

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
November 14, 2019
Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Forsyth, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chief Bruce Carlisle
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Mr. Steve D. Cronic
Commissioner Michael Nail
Mr. Mark Revenew
Mr. Charles D. Sikes
Chief Craig Tully
Commissioner Timothy C. Ward
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chief Stacey L. Cotton
Mr. George Hartwig
Sheriff Dane Kirby
Mr. Rossie Ross

OTHERS:

Ms. Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office
Ms. Cheryl L. Buie, Board Liaison
Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Russell D. Powell, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Jason Johnson, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Chris Wright, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Mark Perry, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Mark Lambert, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Captain Dawn Arrowood, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Jeremy Vickery, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Clint Durrence, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Ms. Joan Crumpler, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Zack Howard, Legal Services, Department of Public Safety
Sgt. Shange Hodo, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Ms. Brittany Freeney, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. John Melvin, Assistant Director-Chief of Staff, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Tony Hightower, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Bruce Stanford, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Jeff Dean, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Ray Saxon, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Tim Melton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. John Weissgerber, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mt. Andy Garner, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Ms. Kelly Jordan, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Sharla Shockley, Georgia Public Safety Training Center

Mr. John Hutcheson, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Judy Couch, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Ms. Twanitta Clerk-Jennings, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Chad Black, Habersham County Fire Services
Mr. Tim Melton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Adam Ham, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Jose Ramirez, Georgia Public Safety Training Center

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the November 14th, 2019 Board of Public Safety meeting to order. Mr. John Hutcheson gave the Invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety began his report by sharing following the ransomware attack, the Computer Aid Dispatch is 100% and back to normal operations and are dealing with individual type user problems. Commissioner McDonough noted the data lost has been isolated to three days, July 23-26 and data prior to the 23rd, has been restored and have received insurance support to hire temporary help to be able to take the data from the 26th to get it back into the system. Commissioner McDonough added email is now on Microsoft 365 cloud and will be moving WatchGuard video into a cloud type storage as well. Commissioner McDonough acknowledge a lot of progress has been made over the past 90 days and still have some challenges and it has to do with leftover issues. Commissioner McDonough stated with an agency that has over 42,000 open records requests a year, if the CAD system is down for a quarter of the year, the backlog will be over 10,000 open records requests, especially when trying to get to data that cannot be got too. Commissioner McDonough advised DPS will be hiring temporary help to work on the open records requests backlog issues and this presents court issues and working with the court systems as well. Commissioner McDonough stated there have only been a few courts that have asked for a written explanation, which has been provided and have also provided a form response to the courts.

Commissioner McDonough advised construction on the new DPS HQ is moving forward and have picked a design team and are in the final stages of selecting a construction firm and the contract for the demolishing aspect of the old training center has been approved and will be meeting with them Friday to set up a date.

Commissioner McDonough stated DPS is designating a Special Projects Manager, Captain Robert Moody for the construction of the HQ Building and requested approval from the BPS for the change to the DPS Organizational Chart.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion to approve the organizational change, adding Capt. Robert Moody as the Special Projects Manager to the DPS Organizational Chart. This was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the BPS members.

In regards to the MCCD, Commissioner McDonough advised in the last legislative session the School Bus Safety bill was passed, which establishes a relationship between the DPS, GTA and DDS to come up with a systematic way to check a driver's license of all school bus drivers on a systematic basis. Commissioner McDonough requested approval from the BPS for the organizational change adding the School Bus Safety Unit and Region 10, overseen by Captain Clint Durrence.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion to approve the change adding the School Bus Safety Unit and Region 10, overseen by Captain Clint Durrence. This was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronin and voted approved by the BPS members.

Commissioner McDonough also requested approval to the realignment of two MCCD Regions into a third, which has to do with the response of the MCCD in Region 3. Commissioner McDonough stated Gwinnett Co and Cobb Co. are at the southern tip of Region 1, which is Northwest GA and Region 2, which is Northeast GA. Commissioner McDonough added when thinking about where the two weight scales are located in the two regions, and think about Lavonia or Carnesville all the way down to Gwinnett County or think about Ringold, all the way down to Cobb County, one can see how the response time could be difficult. Commissioner McDonough advised they are trying to realign the two metro counties, Gwinnett Co. and Cobb County into Region 3, which is essentially Metro Atlanta. Commissioner McDonough asked for an organizational change to remove Gwinnett County from Region 2 and Cobb County from Region 1 and move them into Region 3 to be able to better support the response time in Gwinnett and Cobb County.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion to approve removing Gwinnett County from Region 2 and Cobb County from Region 1 into Region 3. This was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the BPS members.

Commissioner McDonough reminded the BPS of the 200 Club, which is a non-profit organization of community members that come together to support the public safety community, offering help to those in need. Commissioner McDonough stated the 200 Club has an offer of a \$10,000.00 donation to a trooper to help him and his family, as he was seriously injured in the line of duty and is in a long-term rehabilitation effort to get back to work. Commissioner McDonough stated the DPS has looked at the Georgia law, at the Governor's ethics on policy and reviewed the DPS policy, has taken a look at what the role of the 200 Club is and have taken into some considerations, basically the term, what a reasonable person might look at. Commissioner McDonough stated they must look at the BPS notification and let the BPS know the extent of DPS's view and then basically tell the BPS what the determination of his opinion is and ask for the BPS support. Commissioner McDonough stated he does not think this is something that will have a negative effect or cause that person to do their job in any form or fashion, as there is no business relationship with the 200 Club and in Commissioner McDonough's determination, this donation could be something reasonably expected and the person could accept the donation. After much discussion and realization that three BPS members are members of the 200 Club, this was tabled to the next meeting.

Commissioner McDonough stated The Department of Community Health received a letter on October 22, 2019 from Air Methods informing them they would be ceasing operations at the Camilla base in Southwest Georgia on October 21, 2019 and that is exactly what they did. Commissioner McDonough noted Air Methods came in and stood them down and the next day they were out of a job and the place was closed. Commissioner McDonough advised this is a void in the funds that were set aside specifically, for the purpose to have that type of effort in Southwest Georgia. Commissioner McDonough stated DPS is moving as quickly as possible to look for interested parties of which there are already two and they are looking at the prospects in Southwest Georgia and hopefully have something put together and have that capability replaced as soon as possible. Commissioner McDonough stated DPS is involved in this as when this effort was started over five years ago, DPS was asked to make a presentation of whether this could be done through the DPS Aviation Unit or whether we could support in a public private partnership to facilitate that occurring. Commissioner McDonough added two plans were put together and the latter is the one that was accepted five years ago and DPS assisted at that time, the only aviation group that was interested in it, Air Methods and helped set them up in Camilla with a relationship between the city, DPS and Air Methods. Commissioner McDonough noted DPS is the pass-through agency of that grant amount from the Department of Community Health, as part of the rural health initiative in Georgia. Commissioner McDonough stated this has come to end and are trying to help DCH facilitate bringing that relationship back.

Mr. John Melvin, Chief of Staff and Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation shared that Director Reynolds met with all the scientists in the state to address the need to drive down the numbers of the backlog. Mr. Melvin advised 350 scientists are averaging just under 10,000 cases per month working at maximum capacity.

Mr. Melvin stated since the last Board meeting, Director Reynolds met with Commissioner Nail and are very confident that by the end of January, the gang data base will be stood up.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center recognized several staff members at the meeting.

Director Wigginton stated in September, GPSTC put on 421 courses, touched over 17,000 students with a staff less than 200 people. Director Wigginton expressed the staff is working diligently and are talking about restructuring and after this meeting, going back to the office and tomorrow, Mr. Hightower is meeting with all the resident agencies that have an office at GPSTC. Director Wigginton shared he had an eye-opening experience this week and last week as the numbers continue to grow which is great, but it creates problems. Director Wigginton stated when he walks out of the office and looks at the cafeteria, there are about 500 seats in the cafeteria and see another 700 in line to be served at the same time and this creates a problem as they have to be back in class in 30-45 minutes. Director Wigginton stated they must meet with resident agencies to give them a specific time for them to break for lunch.

Director Wigginton stated there are donations for several cars from different agencies that are used on the track, extrication classes at the fire academy, and crash reconstruction. Director Wigginton stated there might be a donation form where GPSTC will receive 10 cars and out of those 10 cars, two of them might run and the others, parts will be taken to make a functioning car.

Director Wigginton advised last week, GPSTC had two separate symposiums, one was on gangs in GA and one on human trafficking, which is all tied together.

Mr. Jose Ramirez, GPSTC gave a presentation on Gangs in Georgia.

DONATIONS

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

Three Stalker Dual Radars	\$	6,346.50	Washington Co. Sheriff's Dept.
One Alpha Eagle Helmet	\$	3,100.00	Thomas Co. Sheriff's Department
Twelve Sonim AINA PTT Microphones and Twelve Sonim XP8 Plastic Holders	\$	2,747.40	Southern Nuclear-Plant Vogtle Div.
Fifty Motorola APX8500 Triband Mobile Radios	\$	128,000.00	Motorola Solutions
One DragonEye DESL Laser	\$	2,050.00	City of Toccoa
One DragonEye DESL Laser	\$	2,050.00	Town of Tallulah Falls

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

Mr. Tony Hightower, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donations:

Easydrift Master Instructors Course for Two Instructors	\$	2,400.00	Columbia Co. Sheriff's Dept.
One 1991 Gruman Utility, One 1998 Freightliner FL60, One 1998 Freightliner Ambulance, One 1998 Freightliner Med Unit, One 2000 Freightliner Med Unit, Three 2001 Freightliner Med Units and One 2001 Freightliner Truck	\$	8,100.00	Hall Co. Fire Services
One 2008 Ford Crown Victoria and Nine 2011 Ford Crown Victoria Patrol Sedans	\$	5,000.00	Hall Co. Sheriff's Dept.

Thirteen Ford Crown Victoria Police Sedans \$ 13,000.00 Paulding Co. Sheriff's Dept.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Ms. Joan Crumpler, Department of Public Safety presented for Final Adoption-DPS Rules Chapter 570-9 (Off Duty Police Employment).

Chief Bruce Carlisle made the motion to approve the Final Adoption of DPS Rules Chapter 570-9 (Off Duty Police Employment). This was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronic and voted approved by the BPS members.

Ms. Joan Crumpler presented a Resolution asking the BPS to authorize surplus by the Georgia Department of Public Safety ("DPS") of a 0.849 acre ingress-egress easement, at former GSP Post 1 Griffin, for transfer for the benefit and use of the Technical College of Georgia System ("TCGS").

Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion for the Board of Public Safety, to declare no further use, and authorize the surplus and transfer of the ingress-egress easement constituting .849 acres of property, from the Georgia Department of Public Safety to the Technical College System of Georgia. This was seconded by Chief Bruce Carlisle and voted approved by the BPS members.

Ms. Joan Crumpler presented a Resolution asking the BPS to authorize the Georgia Department of Public Safety ("DPS") to receive the transfer of custody and control of 21.373 acres of unimproved state land, located at 300 Carl Vinson Road, Milledgeville, Baldwin County, Georgia, with 5.991 of the total acres currently in the custody of the Georgia Department of Driver Services ("DDS").

Chief Bruce Carlisle made the motion for the Board of Public Safety to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into all supporting documents as necessary for DPS to receive transfer of the custody, use and control of all that unimproved state land which constitutes a total of 21.273 acres at 300 Carl Vinson Road in Milledgeville, Georgia, for the location and construction of a new GSP Post 33. This was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronic and voted approved by the BPS members.

Ms. Joan Crumpler presented a Resolution asking the BPS to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into negotiations and agreements with the Board of Commissioners of Sumter County, Georgia for a long-term lease of Georgia State Patrol Post 10, at 319 US Highway 19 S in Americus, Sumter County, Georgia ("GSP Post 10").

Chief Craig Tully made the motion for the Board of Public Safety to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into negotiations, agreements and supporting documents as necessary to acquire from the Sumter County Board of Commissioners a long-term lease of the facilities, barracks and headquarters located on 14.98 acres of land at 319 US Hwy 19 South, Americus, Sumter County,

Georgia, n/k/a 113 William Bowen Pointe, Americus, Georgia 31719 for GSP Post 10. This was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the BPS members.

Mr. Zachary Howard, Department of Public Safety presented for Initial Adoption, DPS Rules Chapter 570-35, 570-36, 570-38 and Maximum Rate Tariff for Carriers of Household Goods in Intrastate Transportation.

Chief Bruce Carlisle made the motion to approve the Initial 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.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded everyone of the Public Safety Awards Ceremony to be held on December 6th, 2019 at the GPSTC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mr. Mark Revenew
Secretary