

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

March 08, 2012

Department of Corrections Board Room – Atlanta, GA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Wayne Abernathy
Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III
Mr. Danny M. Bryant
Chief Jon Canada
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Sheriff Steven D. Cronic
Sheriff Dane Kirby
Chief Bill Myers
Commissioner Brian Owens
Chief Irene Pennington
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr.
Mr. Brian M. Rickman
Sheriff Gary C. Vowell
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. C. Murray Kight

OTHERS:

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Cheryl Buie, Board Liaison
Colonel Mark W. McDonough, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Russell D. Powell, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
Major C. Eddie Grier, Department of Public Safety, GSP
Major Hank Fielding, Department of Public Safety, GSP
Sergeant Anthony Hughes, Department of Public Safety
Major Wayne Beck, Department of Public Safety, MCCD
Comptroller Joseph W. Hood, Department of Public Safety
Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Department of Public Safety
Mrs. Allison Hodge, Department of Public Safety
Director Vernon M. Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Assistant Director Dan Kirk, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Deputy Director Rusty Andrews, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Chief of Staff Neil Gerstenberger, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, GCIC
Director Timothy J. Bearden, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Deputy Director W. H. (Bill) Bryant, Jr., Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Chase Jones, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Lloyd Strickland, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Sharla Shockley, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Kenneth Mantle, Department of Corrections
Mr. Thomas Worthy, Governor Deal's office

Ms. Patricia Smith, Governor Deal's office
Mr. Nathan Branscome, Office of Planning and Budget
Mrs. Louise Rampy
Mrs. Maureen Bryant
Dr. Rick Lanford
Chief Lee Kirkland, Milan Volunteer Fire Department
Lt. Wiley Gammon, Jr., GA Tech PD
Trooper Wiley Gammon, III, 89th Trooper School
District Attorney Patrick H. Head, Cobb County DA's office
Mr. Michael Parkerson, Georgia Public Safety Training Center

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the March Board of Public Safety meeting to order and thanked everyone for coming.

Vice-Chairman Wood called on Dr. Rick Lanford to give the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

Chief Jon Canada read and presented a Resolution to DA Patrick H. Head, former BPS member. Mr. Patrick H. Head stated his eight years on the BPS were delightful and is truly glad to have had the opportunity to meet everyone and hopes that everyone will come visit him up the road.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the February Board minutes. Mr. Wayne Abernathy made the motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Danny M. Bryant and voted approval by the Board members.

DIRECT REPORTS

Commissioner Mark W. McDonough took note of trooper cadet Wiley Gammon being in attendance at the BPS meeting stating he did not know if a cadet in trooper school field training has ever attended a BPS meeting. Commissioner McDonough added that he knows Wiley's Dad is very proud of him and stated Wiley is one of 46 that still remain with the 89th trooper school and at this time the cadets are actively on field training. Commissioner McDonough thanked Cadet Gammon for being at the meeting and wished him good luck.

Speaking of trooper schools, Commissioner McDonough advised that last week the MOU between the Department of Transportation and the DPS was signed by Commissioner Golden and 54 cadets have received letters of intent for employment for the 90th trooper school which will start on Sunday, March 18th. Commissioner McDonough stated the MOU is a two year agreement that will place 75 new troopers into two specific corridors; the first will be in Cobb County and the second one in Gwinnett County and in a matter of about 13 months Troop C will double in size.

Commissioner McDonough spoke about the driver training initiative and the Troop H pilot program, due regard refresher training. Commissioner McDonough stated that the Commanding Officer has been to Troop H working with Judge Bowen and asked Judge Bowen if he had any comments in regard to the program.

Judge Bowen stated that he and Sheriff Vowell had a meeting with Major Grier, Captain Marlowe, and Troop H Commander Captain Chris Wright and Lieutenants and basically brainstormed the idea of the due regard issue as this is trying to teach not only law enforcement but trying to teach first responders, volunteer firefighters, EMS and local law enforcement with the liabilities they are taking on when they activate blue lights and sirens. Judge Bowen stated that Troop H Commander Capt. Wright put the info out to the Post Commanders to go out into the community along with Sheriff Vowell on the south end, the response has been overwhelming. There has not been one person or organization that has said they do not want this training and stated that he and Sheriff Vowell were talking about this issue and hopes that it does not become overwhelming for the patrol. This is taking that tragic incident that happened in Atlanta and making something good out of it. Mr. Bowen added this is a pilot program in Troop H that he and Sheriff Vowell are going to stay on top of and will report to the BPS members every month with what is going on with the program. Mr. Bowen stated he understands that a Power Point presentation is being developed for those that want the training where it pertains to them. Mr. Bowen stated this is one of those moments on the Board that does not come along too many times, that this is one issue that we as a Board can do something about and challenged the other BPS members to start working on this in their area. Mr. Bowen added that Chief Canada is assisting the firefighters on case law and training for this program. Mr. Bowen stated this is an amazing opportunity and has been overwhelming in the Troop H area.

Commissioner McDonough stated that this is the first phase of the initiative and from the lessons learned from Troop H, along with the input from Sheriff Vowell, Judge Bowen and Chief Canada; we will then tailor the training and move out to the other troops from here.

Commissioner McDonough declared for the second phase of the initiative, DPS is looking at web based training that would be a lead-in to training in a simulator that we are researching. Commissioner McDonough advised what is important about this concept is that anyone who has had in-flight training there is always a ground school, a simulator portion of it and then there is what happens in the real world. Commissioner McDonough stated based upon this concept it has shown that if one does not have the ground training and just jumps into the simulator, the effectiveness of that training is minimized; as research shows if we take the time to do the preparation in that ground school in the classroom environment then reinforce it with a simulator, the effectiveness in the real world is much greater. Commissioner McDonough stated this will be the second phase that DPS will move in to and at this time DPS is seeking grant funding for a simulator and as this project moves along we will give updates.

Commissioner McDonough expressed that we are all living in interesting times by seeing what is happening in other cities through the news and based upon this, in March, DPS will inventory MFF gear and less lethal munitions in all of our troops to make sure that we are properly equipped and

standardized and in the month of April there will be joint troop MFF training where the Mobile Field Forces of one troop will get together with a MFF of another troop and they will work together in units. Commissioner McDonough stated the DPS is trying to prepare for hopefully something that will not occur but if it does and we are asked for help to assist, we will be prepared to do so.

In April, Commissioner McDonough advised that GSP would be reaching out to all university chiefs as this is an extension of the Governor's initiative where he brought the responsible parties for enforcement in the state universities and technical schools to Atlanta. Commissioner McDonough stated he had the opportunity to speak to the chiefs and then was invited to speak at the chiefs training two weeks ago in McRae, GA and as an extension of this in the month of April, all of the Post Commanders will be visiting these institutions, they will become familiar with the points of contacts in these institutions and they will become part of the critical infrastructures on the post lists. Commissioner McDonough added with what is happening in today's world it is a good thing to have this type of relationship as the patrol can offer some very specific things to the chiefs. Commissioner McDonough added when thinking of the environment and if something happens on the Georgia Tech campus, it becomes national news, same thing could happen two blocks away from GT and it is just one of those other instances, so they need our help and our aim is provide the help to do whatever we can to build those relationships and let those resources be known to them and be familiar with these critical infrastructures in this state. Commissioner McDonough stated that when a parent sends their child to a state university or technical school they expect it to be a safe environment and the chiefs' work very hard at providing a safe environment and anything that we can do to assist them, is exactly what we are going to do.

Commissioner McDonough stated that in May, the DPS will concentrate on suspicious activity reporting. For the first three weeks prior to the Memorial Day holiday, DPS will be partnering with the DNR and the DNR rangers. Commissioner McDonough commented that cats do sleep with dogs and the troopers are actually going to patrol with DNR rangers and DNR rangers are going to patrol with troopers. Commissioner McDonough added that the troopers would be on a lake with a DNR ranger checking underpasses and dams and critical infrastructures on our waterways and the rangers will be riding with the troopers and going to schools.

Commissioner McDonough stated that the 75th GSP Anniversary Celebration will be held on March 19, 2012 at the Capitol starting at 0830 hours with a static display around the Capitol and inside the Capitol on the North steps at 1100 hours, there will be a service that will memorialized those who have given the ultimate in their service in the patrol. Commissioner McDonough added the celebration will be a little different as on the steps will be the 90th trooper school cadets and will also honor the future troopers and will swear the cadets in as part of the ceremony celebrating the future of the patrol.

Director Vernon Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation came before the BPS and asked Mr. Neil Gerstenberger, Chief of Staff for the GCIC to come before the BPS and give an update on three of the GCIC technology projects.

Mr. Gerstenberger began his briefing by stating they have three projects that GCIC is very excited about it, beginning with the AFIS upgrade stating that all internal and external users have been trained on the system and the hardware is currently being received and installed at GBI. Mr. Gerstenberger stated that the hardware is going out to the remote sites located throughout the state and are on track for a May operational date. Mr. Gerstenberger explained features occurring with the upgrade; the users will be able to accept and search palm prints which will give latent personnel additional opportunities to make hits on prints left at crime scenes and will also experience reduction in time in processing prints that are sent to the FBI. There are over 40 statues in Georgia that require a FBI fingerprint check for employment and licensing purposes and at this time the prints are checked for quality twice manually, but will now be automated and prints will automatically be sent the second time, there will be a pre-populated form printed out for the agency and they will be able to send this to the FBI and get their approval. We will be able to officially track projected transactions which will ensure that criminal history records are being created or updated in a timely manner which will allow for complete and accurate criminal history records. This will also provide an interface with the FBI's IAFIS without having to reprocess or reenter latent print data and currently the latent print personnel have to reenter latent prints to search the GBI system and then if needed, have to recopy those prints to send to FBI. This will allow for users to prepare court room presentations through media case work software and will allow users to perform mug shot lineups and also eliminate the separate connections to the FBI for latent searches where currently the local users direct connect with the FBI which is an additional cost, they will now be able to come through the AFIS system and go straight to the FBI which will reduce the communication costs for the local agencies.

The other project for GBI upgrade is the Sex Offender Registry redesign. The GBI will be using the sex offender registry tool which is called SORT, a sex offender management application which is provided by the US Dept of Justice. The SORT will function as the state level administrative registry function and will give local agencies the ability to develop their own specialized public sex offender registry websites. Some of the features will include local jurisdictional access to a centralized system so that the SOR information is always up to date, there will be an availability to validate entered information before the information is made available to the public and will also provide standardized templates so that all Sheriffs will be able to have templates when they are developing their own websites that are there for the public. Meetings have been held with the GA Sheriffs' Association, the Department of Corrections, Pardons and Parole and the Georgia Sex Offender Review Board and will continue to involve them throughout the life of the project. This is a phased approach that we are following which will allow the implementation of the critical features that were identified in the 2010 performance audit by the Department of Audits and then will follow up with all the desirable functions at a later date and this will also decrease the project risk as a result of the approach and later transitions will be easier to perform. A contract programmer has been hired to assist with the customizations that are unique to GA, both the test and production systems have been installed and loaded with the necessary applications and are accessible by the GBI staff, which is currently developing web service interfaces with the message switch and the Department of Corrections.

Mr. Gerstenberger stated the third project update involves the Rapid ID System, the two finger identification solution that searches the centralized fingerprint data base that is populated with the

arrests made in Georgia. Mr. Gerstenberger added once the state's search is done, the system conducts a search of the FBI repository of individuals of special concern, which then searches NCIC wanted persons, sex offenders and the known or suspected terrorists and either a red, yellow or green response is returned to the contributor, red being that this is a highly probable candidate, yellow possible and green would be there is no candidate. Mr. Gerstenberger stated there are two types of fingerprint devices that are currently being used, Motorola and Cogent. Mr. Gerstenberger commented that there are 59 local law enforcement agencies and four state law enforcement agencies that are using the Rapid ID system and there are 507 devices that are registered on the system, with an average number of searches a month being 3,090. Mr. Gerstenberger added the average number of GA hits per month is 1509 which is a 33% hit rate and the average number of hits from NCIC per month is 1,017 which is a 67% increase. The devices are being well utilized.

Director Keenan added that the three programs that Mr. Gerstenberger updated the BPS members on will transform Georgia law enforcement and one of the things that Director Keenan stated he is most proud about concerning the GCIC staff is that he has had to learn in the IT world that it takes time to complete the projects but when the staff maps out a course of action and puts together a project, it is done on time and it is on budget and that is something that is basically unheard of in the IT world.

Director Tim Bearden, Georgia Public Safety Training Center advised the BPS members that he accepted the resignation of Deputy Director of Operations, Patrice Kerner this past Tuesday and beginning April 1, 2012, Mr. Michael Parkerson will transfer over from the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council.

Director Bearden touched on the fire side, having 6 regional police academies around the state and concerning the fire side, a lot of training is done at the GPSTC but will also try to work where we can on the fire industry. Director Bearden stated they have been working with the Fire Standards and Training Council, going to other fire departments having instructors trained by us to offer training and we will give the certificates from the GPSTC for that training. The firefighters will be recognized and get their hours. Director Bearden added that the GPSTC is looking at four different areas in the state, and would like to begin a pilot program for regional fire academies that will be run by the locals wherever we decide to go when we have the partnerships being built on the fire side like we have the partnerships being built on the police side. Director Bearden stated he thinks this will be a very positive step for the fire community and added Chief Canada has been working with him on this issue and has brought a lot of insight into this and looks forward to moving ahead on this issue.

Director Bearden advised at the POST Council meeting yesterday, Deputy Director Bill Bryant was approved by POST as the Director of the Academy and congratulated Deputy Director Bryant on this, adding Bill has done a great job at the GPSTC.

Director Bearden reminded the BPS members of his report last month about North Central Law Enforcement Academy in Cobb County, the last contract academy and stated the funds for this academy are being cut. Director Bearden stated he visited with the Chairman of the Sub Committee on Appropriations Jay Powell along with Cobb County Sheriff Warren and as of right now \$200,000.00

has been put back into the budget for this contract academy with the caveat that myself and Sheriff Warren along with his staff and the GPSTC staff works to see if this will be something that GPSTC takes over and becomes the 7th academy, if we develop a hybrid or if we have some of our people in the academy with them or if the state will just cut funding all together and they will have to make the decision to fund it themselves or close this academy. Director Bearden added that he is not a real big fan of closing academies and we need an academy in that area and will be working with them on different ideas as to what we can do to sustain this academy.

Director Bearden stated last month he had discussed the technical schools and how they were getting out of the basic training business and was informed yesterday that the technical schools may have changed their minds, so not real sure what is going on with the technical schools at his moment. Director Bearden advised the BPS that he would keep them abreast of the situation as it continues to develop.

Mr. Bowen asked Director Bearden would this not have any bearing on the GPSTC when looking at the regional academies, if the technical schools are going to be in business or not. Director Bearden replied that the GPSTC mission will not change; we are going to make sure people are trained, but this will have an effect on how we want to move forward with the regional academies. Director Bearden added if the technical schools do not handle some of the pre service, it will come to us, which we handle anyway, but it could be a greater number. Director Bearden related he needs to know this information so he will know exactly where the regional academies will be and how much space the GPSTC will need. Director Bearden stated he hopes to have a definite answer before the next BPS meeting.

Director Bearden gave an update on the roof at the GPSTC and reported that work has begun and the contractors have 180 days to complete the project.

Director Bearden thanked the staff at the GPSTC Physical Plant, Commissioner Owens and his staff who have done a great job on the Memorial area. The fountain has been totally reworked and now sprays into the fountain, new trees and shrubs have been planted and will look very good for the May 7th, 2012 Public Safety Memorial.

Director Bearden stated Lloyd Strickland; photographer at GPSTC is here today and would like to take photos of the BPS members after the meeting.

Director Bearden stated that the BPS created the Georgia Fire Academy Advisor Council and as of now there is a vacancy on that council for the Chief of a Volunteer Fire Department. Director Bearden introduced Chief Lee Kirkland of the Milan Volunteer Fire Department and recommended Chief Kirkland to the BPS and requested approval for Chief Kirkland to serve on the Georgia Fire Academy Advisor Council.

Sheriff Steve Cronic made the motion to appoint Chief Lee Kirkland to serve on the Georgia Fire Academy Advisor Council, which was seconded by Chief Bill Myers and voted approved by the BPS members.

Chief Kirkland thanked the BPS for the opportunity to serve on the Georgia Fire Academy Advisor Council.

DONATIONS

Mr. Joe Hood, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donations:

820 Tommy Moose Stuffed Animals	\$ 5,250.00	Mr. Don Gilmer
5 Stalker DSR 2X Radars	\$14,147.50	Douglas Co. SO
Fuel per month	\$ 500.00	Grady Co. Bd of Commissioners
Fuel per month	\$ 500.00	Colquitt Co. SO
Fuel per month	\$ 500.00	Whigham Police Department
Fuel per month	\$ 500.00	Meigs Police Department
Fuel per month	\$ 500.00	Norman Park Police Dept.
1 Genesis II Select Radar	\$ 1,720.00	Emanuel Co. SO
1 Stalker 2 X DS Radar	\$ 2,364.00	Columbia County SO

Mr. Bowen asked if the donations from the police departments had the expressed consent of the Mayor and Council along with the police chief. Mr. Hood remarked that the donations are signed by the chiefs from each of the cities and understands that DPS is in good stead with this.

Mr. Rampy asked Mr. Hood if the fuel donations had an expiration date and Mr. Hood advised that most of the fuel donations and believes the ones presented today, the agencies will donate as long as the agency is able and there is a need.

The motion to accept these donations was made by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., seconded by Sheriff Gary C. Vowell, and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. W. H. (Bill) Bryant, Jr. Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donation:

Cash Donation to Arson Program	\$ 1,000.00	Atlanta Gas Light
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The motion to accept this donation was made by Sheriff Steve Cronic, seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approved by the Board members.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Director Tim Bearden, GPSTC came before the BPS presenting the names of the Honorees for the Georgia Public Safety Memorial. Director Bearden gave special thanks to Mrs. Sharla Shockley and Mr. Chase Jones for their work and effort on the Memorial.

Director Bearden stated that the Georgia Public Safety Memorial Committee met on February 21, 2012 considering 18 names that had been nominated to be placed on the Wall. Director Bearden advised that 12 nominees were approved and asked for approval of the nominees from the Board.

Sheriff Gary C. Vowell made a motion to accept and approve the names for the Georgia Public Safety Memorial which was seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approved by the Board members.

Director Bearden advised that the memorial ceremony would be held May 7, 2012 at 1000 hours.

Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Deputy Director of Legal Services for the Department of Public Safety came before the BPS to present for initial adoption, Proposed Rule 570-34-001 through 570-34-011 which relates to HB253 which created a new code section 35-2-58 that will govern the disposition of vehicles for sale by the Department of Public Safety.

Attorney Joe Drolet explained the procedure for enacting new Rules to the new BPS members. Mr. Drolet advised the Board members that different agencies are allowed to have Rules which are a level below statutes and are brought before a Board that oversees the agency requesting the changes which then takes the action to decide to go forward with the Rule. The Board approves the Rule, and then the proposed rule changes are posted for a period of time for the public to view where the public can comment on the changes. The agency requesting the proposed changes then brings the request back before the BPS with the public results, the Board then adopts the rules, and the bill goes to the General Assembly and then to the Secretary of State where it will be published for the agency.

Chief Irene Pennington made a motion to adopt Proposed Rule 570-34-001 through 570-34-011, which was seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approval by the Board members.

Sheriff Vowell added that he was pleased to see this Proposed Rule Change as he thinks it will be a big asset and help to replace the old patrol cars on the road.

Commissioner McDonough remarked that the Proposed Rule is structured to give priority to the Sheriffs' Departments and to the Municipalities first, so if a Sheriff or Chief needs a car that is where

the Department will start, it only goes to the private vendor when it gets sold to the general public. Commissioner McDonough added this rule is designed to make sure that we meet law enforcement needs first if they so desire.

Vice-Chairman Wood told the BPS members that the committee assignments would be sent out before the next meeting.

Vice-Chairman Wood passed thank you notes around to the BPS members from Mrs. Louise Rampy and Mr. Wayne Abernathy and stated the BPS is glad that both of them have improved rapidly and here with us today.

Mr. Abernathy thanked everyone for the prayers, cards and calls.

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded everyone that the April 12th meeting would be in Glennville at noon and after the meeting, we will attend the Law Enforcement Bar-B-Q in Glennville that evening. Vice-Chairman Wood added that the Bulloch County Board of Commissioners would host a departing breakfast on Friday morning for the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood advised that Commissioner Owens has offered to host a meeting at the Jackson State Prison for the May 10th, 2012 meeting.

Vice-Chairman Wood stated customarily the BPS does not have official meetings in June, July and August but if a called meeting is necessary, we will have a called meeting. Vice-Chairman Wood also advised that the Board has received confirmation from FLETC in Brunswick for the October 11th, 2012 Board meeting.

Director Tim Bearden introduced Mr. Michael Parkerson, Deputy Director of Operations for the GPSTC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jon Canada
Secretary