

## **BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

April 14, 2016

National Guard Armory-Glenngville, Georgia

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Wayne Abernathy  
Mr. Danny Bryant  
Commissioner Homer Bryson  
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan  
Mr. Lester L. Rumpy, Jr.  
Mr. Charles D. Sikes  
Sheriff Joey Terrell  
Chief Craig Tully  
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Chief Danny Bowman  
Mr. Steve Cronic  
Sheriff Dane Kirby  
Chief Mark Revenew  
Mr. Peter Skandalakis

### **OTHERS:**

Mr. Joe Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Ms. Cheryl L. Buie, Board Liaison, Department of Public Safety  
Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety  
Lt. Colonel Russell Powell, Department of Public Safety  
Major Tommy Waldrop, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Major Hank Fielding, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Major Jason Johnson, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Major Johnny Jones, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Major Billy Boulware, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Capt. Mark Lambert, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Capt. Chris Wright, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Capt. Chad Riner, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Capt. Billy Hitchens, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Lt. Sammy Young, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Lt. Ken DeLoach, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Lt. Marcus DeLoach, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Lt. Jeff Royals, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Captain Wayne Mobley, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Captain Tony Byrd, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Lt. Clint Durrence, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
SFC Antonio Hall, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
SFC Josh Lamb, Department of Public Safety/GSP  
Sgt. Anthony Hughes, Department of Public Safety  
Sgt. Tina Oglesby, Department of Public Safety/MCCD  
Mrs. Amy Stancil, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety  
Mrs. Laura Thompson, Department of Public Safety  
Director Vernon M. Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation

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Ms. Cathy Sapp, SAC, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Mr. Braden Dobbins, Intern, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Mr. Trevin Goodman, Intern, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Mr. Tony Hightower, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Mrs. Cindy Franklin, Comptroller, Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Mr. Nathan Branscome, CFO, GA Criminal Justice Coordinating Council  
Mrs. Louise Rampy  
Mrs. Maureen Bryant  
Mrs. Joan Kennan  
Mr. Conner Wigginton  
GA Dept. of Corrections Board members and employees  
GA Dept. of Juvenile Justice Board members and employees  
GA Pardons and Parole Board members and employees  
GA Dept. of Community Supervision Board members and employees  
Director Harris Blackwood, Governor's Office of Highway Safety  
Mr. Jim Andrews, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the April 14th, 2016, Board of Public Safety meeting to order. Vice-Chairman Wood thanked Mr. Wayne Dasher and the DOC staff for hosting the event today.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 minutes. Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Kacy Cronan, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood introduced the Board of Public Safety members to the group.

**Director Reports**

Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety began his report by explaining the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Public Safety to the group.

Commissioner McDonough asked Ms. Christina Calloway, Legal Officer for the Department of Public Safety to stand. Commissioner McDonough advised Ms. Calloway will be leaving the DPS this month and going to work for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Commissioner McDonough thanked Ms. Calloway for her service to the DPS and the State of Georgia.

Commissioner McDonough stated TFC Brian Screws of Post 16-Helena was recognized at the 2016 IACP S&P Midyear Meeting in Washington, DC, as one of the top four troopers in the US.

Concerning the 98<sup>th</sup> Trooper School, Commissioner McDonough advised the school started with 50 cadets and are now down to 33 cadets, noting five of them could not pass the basic driving course.

In regards to MCCC and the I-16 and I-95 corridor, Commissioner McDonough stated 34 of the 60 MCCC officers allocated for this area have been hired.

Commissioner McDonough advised every sworn member of DPS will have a long gun and will be trained and proficient by the end of the summer. Commissioner McDonough noted this is important as in the past seven months, DPS had six officer involved shootings with troopers and three of them were situations where there was a barricaded gunman. Commissioner McDonough stated if the trooper had not had the long rifle, the trooper would have been engaging someone with either a shotgun or sidearm when there were dealing with someone that was barricaded and covered up with a long gun. Commissioner McDonough noted this is a disturbing aspect of what GSP does, but this is the direction that society is going in and now the officers will be properly equipped.

Following up on a question from Mr. Charles Sikes at the last BPS meeting concerning the hiring of veterans within the DPS, Commissioner McDonough noted with the profile of each of the trooper classes, there are between 20-25% of the recruits that are veterans. Commissioner McDonough stated the DPS recruiter actively seeks out places to recruit veterans such as in Savannah and Camp Lejeune and also stated the other extension that DPS ensures occurs is to help in the transition of veterans into certain training aspects, as the VA offers benefits to training programs and DPS makes sure the veteran is signed up to receive these benefits.

Commissioner McDonough advised this past week, Aviation had their first hoist rescue with one of the newest helicopters, Bell 429. Commissioner McDonough stated a gentleman had broken his leg on the Appalachian Trail and at dusk while the sun was setting, a helicopter is hovering over a north Georgia mountain extracting this guy and taking him to an ambulance because there was no other way of getting him out of there. Commissioner McDonough added this is the capability the Aviation team has and noted Sgt. Kevin Thompson was called to another potential rescue situation on the Appalachian Trail where an Alzheimer's patient was lost and one has to wonder how does an Alzheimer's patient find himself lost on the Appalachian Trail, but this is the kind of stuff the Aviation Unit deals with every day. Commissioner McDonough thanked Sgt. Thompson for his work and everything he does and advised the audience that if they are an outdoor marijuana grower in this state, they do not want Sgt. Thompson to be in a helicopter because he will find it.

Mr. Danny Bryant applauded Commissioner McDonough and the DPS for the hiring of veterans.

Director Vernon Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation updated the group on a practical exercise that was completed yesterday; a two day practical exercise involving the GBI, the Dept. of Corrections and the Dept. of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division. Director Keenan advised the practical exercise involved the mass fatality body recovery team and during a disaster each state agency has assigned responsibilities. Director Keenan noted the GBI's responsibility is the recovery and the identification of the dead and reminded everyone of the Albany flood where the GBI had to ID the bodies that were disinterred out of a cemetery and ID the bodies in Noble, GA, where several hundred bodies had been discarded and not cremated. After those two events, Director Keenan stated the GBI sat down with the command staff and decided they would never ever send men and women out to do

that type of work unless they were volunteers and specifically trained and equipped to do this type of work. Director Keenan stated a partnership was formed with DNR law enforcement and the Dept. of Corrections. Director Keenan advised the team has been equipped and trained and conducted a two day practical exercise which ended yesterday. Director Keenan stated the practical exercise was at the Griffin airport and involved the crash of two aircrafts, with several dozen fatalities. Director Keenan stated he knew when the team was set up, they would be prepared to handle the state's business, and to his knowledge is the only mass fatality body recovery team in the US outside of the Department of Defense. Director Keenan noted when the natural disaster, Katrina occurred, the state troopers were dispatched to New Orleans to preserve law and order, while the body recovery team was called up and sent to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to do what the team was trained to do; recover the dead. Director Keenan stated this is extremely difficult work, requiring persons who are volunteering, who will treat the dead with the dignity they deserve and have a mission to make the recovery so the bodies can be identified and returned to their loved ones. Director Keenan declared the practical exercise involving 80 people from the GBI, DNR and DOC was a resounding success. Director Keenan stated that if there is a national disaster, manmade or natural, he would not be surprised if the team is called up, as to his knowledge this team is the only one in the US.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center stated the GPSTC has increased its student population by 26% and will continue to grow month by month. Concerning the curriculum being taught, Director Wigginton advised they are trying to be innovated and are getting new and advanced curriculum out there which is increasing the attendance at the academies.

Director Wigginton stated the GPSTC is addressing driver training and only has one driving track in the state of Georgia, teaching driver training 64 weeks out of the year when there are only 52 weeks in a year, it is magic. Director Wigginton shared the legislature was kind enough to give GPSTC a Bond package to expand the driving course. Director Wigginton stated GPSTC is working on a new rifle range, specifically for rifles, as the demand for rifle training throughout the law enforcement community is astronomical. Director Wigginton stated GPSTC receives requests every week to use the long gun range; only have one long gun range and this expansion will help meet the demand as well.

**Donations**

Major Jason Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donations:

One Genesis G2 Select Radar Unit	\$ 2,100.00	Toombs County Sheriff's Department
One Laser Ally Lidar Unit	\$ 1,500.00	Lenox Police Department
Multiple Items to Augment the LPR Program	\$ 200,000.00	Homeland Security Investigation
Fifty-two "Angel on Patrol" prints	\$ 2,600.00	Ms. Kathy Davis

One E-Seek Model 260 License Reader	\$ 400.00	Jasper Police Department
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The motion to accept these donations was made by Sheriff Joey Terrell, which was seconded by Mr. Danny Bryant, and voted approved by the Board members.

Ms. Cindy Franklin, Comptroller, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donations:

Two Fire Protection Air Compressors	\$ 5,800.00	General Air Products, Inc.
Fire Protection Valves and Devices	\$ 32,614.50	Tyco Fire Protection Products
Alarm-Deluge Valves W/Components	\$ 24,302.38	Viking Supply Net
3" C-300 6PM	\$ 3,363.00	Harry Warren of GA
Red Man Suit	\$ 1,500.00	ABAC Police Department
Ground Fighting Gear Mat	\$ 50.00	ABAC Police Department

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

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation presented a Resolution asking the BPS to request the State Properties Commission to transfer custody of a certain real property located in Calhoun, Gordon County, Georgia, from the State of Georgia, with custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to the custody of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. Charles Sikes made the motion for the Board of Public Safety to approve the transfer of custody of 4.141 acres from the State of Georgia in the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, and the BPS also requests that the State Properties Commission prepare and process appropriate documents reflecting this Executive Order for the transfer. This was seconded by Mr. Lester Rampy, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation presented a Bond Resolution for the aggregate principal amount of \$7,120,000. Mr. Kirk stated the Bond package consists of \$1,015,000 additional design money for the Savannah Crime Lab in Pooler, \$705,000 for maintenance and repair,

statewide controls, HVACs and cooling towers, \$1,725,000 for investigative division vehicles, 8 bomb suburban vehicles, 4 crime scene truck chassis and two freightliner bomb truck chassis, \$450,000 for portable generator and connection, an on line transfer switch upgrade at HQ facility, \$300,000 for general maintenance, providing controls and another cooling tower, \$1,065,000 for replacing lab equipment, and \$1,860,000 planning money for looking into expanding the HQ Complex for the investigative divisions and multiple buildings.

Mr. Kacy Cronan made the motion to adopt the Bond Resolution for the GBI, which was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Ms. Christina Calloway, Legal Officer, Department of Public Safety presented a Bond Resolution for the aggregate principal amount of \$8,030,000 for financing projects and facilities for the DPS.

Mr. Wayne Abernathy made the motion to adopt the Bond Resolution for the DPS, which was seconded by Chief Craig Tully, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Ms. Cindy Franklin, Comptroller, Georgia Public Safety Training Center presented a Bond Resolution for the aggregate principal amount of \$3,650,000 for the driver training track at the GPSTC.

Mr. Danny Bryant made the motion to adopt the Bond Resolution for the GPSTC, which was seconded by Mr. Lester Rampy, Jr., and voted approved by the BPS members.

Mr. Nathan Branscome, Chief Financial Officer, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council presented a Bond Resolution for the aggregate principal amount of \$2,000,000 for the Judicial Circuit Data Exchange and eCourt Software Replacement.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion to adopt the Bond Resolution for the CJCC, which was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood told the BPS members that former Board member Rooney Bowen's father had passed away and a donation was sent to the Georgia Sheriff's Boys Home in memory of Mr. Bowen.

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded the group will meet on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>; will be in Statesboro on the 11<sup>th</sup> for a school presentation and then in Waynesboro on the night of the 11<sup>th</sup> with the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> at Plant Vogtle.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Chief Mark Revenew  
Secretary

