

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

May 12, 2011

Department of Corrections Board Room-Forsyth, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Wayne Abernathy
Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III
Mr. Daniel M. Bryant
Chief Jon Canada
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Sheriff Steven D. Cronic
Chief Louis M. Dekmar
Commissioner Brian Owens
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr.
Sheriff H. Cullen Talton
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Patrick H. Head
Mr. C. Murray Kight
Sheriff Dane Kirby

OTHERS:

Mr. Joseph Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Ashley Culberson, Attorney General's Office
Ms. Cheryl Buie, Board Liaison
Colonel W. W. Hitchens, Jr., Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
Major S. F. Hicks, Department of Public Safety, Georgia State Patrol
Major Wayne Beck, Department of Public Safety, MCCD
Captain R. D. Powell, Department of Public Safety, Georgia State Patrol
Lt. A. W. Marlowe, Department of Public Safety, Georgia State Patrol
Comptroller Joseph W. Hood, Department of Public Safety
Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Dan Brown, CIO, Department of Public Safety
Assistant Director Dan Kirk, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Deputy Director Terry Gibbons, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Fiscal Officer Lisa Ulrich, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Director J. Dale Mann, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Deputy Director Patrice Kerner, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Division Director Butch Beach, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Ms. Vonnie B. Stewart, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Louise Rampy
Mrs. Maureen Bryant
Ms. Tiffany Andrews
Mr. Carl Franklin, DOC Board member
Mrs. Jackie Franklin

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the May Board of Public Safety meeting to order and thanked Commissioner Brian Owens for coordinating the BPS meeting as well as the Special Olympics Torch Run this morning which was a significant event for everyone and thanked Commissioner Owens for letting the Board members participate in the ceremony. Vice-Chairman Wood called on Commissioner Owens to introduce Reverend Scott Harrell for the invocation. Commissioner Owens began by stating that Reverend Scott Harrell is pastor at Rocky Creek Baptist Church and the President of the Forsyth-Monroe County Ministerial Association, but most importantly his son plays baseball with Reverend Harrell's son. Reverend Scott Harrell came forward with the devotion and prayer. Vice-Chairman Wood led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Wood formally welcomed new Board member Kacy Cronan. Mr. Cronan thanked Vice-Chairman Wood for the welcome and stated he was glad to be a part of the BPS and looks forward to getting to know everyone and working together to better our state.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the February Board minutes. Chief Lou Dekmar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Danny Bryant and voted approval by the Board members.

DIRECT REPORTS

Director Dale Mann, Georgia Public Safety Training Center began his report by telling everyone that the Police Officer Memorial Ceremony would be held Friday, May 27th at 1000 hours at the GPSTC. Director Mann added that ten officers would be added to the Memorial.

Director Mann stated Chief Dekmar had a meeting at the GACP Goals Conference a couple of weeks ago and stated there will be a study of training for public safety in Georgia, specifically isolated to law enforcement and asked Chief Dekmar to address this issue. Chief Dekmar stated the Chiefs Association has completed several white papers; one on taser, one on pursuit and one on traffic as it relates to enforcement and the obstacles that legislators have placed specifically on radar. The white papers provide the legislature the history of where law enforcement is at and how we got there and what the future is going to look like based on experiences from other states and in this instance if we do not do something with regard to law enforcement training. We have asked the GPSTC staff to provide us with information as it relates to the number of hours that are provided for basic mandate, the number of hours provided for in-service, the nature and type of course study and then we will do a comparative and contrast of what is happening in other states. Chief Dekmar added that the other thing that is troubling is that the people that look at the information who make predictions, have predicted that in the next 10-15 years we will see more law enforcement scandals than what has been seen since the late 60's and early 70's. Chief Dekmar remarked that there are a bunch of reasons for this and we know that in the last decade there was a 25% increase for prosecution of police officers, and then we know that selection in training is key to avoid that. Chief Dekmar added that GACP is hopeful with this white paper and as revenues become available that we can present this information, not only to the legislature and Governor Deal, but also the BPS and other groups that have similar interests. On

behalf of the Chiefs Association, Chief Dekmar asked the BPS for their support in getting this information from the GPSTC.

Vice-Chairman Wood remarked that the Basic Mandate training program that was started under the auspicious of this Board along with the Technical College System is in jeopardy because of the loss of Hope funding challenges. Vice-Chairman Wood stated that we had some tentative assurances that this program in the six satellite universities would continue through the end of this year and appears that this might be challenged some more. Vice-Chairman Wood stated that he met with Senator Hill last week and he was not as aware of the crisis as we have interpreted it and Senator Hill has pledged to do everything in his power to revisit this funding, but Vice-Chairman Wood encouraged the Board members to review the funding with people that might have some proper input on it. Vice-Chairman Wood stated that one place that he would encourage the Board members to look for support if it is there is the Chiefs and Sheriffs Association and thinks that both of these associations if they feel strong about the program need to be collectively acknowledging that to those who can possibly help. Vice-Chairman Wood stated he and Director Mann, Butch Beach and Ron Jackson have met individually, but it seems like when we first met with Mr. Ron Jackson, the Basic Mandate program was shirt tailed with the CDL program and the CDL program was getting a good bit of statewide emphasis and unbeknownst to us right at the last minute the CDL program received an additional 4 and half million dollars to carry it over and the Basic Mandate program was not included in this. Vice-Chairman Wood stated that Senator Hill stated it was because he did not understand the emphasis had not really understood it. Vice-Chairman Wood encouraged the Board members if they feel strongly about the program to try and use any avenues they have to get support for the mandate training. Chief Dekmar stated that the model that was developed for the technical colleges will be something that will be included in the white papers along with the analysis of other states that have successfully done this and in addition Chief Dekmar stated the papers will be done by the GACP, but anytime we work on these white papers, it is a multi-disciplined approach and have people representing the Sheriffs Association, other public safety interests including GMA and the County Commissioner Association so that we are able to address and involve the various constituents that would be affected by the information in the white paper. Director Mann added that he had a conversation with Director Ken Vance of POST and one of the things that Director Vance wanted to do after talking with Dr. Lisa Beck of the technical schools, was to allow the technical schools to do some of the advanced specialized programs and charge tuition for these, just trying to generate some money to keep them afloat. Director Mann stated he told Director Vance he had no opposition as they are full certified academies as he is concerned and there is no reason they cannot do this, but we obviously do have some concerns about the technical schools having some staff to make sure they are done well and Director Vance assures him that they will watch this and Dr. Lisa Beck added that they will do it right. Director Mann added that GPSTC has these as handoff programs and told Director Vance candidly they are going to run into problems when they are charging for a class that we give to people for free. This will not be much of a money generator for the technical schools, Director Mann does not think, but we do not have any opposition to doing this and Director Mann added that GPSTC is in the same peril with HOPE that the technical schools are, GPSTC generates about half a million dollars a year in revenue from HOPE pre-service students which actually has run the operational side of our basic training with all the cuts GPSTC has had for three years. GPSTC is currently waiting on an answer from Dr. Bridges at ABAC who has

expressed a desire to take over the mandate program that Armstrong Atlantic State University once did. Armstrong Atlantic is where we have always run pre-service students through even if they went to school in Athens or Dalton, they were registered for Armstrong and we gave Armstrong Atlantic a 15% cut in administrative costs, we retained the rest of the money and that money (half million dollars a year) has been paying the bills for ammunition, gas and tires and other things that runs basic training. Director Mann stated GPSTC will have a severe crunch if we are unable to get ABAC recognized by the Board of Regents to pick up where Armstrong leaves off. Director Mann stated this is another part of the whole facet; these are bad times, in the last three years GPSTC has lost over 3 million dollars worth of funding out of a 12 million dollar budget. GPSTC is suffering just like everyone else is. Director Mann stated we would start seeing waiting lists for basic training this year, having Sheriffs and Chiefs who hire people especially if the technical schools go away they will not have many pre-service students at all, they will hire people and contact GPSTC wanting to get these people in basic training and GPSTC's response will be that we will be glad too, but call us back in about four months; this is where GPSTC is headed.

Chief Dekmar added for the benefit of the Board members that do not have a logistically appreciation for what this means, right now with running as many academies as we can, if I have an officer to leave the police department, it takes a year to replace them and get them on the street, so if we have a delay at the GPSTC now we are talking about in excess of a year, because by the time the candidate passes the background, does pre-orientation, send them to the academy, do a 12-15 week FTO program, we are looking at close to a year and now we are looking at pushing that and this is at a time when many agencies have frozen positions so that when they can hire there will be a deficit in that department as far as the street response because they are not going to be able to fill the police positions as quickly as we have with the offerings that the academies regionally have been able to offer. Sheriff Cronic added that financially being able to hire pre-service people, as Hall County is in crisis and anytime that we can hire someone that comes in certified, that savings enables us to continue use of funding in critical areas. Sheriff Cronic stated that if we are in a situation where we are no longer able to hire individuals that are already certified then this will take away from other funding that we need and will reduce the number of officers eventually that we are able to put on the streets, it is a big issue for all of us. Vice-Chairman Wood stated that if there was a delinquency it was the fact that probably we did not let the people know how successful those satellite universities have been in meeting some of the law enforcement needs.

The Board of Public Safety members gave their consensus for the GPSTC to provide requested information to the Georgia Chiefs of Police Association in order for the GACP Association to prepare a white paper.

Assistant Director Dan Kirk, Georgia Bureau of Investigation briefed the Board members on the GBI's investigation of the Atlanta Public School System and the CRCT cheating scandal which was completed May 1, 2011. Mr. Kirk stated the GBI interviewed 1738 people in a 3-4 month period and went into 52 different schools and there is certainly an indication that there was some cheating going on, some things that were changed. Mr. Kirk noted that all of the information has been turned over to the special state investigators that were appointed by former Governor Perdue and they will in turn

produce a report which can be expected in the next several months. Judge Bowen asked how many man hours were expended on the investigation. Assistant Director Kirk stated that for the last two and half months, there were 7-8 people dedicated full time to the investigation and before that, GBI had as many as 40-50 agents working on the investigation in the short period of time.

Assistant Director Kirk stated the GBI has received grant funding from the CJCC that will allow the GBI to hire 20 agents on grants, which is a lot better than what GBI had in the past. Mr. Kirk advised GBI has begun the hiring process and are looking at targeting people who are already POST certified. Mr. Kirk added after these people have been hired, they will be sent to a two week high liability school, where they will go through firearms training and emergency vehicle operations. The candidates will then go into the FTA program out in the field for about 6-7 months. In the meantime for those that are hired that are not POST certified, they will attend an 11 week school at GPSTC to get their POST certification, they will then go to the two week high liability school, and then complete the FTA and once the last group is through and everyone has completed their FTA we will bring them back in for a seven week intensive GBI school, reinforcing what they learned while completing their FTA program. Mr. Kirk stated the GBI is looking to have these 20 people fully trained, out working cases within the next two years. In addition to this, depending on gas costs, GBI may be able to hire 4-7 people for additional state positions. All of this is good news, a reversal of what the GBI has been doing.

Mr. Kirk advised the Board members that the bid for repairs at the Crime Lab in Moultrie has been awarded and hopes to have all completed by the middle of July. This is a complete overhaul of all the HVAC. There will be some roofing work and some interior work to be completed. Three forensic biologists have been hired and are in training and should be doing their casework for serology beginning in June or July. They will do serology for about 6 months and once they are proficient in this, we will then move them into DNA training at that point. Mr. Kirk added that three chemists have been hired and are in training and two of them will be completing their work toward late summer; we are trying to bring on a third chemist who had previously worked for the GBI. At the lab we have three technicians and a lab manager was moved from the Savannah office. Mr. Kirk stated he expects the Moultrie Lab to be fully operational this time next year.

Mr. Kirk stated that the backlog for the crime lab continues to stay around the 5,000 case levels which is not horribly bad, most of this backlog remains in firearms and toxicology and some in forensic biology, a lot in latent prints. The good news is that forensic biology turnaround time is down to 121 days, which has not been this low since Mr. Kirk can't remember when. The backlog as of today in DNA is 235 cases. GBI has made tremendous strides with this and the CODIS backlog is zero. Chief Dekmar asked Mr. Kirk if the number of rape kit cases coming in were consistent or if there was a drop or increase. Mr. Kirk replied that everything was pretty consistent right now and one thing that the crime lab has seen coming in more is firearms cases. At this time GBI has seven firearms scientists working and have hired seven more and hoping this will allow the GBI to keep up with the firearms cases that are coming in. Chief Dekmar asked what the backlog was on firearms, as it used to be like a year and a half and two years, and then it was only by DA request. Mr. Kirk advised that firearms are still pretty much doing this, as we pretty much work priority cases in firearms. Even though we have

firearms scientists hired and trained and are starting to work more cases, they are just overwhelmed with the cases that are coming in. Assistant Director Kirk advised the Board members if they know someone that has a firearms case and needs it expedited to please call. The toxicology section has 4-5 people that they have hired and are in training and most of these are replacement positions as GBI continues to have people walk out the door to make more money elsewhere. The chemistry section has developed a backlog here of lateness as they have lost some employees; GBI has hired 9 people, most on grants that are in training now so they should be up to speed in about 6 months.

Assistant Director Kirk stated the GBI is moving forward with the upgrade of the Sex Offender Registry as GBI received a grant from CJCC. Mr. Kirk added they have had several discovery sessions with stake holders and have begun the preliminary designed document; this process should last around 14 months.

Mr. Kirk shared one final thought he thought needed to be brought to the BPS members' attention as the economy begins to turn around and the revenues begin to pick up with all the grants that the GBI has, there are 40-50 positions in the lab and the 20 agents and in addition some other people on grants, which is nothing but a credit card and GBI has a big debt on the credit card. Mr. Kirk stated the GBI has been trying to educate the legislators that this bill will come due and these positions are critical to the lab and to continued growth in the investigative division back to where the GBI used to be. At one time, GBI had 375 agents but today we are at 235 agents.

Mr. Kirk added that the GBI is so far behind the power curve on salaries and related that GBI lost a 13 year veteran agent to Lilburn PD for a \$15,000.00 pay raise. The GBI is losing talent and losing our future leaders, it is really starting to show when looking at who might be our future leaders. This is something the state needs to be aware of and we need to educate our legislators about this and a lot of this has to do with salaries.

Colonel W. W. Hitchens, Jr., Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety began by apologizing for not being at the last BPS meeting as it was the last day of the legislature session and Colonel Hitchens was waiting on some bills to be voted on. Colonel Hitchens advised HB414 returned Aviation to the Department of Public Safety and Colonel Hitchens added he attended the bill signing with Governor Deal yesterday. Colonel Hitchens stated that 14 helicopters and a couple of airplanes, six hangers, 6 mechanics and the secretary that went to the GA Aviation Authority three years ago will be returning to the DPS on September 1, 2011. All the troopers/pilots that were transferred to the GAA were still on the DPS payroll and we are glad to have them back. Colonel Hitchens thanked the Chiefs Association and the Sheriffs Association for their support in speaking to their representatives and senators which was a very positive thing to do and think they listened very intently and Colonel Hitchens sincerely appreciates this. HB112 which was the Motor Carrier bill also passed; this bill was presented year before last and right at the end there was an amendment tacked on and Governor Perdue vetoed it because of the amendment while the truth was that if we did not get this bill through this year, we would have lost our federal funding but since then what it did, it changed our law to be in compliance with the federal rules and regulations (CFR). It allowed the DPS to keep the NHTSA grant

which is through the Motor Carrier Safety Administration which is 6 million dollars a year that actually funds 33% of our Motor Carrier operations.

Colonel Hitchens added that the one bill that did not pass was HB253. Representative Collins from Gainesville carried this bill which was very uncontroversial and went through pretty smoothly and when we got to the Rules Committee the night before the last day of the session, what happened was there were well over one hundred bills and the Chairman of Rules decided that there are 19 members on the Rules Committee and they would go around the table twice and each one would get one bill that they could recommend, which would be 38 bills that would move forward out of that group. HB253 was supposed to be one of them but when they made the two trips around, it did not go. Colonel Hitchens added what will happen with this being the first year of the two year legislative session; next year all DPS has to do is go to Rules and get it to the Senate for a vote as it has already passed unanimously in the House and do not foresee any problems with getting the bill passed. We had a choice to move this bill or HB414 forward and we opted for HB414 because we thought it was more significant. HB253 essentially changes some rules in how we deal with DOAS and allows us to retain some of the money for our excess cars. It goes back through the legislature but it is identified as when we turn the cars in we turn that surplus money back into them so that we get it back, supposedly to keep our fleet going, it is a vehicle fleet bill and Governor Deal gave us 5 million dollars to institute this, we got the money anyway so we are going to be able to institute it and we have saved up around 500 cars that we are going to turn in and get the cash for, but since it did not pass, we have sold the cars, we gave them to DOAS, they sell them and they charge DPS \$50.00/car when the vehicle want run. Most of the vehicles have been run 200,000-250,000 miles so most of them are taken out of service when we have to send a wrecker after the vehicle. The DPS even had to buy another wrecker this year as we were hauling so many vehicles in. DPS pays DOAS \$50.00 to haul them off and sell them and keep the profit. Colonel Hitchens stated that he does believe this will change next year and DOAS is onboard with this.

Colonel Hitchens stated the DPS came out very well this year with the current economic conditions.

Colonel Hitchens spoke of the tornado damage in the state of GA that occurred April 27th and 28th and stated the Governor declared a State of Emergency for 27 counties which remains in effect and a Presidential declaration has been made for 26 counties. There were 15 deaths and 143 injuries; while federal individual assistance includes \$1,770,247.00 to help home owners and renters displaced by the storms to rent temporary housing, repair damage to homes and to replace homes that were destroyed. DPS provided a significant number of troopers and MCCD officers in Catoosa, Spaulding and Rabun Counties where the state was hit the most severely. Colonel Hitchens commended Vice-Chairman Wood for his assistance as every time an event like this occurs in GA, Mr. Wood shuts down his business and loads up his employees and equipment and goes wherever the problem is. Mr. Wood works very diligently to try and help people that have no other means to resurrect some of their property and in this case last week, he spent most of his time down in the Griffin area with chainsaws and bulldozers clearing the area and we are very appreciative of him. DPS always helps him with moving his equipment by giving him an escort. Colonel Hitchens added that Mr. Wood has a lot of generosity in him and I appreciate him as well as do a lot of citizens of this state.

Colonel Hitchens spoke of the Honey Prairie fire due to a lightning strike, adjacent to the Okefenokee Swamp and at this time it is no longer a threat to GA. Colonel Hitchens added that DPS had a lot of people involved trying to clear homes and the fire is no longer our problem as it has burned south into Florida.

Colonel Hitchens stated that on April 21st, Newnan Trooper Brian Kight had stopped to help a stranded motorist who had a flat tire and on I-85S he pulled over into the middle with a concrete separator about 8 feet tall and, a subject under the influence was coming down the road and hit a vehicle that went into a spin and hit the van and pinned the trooper and the driver of the van against the wall and took them for about 30 feet down the wall. Unfortunately the driver of the van died two days later and the trooper had significant injuries. The doctors said that Trooper Kight was very fortunate that he had on his bullet proof vest and the fact that an EMT stopped by and assisted the trooper as he had a very deep cut that went all the way to the bone and the EMT tied it off. Trooper Kight is at home and recovering.

On May 8th, Cedartown Trooper Adam Williams was injured after a motorcycle pursuit. Trooper Williams chased a violator for a good ways on the motorcycle and it turned out the violator was intoxicated; other police agencies were en route from the other direction to assist and when the motorcycle saw them he turned into the parking area and tried to make a 360 and come back out and the trooper blocked him. The violator tried to back pedal with his feet to get out of the way and go around the trooper and as the trooper tried to get the violator off the motorcycle, the local police came up and hit the motorcycle and the trooper and injured the trooper severely. Trooper Williams had a compound fracture of his leg, and had surgery to place a rod and screws in his leg and should be healed in about 5-6 months. In addition, Capt. Soffie Thigpen, GEMA Liaison was involved in an accident off duty and injured and Newnan trooper Sheena Morris was injured in a horse accident and hospitalized for about four days.

Colonel Hitchens stated that DPS received a grant from CJCC and began the 88th Trooper School April 8th with 60 cadets and today the school has 37 cadets left. We hope to graduate 30-35; at this point of the seven month school, it stabilizes; we have taken a hard look at what occurs in trooper school and why we lose so many. Colonel Hitchens added that the Department has begun keeping statistical data on where the cadets come from and who stays, we have looked at prior law enforcement people, people already certified, military personnel, people in our agency that have worked as radio operators or cadets in other aspects of our department and tried to keep tabs. In the current trooper school it looks like the prior military service people are the ones that stay. We lost one that left on his own and one that failed a portion of the driving that will be retained and allowed to go through the next school. It is a tough school, we know that and we certainly do not want people that will give up easily. In our agency, we are often out in the middle of nowhere by ourselves in the late hours and our sense is that we are going to keep the trooper school the way it is, at least for the time being.

Colonel Hitchens reminded the BPS members of the changes in the Child Passenger Safety Restraint Law. The DPS worked in conjunction with the Children's Hospital of Atlanta as they proposed the legislation and NHTSA sponsored this also and this change in the law will make children be restrained in child seats up until the age of 8, pretty much the national standard.

Colonel Hitchens stated about three days ago, the DPS was one of three Georgia employers that was selected as semi-finalists for the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employees Report Freedom Award, an award from the Department of Defense, the highest recognition given to employers for exceptional support of their employees serving in the Guard and the Reserve and we were pretty proud of this.

Colonel Hitchens reminded the Board members that March 19, 2012 will be the 75th anniversary for the DPS and stated that every time the Department has a significant anniversary we do an annual and have a special event, one at the Capitol and one outside and we are in the planning stages for this. Colonel Hitchens added that work has begun on the annual and will include all the BPS members. Colonel Hitchens told the Board members that they are certainly welcomed to any of the events that DPS will have.

Colonel Hitchens spoke about Police Memorial Week and shared some photos of 14 GSP members who are riding their bikes on the Police Unity Tour to Washington, DC. Colonel Hitchens added that Cpl LeCory's family would be in attendance and honored at the Memorial. Colonel Hitchens relayed that DPS appreciates all the support that the LeCroy family has received. Colonel Hitchens stated he went to an event yesterday where Fulton County honored the LeCroy family and went to Floyd County about four days ago, where LeCroy was honored and then APD honored LeCroy the day before yesterday.

Chief Dekmar thanked Major Beck as Chief Dekmar had an inquiry from some GMA folks on some regulations that had been proposed and Major Beck sent Chief Dekmar some great information that he was able to forward to the GMA people.

Colonel Hitchens told the BPS members that something unusual may be happening and stated there are no guarantees, but the Department is in the middle of something right now. Colonel Hitchens relayed that the Chairman of the GA Board of Transportation has approached him and he has attended two of their meetings and they have an initiative. Colonel Hitchens related that GSP handled all the accidents and enforcement on the I-75/I-85 Conn about three years ago and now we do not have enough people to do this 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Colonel Hitchens stated there were many more accidents there (about 8,000 a year) and the Transportation Board seemed impressed with the manner in which GSP handled it. The Department had to go back to APD and now GSP works the high traffic volume areas from 0600 to 2100 hours, Monday through Friday. GSP utilizes the motorcycle unit to come down the ramps the wrong way or go in the emergency lanes and get to where the accidents or breakdowns are to get people out of the way. The DOT seems very interested in being able to fund some additional troopers and doing it piece meal in the five county metro area in order to allow us to take over all the interstate systems. Colonel Hitchens says that the DOT wants some guarantees from the legislature and that if this works effectively they might be willing to fund this in the future. Colonel Hitchens stated information has been sent out to trooper school applicants to let them know that the DPS may be in the process of hiring again pretty soon, but there is no guarantee this money is forthcoming. DOT has got some money that they obtained from several sources, their budget is well over a billion dollars per year and they have a lot of federal money for safety and they seem very

interested. Colonel Hitchens stated the Department would not commit to anything except we do not mind doing this as this is what the GSP does; we have 65 troopers that work the five metropolitan area. Colonel Hitchens stated that every other state that he knows of has around 200 troopers in their metropolitan area, Jacksonville, Orlando, Columbia and Charlotte and GSP is trying to accomplish this with 65. The DOT seems willing and we are trying to work with them, but other than this there are no funds.

Vice-Chairman Wood welcomed Ms. Tiffany Andrews of the Forsyth-Monroe County Chamber of Commerce and Ms. Andrews thanked Commissioner Owens for providing this opportunity to come before the BPS. Ms. Andrews recognized and thanked Ms. Patrice Kerner of GPSTC for assisting her with this opportunity. Ms. Andrews stated that last year the legislature passed legislation designating Monroe County as the Public Safety Capital of Georgia. Ms. Andrews went on to relate that the Chamber of Commerce is in the process of creating the Public Safety Games of Georgia which would include the whole gamut of Public Safety, looking at the GBI, GEMA, Police, Sheriff, Fire and anyone who is in the public safety entity, not only full-time but also part-time which is a rarity. This will begin in 2012 and will be on the weekend prior to September 11th and the reason we are doing this is this year is the ten year celebration of 9/11 and we would like to stay in conjunction with 9/11 in memory of all of the fallen people from that event and then having this event as well. Ms. Andrews stated to kick off the games; they will have the Battle of the Badges this year as our softball tournament which will serve as seed capital to put on the 2012 Public Safety Games. Ms. Andrews distributed a flyer noting the Battle of the Badges event for September 9-10, 2011 and for the Public Safety Games to be held September 7-9, 2012. Ms. Andrews added the majority of the competitions will be held at GPSTC. After the softball tournament on the weekend of September 9-10, 2011, a memorial in memory of the fallen public safety officers of September 11th will be held at the GPSTC.

FISCAL REPORTS ENDING MARCH 31, 2011

Mr. Joe Hood, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety began his fiscal report by stating that percent remaining should be around 25.00% in each program and noted there were three programs that had significantly less than 25.00% remaining and noted at the bottom of the chart why the program is less than 25.00% and how the department will address the programs below 25.00%. Mr. Hood advised the Board members that overall, DPS is on target at 25.09% for all programs.

Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III, serving as a member of the CJCC asked Mr. Hood would the positions that were granted to DPS for the last trooper school that were not filled, if there is another trooper school in November, can the positions be utilized in the next trooper school. Mr. Hood advised yes the positions could be used in the next trooper school, providing we can get enough recruits and at this time we have 9 below the 45 funded thresholds. There are multiple grants to pool money together to fund a trooper school; we should have a couple more years to utilize those ten positions.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked the effective date of GSP Aviation returning to DPS. Mr. Joe Hood responded it would be September 1, 2011.

Ms. Lisa Urich, Georgia Bureau of Investigation began by stating the GBI has 28.31% of budget remaining which gives the GBI about 3% and now that the budgets are finished at the legislature and GBI is on target to spend all of the money. Ms. Urich added that the GBI had projects they were holding until the GBI knew exactly what the final budget would be. Ms. Urich reminded the Board members that the Multi Judicial Task Force was merged into the Regional Investigative Services program budget and that the State Health Care Fraud Unit will go away July 1, which will then leave just four programs for the GBI.

Ms. Patrice Kerner, Georgia Public Safety Training Center told Board members that the GPSTC year to date percentage expense as of March 31, 2011 was at 61%. Ms. Kerner added that the GPSTC had been holding off on some projects to make sure that the General Assembly did not cut the GPSTC too much; and now those projects are well on their way and the GPSTC is projected to spend all of its money by the end of the fiscal year.

DONATIONS

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

Ten E-Seek Card Readers-Model #250	\$3,700.00	Upson Co. Board of Comm.
One 2011 Chevrolet PPV Tahoe	\$27,000.00	Dooly Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Two Alco-Sensor FSTs	\$ 1,150.00	Ocmulgee Drug Task Force
Fuel	\$ 1,389.06	Franklin Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Fuel	\$ 161.62	Hart Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Fuel	\$ 326.50	GA Municipal Association
Furniture	\$2,500.00	Terrell Co. Board of Comm.
Furniture	\$2,500.00	Webster Co. Board of Comm.
Furniture	\$1,000.00	Marion Co. Board of Comm.
Furniture	\$1,500.00	Ellaville City Council
Furniture	\$2,500.00	Schley Co. Board of Comm.

The motion to accept these donations was made by Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III, seconded by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., and voted approval by the Board members.

Ms. Lisa Urich, Georgia Bureau of Investigation requested approval of the following donation:

Monetary Donation	\$10,000.00	GA Motor Trucking Assoc.
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The motion to accept this donation was made by Sheriff Steve Cronic, seconded by Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III and voted approval by the Board members.

Ms. Patrice Kerner, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donations:

40 Copies of the 2011 Edition of NFPA 921-A Guide for Fire & Explosion Investigations	\$3,000.00	GA Arson Control Board
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Monetary Donation	\$1,000.00	GA Fire Investigators Assoc.
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Monetary Donation	\$1,000.00	Atlanta Gas Light Resources
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The motion to accept these donations was made by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., seconded by Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III, and voted approval by the Board members.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dan Kirk, Georgia Bureau of Investigation came before the BPS asking for their approval to authorize the deeding of 1.72 acres of real property in Thomson, McDuffie County from the County of McDuffie and the City of Thomson to the State of Georgia, in the custody of the GBI, to provide continued and permanent access to the GBI Region 7 Investigative Office.

Chief Lou Dekmar made the motion recommending that the BPS approve the deeding of 1.72 acres of real property in Thomson, McDuffie County from the County of McDuffie and the City of Thomson to the State of Georgia, in the custody of the GBI, which will provide continued access for the Region 7 Investigative Office and request the Law Department and State Properties Commission prepare and process appropriate documents reflecting the deeding, which was seconded by Chief Jon Canada and voted approval by the Board members.

Ms. Patrice Kerner, Georgia Public Safety Training Center presented a Bond Resolution request (two separate bonds) one was approved by the General Assembly in FY2010 for \$2,250,000.00 dollars, the bond sale for this was for \$500,000.00 which will allow GPSTC to get the remaining money from that bond in 2010; the second Bond was approved by the General Assembly this past session for \$1,000,000.00. Both of these bonds will be for major repairs and renovations to the training center.

Sheriff Steve Cronic made the motion to accept this Bond Resolution, which was seconded by Chief Jon Canada and voted approval by the Board members.

Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Deputy Director of Legal Services for the Department of Public Safety came before the BPS members for final adoption of the Georgia Department of Public Safety Rule 570-7-.02, Application for permit amended and Rule 570-7-.03 permit amended which relates to radar permits which is under the purview of the DPS. Ms. Bunn advised there was a posting and public hearing on the rules with no objections.

Sheriff Steve Cronic made the motion to adopt the GA Dept of Public Safety Rule 570-7-.02 and Rule 570-7-.03, which was seconded by Mr. Wayne Abernathy and voted approval by the Board members.

Mr. Joe Hood, Department of Public Safety brought a Bond Resolution before the BPS for consideration. Mr. Hood stated the bond funds were passed in this last legislative session for FY2012 budget for 5 million dollars for the approximate purchase of 223 Dodge chargers in the upcoming year.

Mr. Danny Bryant made the motion to accept the Bond Resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III and voted approval by the Board members.

Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr. made a motion with a second by Chief Dekmar to prepare a Resolution for former BPS member Mr. Gerald Willis who resigned from the Board of Public Safety last month. All Board members voted to approve the Resolution.

Vice-Chairman Wood thanked DPS/MCCD and Commissioner Owens and his DOC personnel and other agencies and their volunteers for their support to his group while helping out in the Griffin area after the tornado disaster.

Chief Canada stated he was privileged to work with several fine folks in Rabun County for five days after the tornado disaster at Lake Burton. There were several different agencies involved in this effort to do the things the locals and commissioners had asked us to do; securing the area, searching the homes that were destroyed, clearing the roadways. This took a lot of boots on the ground to do this; we worked well over 100 people every day doing this. Chief Canada stated he was amazed at the cooperation between the agencies making this such a smooth operation which involved the State Patrol, the DNR, local fire and rescue, GEMA and the Department of Corrections' had some people to help clear the roadways and at the end of five days we stood back and looked at the work that was completed and know without a cooperative effort from all of the agencies involved this could not have been done. Chief Canada thanked all those involved, especially to Colonel Hitchens as the troopers stepped up really great in the area helping the locals; Sheriff Cronic sent some deputies to the area as well as the City of Gainesville. There were ten different counties of law enforcement, fire, rescue, road crews and thinks this was a great thing for Georgia. Vice-Chairman Wood commented that he had about 100 people working in the Griffin area.

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded the Board members that there will not be a Board meeting in June, July and August, but if any department needs any action on something, the Board can hold a teleconference meeting if need be. Vice-Chairman Wood stated there may be some patrol posts grand

openings before our September meeting. Colonel Hitchens added that Americus would be the next post to hold a grand opening and Cartersville should be getting pretty close to opening and stated both of these should occur prior to the September meeting.

Vice-Chairman Wood stated that Mr. and Mrs. Danny Bryant would be hosting the September meeting in the Richmond Hill area and further details will be forthcoming. Vice-Chairman Wood stated he would like to put together a VIP type tour of Ft. Stewart if enough members were interested in coming to the area on Wednesday at noon before the Thursday meeting. Colonel Hitchens commented that he had been on the Ft. Stewart tour a couple times and stated that anyone that has not been would be well served to see our military in action. It is a very impressive tour.

Vice-Chairman Wood stated that the October meeting would be in Gainesville, hosted by Sheriff Cronin and Chief Canada and that the November and December meeting would be in the Atlanta area, maybe the GBI Headquarters and DPS Headquarters.

Vice-Chairman Wood thanked Commissioner Owens for the DOC facilities for the BPS meeting and the DOC courtesies.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Rooney L. Bowen, III
Secretary