcement and Commissioner Nail and Commissioner Ward are to be commended for their leadership as their people went above and beyond. Director Reynolds stated they are very proud of this accomplishment as it has been on the books statutorily since 2010 and told the governor that no one has ever tried to take a bite of that elephant off and so under Governor Kemp's leadership this has been accomplished and expect the data gang base to be expanded throughout the course of this year as we move into phase 2 and phase 3. Director Reynolds advised if any agency would like to join in on the data gang base, they will make sure they connect them with the right people and have worked hard with DCS and DOC to make sure that we balance what will be a very important tool for law enforcement against protecting the civil liberties of the citizens. Director Reynolds stated they are making sure the data gang base follows all of the guidelines under 28CFR and thinks they have done a really good job on this, which has automatic purging built into it, has got criteria that has to be before allowing anyone placed into the data base, there is mandatory training, there are sanctions built in for violations and are very comfortable about where the data base is headed.

Director Reynolds advised the statewide GBI Gang Task force is busy as ever and in the month of January, 38 new gang cases all over the state of Georgia were opened, ranging from murder, drug trafficking, to assault, to weapons and theft. Director Reynolds stated he receives a weekly gang report from GISAC and there were 79 arrests through out the state of Georgia for the month of January spread out all over the state, specifically directly linked to gang charges, and noted the word is out there in law enforcement and are working those cases and very proud of what they are accomplishing.

Under the direction of GBI Deputy Director Scott Dutton, Director Reynolds shared he is very proud of the work his people in investigations and the GISAC watch desk are doing, which operates 24 hours, 7 days a week where they receive tips from all over the state and sometimes tips that are out of state that are relevant to Georgia on potential threats that may incur in Georgia. Director Reynolds noted in calendar year 2019, the watch desk received 3,014 tips and out of the 3,014 tips, 48% were a result of the See Something Say Something application. Director Reynolds stated the younger people when they hear something and see something, they believe is a potential threat they are using the app which is coming into the watch desk. Director Reynolds advised out of the tips that were received at the watch desk, 386 were threats from tips and 100 of those were direct threats to schools. Director Reynolds declared GISAC does a tremendous job at receiving the messages and sending back out to the locals and is convinced the watch desk has saved lives around the state, not only from top to bottom, but directly and specifically involving school threats and are very proud of their work.

Director Reynolds stated in 2020, the GBI will continue to work very hard in the battle against street gangs and in cases involved in human trafficking as this is very important to the GBI and to the governor's administration. Director Reynolds stated inside the Crime Lab, the GBI will be concentrating this year on doing some things in the Crime Lab. Director Reynolds stated the GBI is a tremendous agency and are driven by the mission, but his vision for the GBI is that it becomes the very best investigative agency in the US on the state level. Director Reynolds stated this can not be accomplished with the numbers in the Crime Lab and are committed to doing something about those numbers. Director Reynolds stated they will be looking outside the box, outsourcing, look at the way

we do things, but are going to do something about the numbers, there is no other accepted end result, except pushing those numbers downward and is convinced this will be accomplished this year.

Director Reynolds stated he is convinced before the year is over, may take a little while, there will be a policy in effect where we will begin seriously looking at unsolved cold case murders around the state. Under Deputy Director Scott Dutton and Inspector Chris Tolbert's direction, Director Reynolds stated they are developing plans and policies to begin looking at those cases and hope as the year progresses they will be able to report to the Board in positive fashion on both of these arenas in the crime lab and unsolved cold cases around the state. Director Reynolds declared these are the big projects GBI will be taking on during the course of the year.

Chief Bruce Carlisle thanked Director Reynolds for making Mrs. Jaret Usher available to address the GACP and commented she did an amazing job. Director Reynolds stated with the partnership at GPSTC, they have trained over 3,000 law enforcement officers in the last 6-7 months of calendar year 2019 in how to handle gang cases.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center shared in the month of December, there were over 28,000 students at the center and offered 372 different courses. Director Wigginton reported during that time, the Fire Academy had a 100% increase in their student population, many who were volunteers from rural parts of the state that have never received any training. Chief Tully stated that means a lot to rural Georgia and this training is something the volunteer fire service has needed for years and thanked Director Wigginton for his efforts.

Director Wigginton presented the following thirteen 2019 Georgia Line of Duty Deaths for the 2020 ceremony for approval: Joshua B. Ryer, Jr., Spencer A. Englett, Kelvin B. Ansari, Michaela E. Smith, Nicholas "Blane" Dixon, James J. Biello, Cecil D. Ridley, David J. LeValley, Christopher J. Smith, Robert Puckett, Joseph Brown, Isaac McCleaird and George "Johnny" Childs.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion to approve the 2019 Georgia Line of Duty Deaths for the 2020 ceremony. This was seconded by Chief Mark Revenew and voted approved by the Board members.

DONATIONS

Major Mark Perry, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donations:

Fixed LPR Equipment for Sites in Lowndes, Co. Chatham Co. and McIntosh Co. and Forty-Two BlueCheck Fingerprint Devices	\$	349,491.00	W. Metro DEO
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Thirty Tasers with Cartridges and Training Equipment, Five Stalker DSR 2X Radars, Two 2020 Ford F-150 Patrol Trucks with Blue Lights, Sirens,	\$	205,918.00	Southeastern DEO
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Push Bumpers, Consoles with Computer Mount,
Truck Bed Storage and Installation and
Thirty Blauer Silent Partner Duty Bags

One Hewlett-Packard All-in-One PC	\$	500.00	Circuit World
Two Stalker DSR 2X Radars	\$	6,209.00	City of Blue Ridge
Two Stalker DSR 2X Radars	\$	6,393.00	City of McCaysville
Two Kustom Eagle III Radars	\$	5,466.00	Fannin Co. Bd. of Commissioners
Two Kustom Eagle III Radars	\$	5,466.00	Gilmer Co. Bd. of Commissioners

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

Mrs. Cindy Jones, Comptroller, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donation:

40 Caliber Ammunition	\$	15,000.00	Hinesville Police Department
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The motion to accept this donation was made by Chief Craig Tully, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell, and voted approved by the BPS members.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Joan Crumpler, Legal Director, Department of Public Safety presented for Final Adoption DPS Rules Chapter 570-35, 570-36, 570-38 and Maximum Rate Tariff for Carriers of Household Goods in Intrastate Transportation.

Mr. Kacy Cronan made the motion to approve the Final Adoption of DPS Rules Chapter 570-35, 570-36, 570-38 and Maximum Rate Tariff for Carriers of Household Goods in Intrastate Transportation. This was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the BPS members.

Chief Bruce Carlisle made a motion to present former Board member, Mr. Steve Cronic a Resolution for his service on the Board of Public Safety. This was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the BPS members.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made a motion to appoint Chief Bruce Carlisle to serve on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council as a representative for the Board of Public Safety. This was seconded by Mr. Mark Revenew and voted approved by the BPS members.

Commissioner Mark McDonough submitted his resignation and announced he will retire on March 1, 2020.

Mr. Charles Sikes stood and made the motion to accept Commissioner McDonough's resignation and stated after much admiration, respect and thankfulness of this Board for his exemplary service to the state of Georgia, presented as an officer and gentleman, he would expect no less with his background, Semper-Fi. This was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the BPS members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mr. Mark Revenew
Secretary