

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
July 11, 2013
Department of Public Safety-Blue Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chief Danny D. Bowman
Retired Sheriff Steve Cronin-via conference call
Sheriff Dane Kirby-via conference call
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr.
Chief Mark Revenew
Mr. Brian M. Rickman
Sheriff Joey Terrell
Chief Craig Tully
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Wayne Abernathy
Mr. Daniel M. Bryant
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Mr. C. Murray Kight
Commissioner Brian Owens

OTHERS:

Mr. Joe Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Cheryl L. Buie, Board Liaison
Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Russell Powell, Department of Public Safety
Major Eddie Grier, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Hank Fielding, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Gene Davis, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Johnny Jones, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Lewis Young, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Mr. Peter Adams, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety
Mrs. Melissa Rodgers, Legal Director, Department of Public Safety
Sergeant Anthony Hughes, Department of Public Safety
Director Vernon M. Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Keith Howard, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center-via conference call
Mr. Michael Parkerson, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center-via conference call
Mr. Joe Hood, Office of Planning and Budget
Mr. Seth Taylor, Office of Planning and Budget

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the July 11th, 2013, Board of Public Safety meeting to order.

Sergeant Anthony Hughes gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Wood welcomed the two newest Board members, Police Chief Mark Revenew and Fire Chief Craig Tully.

Commissioner Mark McDonough introduced Chief Mark Revenew and stated he had the opportunity to meet Chief Revenew a few years back when the City of Pooler asked him to sit on a board to pick

the new Pooler Police Chief. Commissioner McDonough stated the city seemed in a conundrum of who they were going to pick. Commissioner McDonough noted he had never met Chief Revenew and did not know anything about him and sat for two days and listened to the interviews of the people who came before the board and then Chief Revenew had his interview and when the interview was over with, Commissioner McDonough looked at the mayor and told him that his chief was already working for him. Commissioner McDonough stated Chief Revenew is a person that is very proactive, and if you look at his career at Pooler PD, which he started almost 30 years ago with only 4 people and now has 40 police officers in the City of Pooler. Commissioner McDonough stated Chief Revenew has seen the growth that a lot of chiefs have seen and Chief Revenew is a person that looks at new technology uses and also someone who looks at what is being done on the state level by Governor Deal and the criminal justice reform and openly and vocally supports that effort. Commissioner McDonough stated what we have been doing has not been working and Governor Deal is providing leadership and Commissioner McDonough stated he has seen in public forum where Chief Revenew has stood up publicly in support of this. Commissioner McDonough stated he could not think of a better person to represent the chiefs and welcomed Chief Revenew to the BPS. Chief Revenew stated he was proud to serve on the BPS and hopes he can contribute and is certainly impressed with Governor Deal's efforts so far and hopes to continue that positive step in the state.

Chief Danny Bowman introduced and welcomed Fire Chief Craig Tully and noted that Chief Tully will come across as country as a piece of cornbread, but don't be fooled by that. Chief Tully is smart as a whip and there is no fire chief in the state of Georgia that is more respected than Chief Tully. Chief Bowman shared that Chief Tully lost a daughter, Kim to an automobile accident and ever since then and even before then, it never swayed his faith ever once, if it did anything, it made him stronger and she would be proud of Chief Tully. Chief Tully stated he was glad to be on the Board and that it is a tremendous honor and hopes to contribute to the BPS.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked those in attendance to stand and introduce themselves.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the May Board minutes. Chief Danny D. Bowman made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the BPS members.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety introduced Captain Lewis Young and stated if there was ever a replacement for Captain Allen Marlowe to help out Major Grier, it is Captain Lewis Young. Commissioner McDonough advised that Captain Young was the assistant troop commander in Troop D, but weathered a storm that only a few people can say they have weathered and that was the Post Commander of Villa Rica. Commissioner McDonough reminded the Board members that Villa Rica is the number one high activity post in working wrecks and Capt. Young led that post, knows how to work a wreck and knows how to use our system. Commissioner McDonough mentioned for those that heard Capt. Young speak at the Fallen Trooper Dedication and Memorial yesterday, you will find that he is a person where still waters run deep and there could not be a better person to help out Major Grier; Commissioner McDonough welcomed Capt. Young to Headquarters.

Commissioner McDonough advised the Board members that DPS held the first in a series of road dedications in Macon, GA yesterday and thanked the BPS members who attended and stated those who were unable to attend missed quite an event. Commissioner McDonough expressed that the City of Macon really threw their doors open and Captain Nikki Renfroe and Troop D troops did an outstanding job. Commissioner McDonough emphasized the focus is around the family at each one of the dedications and Sgt. Black's family were really taken aback and appreciated that the state would take the time to recognize their ken and in particularly exalt their families. Commissioner McDonough shared there will be nine more dedications for the remainder of this year and then will finish out next year during the legislative season getting the remainder of all the officers that have died in the line of duty properly recognized with a road or bridge abutment type dedication around the state.

Commissioner McDonough advised trooper school graduation will be tomorrow, Friday, July 12th, with breakfast at 0800 hours, inspection at 0900 hours, with the graduation at 1000 hours, with the ceremony for the 24 graduates being held in the auditorium at the GPSTC. Commissioner McDonough shared Governor Deal will not be able to attend the graduation and Congressman Doug Collins will be the keynote speaker and Justice Harold Melton will swear the troopers in.

Commissioner McDonough advised the DPS has put out new hire notifications and the next trooper school starts July 28, 2013, and the school that is in now will graduate at the end of November. Commissioner McDonough advised tomorrow's graduation is the culmination of the responsibility with the open roads policy with the DOT and will fulfill the manpower requirements for the Cobb County corridor and the Gwinnett County corridor. Commissioner McDonough stated a lot of positive things have come out of the open roads policy as the initial response times with the initial information that we have, is the troopers in this corridor have already reduced response times to the accidents by 40%, the faster the troopers get to the accidents, the faster the troopers clear the accidents and things are going very, very well. Commissioner McDonough shared that Gwinnett County is established with a temporary facility that will have a ribbon cutting in August and once the date is determined the BPS members will be notified. From this point forward, Commissioner McDonough advised the DPS will be able to pick up with the attrition and reminded the BPS members with the effort to staff the open roads policy, the posts in the rest of the state have suffered manpower wise. So from this point forward all of the trooper schools moving forward will help replenish the post manpower needs throughout the state.

Speaking of post facilities, Commissioner McDonough advised the plans for the Hart County post has been finalized and will start to move some dirt there, with a groundbreaking ceremony if Hart County desires, but this is moving along. Commissioner McDonough stated Paulding County has identified an existing facility and will meet with them for renovation construction and the addition of a sally port onto the existing building. Commissioner McDonough shared that he and Major Fielding went and looked at the facility and advised it is the type of building that will meet the needs of the patrol and when looking at the facility, it looks like a post, like new with a metal roof and all brick construction; a fine facility.

Commissioner McDonough stated as far as facilities are concerned he would need a vote from the Board as he presented a letter written by the Floyd County Commissioners dated May 10th stating Floyd County's intentions are to present an application to the 2013 SPOST citizens committee proposing the construction of a new GSP post building for Post 38 located in Rome, GA, Floyd County.

Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., made the motion for Commissioner McDonough to move forward and to negotiate with Floyd County for the building of a new Post facility, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the Board members.

Commissioner McDonough stated each year the DPS receives a request from the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion to have troopers assist in their national conference in an honor roll capacity. Commissioner McDonough noted he addresses this every year as this request comes to the DPS as a donation to cover the expenses of the troopers' participation and we always choose troopers that are veterans themselves and the troopers are used in all of the honor guard type presentation of the flags, ushering duties and military activities associated with the national conferences. Commissioner McDonough advised the donation would be presented by Mr. Peter Adams with other donations.

In regards to the American Legion donation, Mr. Joe Drolet, Board Attorney stated there is a tradition of troopers assisting with national conferences and there is always a question as to whether or not it creates issues in accompanying state officials of some kind, it can raise some issues in regards to liability of the officers and their jurisdiction and wanted to make sure the BPS was aware this is permitted under the statute and has been traditionally done.

Director Vernon Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation briefed the Board members on a new program that is being initiated at the GBI where they are creating a task force to address commercial gambling, pursuant to a phone call Director Keenan received last month from Ms. Debbie Alford, President and CEO of the GA Lottery Corporation. Director Keenan stated one of the things the GA Lottery Corporation has determined is that many of their profits that should be going to the GA Lottery are being siphoned off because of the video poker machines that have been operating illegally in the state of GA. Director Keenan noted the governor sponsored legislation last year which revamped how those machines are registered and put new regulations on them. Director Keenan advised the people who own and operate the video poker machines are required to register those machines with the Dept. of Revenue and the GA Lottery Corporation and the machines are also required to be electronically connected to a data base which will monitor the money that is coming into the machine and all their related activities. Director Keenan declared the GA Lottery Corporation will get a certain amount of money generated by the machines and the law also allows a payout for video poker machines; currently there cannot be a cash payout, has to be nominal merchandise from within the store, included in the law, GA lottery tickets can now be part of the payout. Director Keenan noted this should address many of the problems with illegal video poker machines, but there has to be enforcement to go in contact with that. Director Keenan stated he was asked to put in a proposal to the GA Lottery Corporation to have dedicated agents assigned to the enforcement of commercial gambling violations when there are video poker machines that are not registered with the state and not connected to the

database; someone has to enforce the non-compliance. Director Keenan stated he put together a proposal and sent to the GA Lottery Corporation which would have four veteran agents and an intelligence analyst assigned to a unit that would be dedicated to do this type of work and also attached a budget of approximately \$488,000.00 with the proposal. Director Keenan confirmed the GA Lottery Corporation approved the budget and coordinated all of this with the Chief Operating Officer in Governor Deal's office to make sure that we do what the Governor wants. Director Keenan stated the GBI has a MOU that was sent to him yesterday from the GA Lottery Corporation which spells out how the task force will operate and the funding they will be giving to the GBI to defray the costs of the task force. Director Keenan advised he would keep the BPS posted as this is a new endeavor for the GBI, never had resources to do commercial gambling investigation and this is important to the state of Georgia, the Hope scholarship and will receive the funding to do this work. Director Keenan noted the GBI is used to getting new responsibilities with no new funding and advised the MOU calls for the GBI to begin the work immediately.

Deputy Director Keith Howard, Georgia Public Safety Training Center shared the Active Shooter Symposium to be held July 24 and July 25 was opened to the public sector, private sector and educators for K-12 and the colleges and maximized the auditorium capacity at 475 students. Mr. Howard advised the GPSTC will follow up on August 26 and August 30th with a select 25 of those members in a train the trainer course and at some point in the future the GPSTC will have another train the trainer active shooter course for Northwest GA. Mr. Howard stated the FBI shared Georgia was leading the nation with the number of officers trained in active shooter capacity.

DONATIONS

Mr. Peter Adams, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donations:

Travel funds for 2 troopers	\$ 1,600.00	The American Legion
(1) Stalker DSR 2X Radar	\$ 3,074.50	Laurens Co. Board of Commissioners
(1) Stalker Laser	\$ 2,212.50	Byron Police Department
Business Cards	\$ 27.50	Pataula Drug Task Force
(1) Stalker Dual SL Radar	\$ 1,800.00	Tattnall County Sheriff's Dept.

Withdrawal of Donation

Monetary Donation	\$ 250.00	Dr. Laura Malloy
-------------------	-----------	------------------

The motion to accept these donations was made by Chief Danny D. Bowman, which was seconded by Chief Mark Revenew and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation requested approval of the following donations:

2013 Chevrolet Avalanche	\$ 46,000.00	Cherokee Multi Agency Narcotics Squad
Trijicon SRS-SRS02, TJ Scope	\$ 913.75	Albany-Dougherty Co. Drug Task Force
Shotgun rack w/cuff key	\$ 223.16	Albany-Dougherty Co. Drug Task Force
Undercover Bar	\$ 90.00	Albany-Dougherty Co. Drug Task Force

Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., made the motion to accept the GBI donations, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Michael Parkerson, Deputy Director of Operations, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donation:

1997 School Bus	\$ 500.00	Gwinnett County Public Schools
-----------------	-----------	--------------------------------

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

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Melissa Rodgers, Director of Legal Services, Department of Public Safety presented proposed revisions for the final adoption to the Georgia Department of Public Safety Rule 570-7 Speed Detection Devices, proposed revisions for the final adoption to the Georgia Department of Public Safety Rule 570-12 Motorcyclists' Eye Protection, and proposed revisions for the final adoption to the Georgia Department of Public Safety Rule 570-13 Specifications for Protective Headgear for Vehicular Users.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made a motion to accept the proposed changes for final adoption to Department of Public Safety Rule 570-7, Rule 570-12 and Rule 570-13. This was seconded by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Michael Parkerson, Georgia Public Training Center presented a Resolution which would authorize the Director of Georgia Public Training Center to enter into negotiations with Justice Federal Credit Union and Georgia State Properties Commission for use of certain space formerly used by Georgia Department of Public Safety Credit Union at 1000 Indian Springs Dr., Forsyth, GA.

Sheriff Joe Terrell made the motion to authorize the Director of GPSTC to negotiate an agreement through the Georgia State Properties Commission with Credit Union for the lease of such space for rent to be determined by SPC and to provide for payments to GPSTC to cover the cost of utilities and routine maintenance and to provide for the payments of costs for any capital expenditures for the repair

or replacement of any major system within the said occupied space. The motion was seconded by Chief Mark Revenew and voted approved by the Board members.

Vice-Chairman Wood expressed his appreciation to Commissioner McDonough and all those involved, Captain Nikki Renfro, her staff and the Historical Society for the Fallen Trooper Memorial Dedication as it was a very moving experience.

Chief Danny Bowman made a motion to prepare and present a resolution to former Board members, Chief Irene Pennington and Chief Bill Myers. This motion was seconded by Chief Mark Revenew and voted approved by the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded the BPS members the next meeting would be September 12th, 2013 in Gainesville at the North Hall High School.

Chief Danny Bowman asked that the record show he would be absent from the September 12th, meeting as he would be recertifying for his 45th time as a firefighter in GA and for the record to show that he is excused.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Brian M. Rickman
Secretary