BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
May 10, 2012
Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison – Jackson, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III
Mr. Daniel M. Bryant
Chief Jon Canada
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Mr. C. Murray Kight
Sheriff Dane Kirby
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. Wayne Abernathy
Sheriff Steven D. Cronic
Chief Bill Myers, IV

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 Eddie Grier, Department of Public Safety, GSP
Major Hank Fielding, Department of Public Safety, GSP
Major Wayne Beck, Department of Public Safety, MCCD
Captain Allen Marlowe, Department of Public Safety, GSP
Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Lee O’Brien, Department of Public Safety
Miss Franka Young, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Robert Orange, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Peter Adams, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Joe Hood, Office of Planning and Budget
Director Vernon Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Assistant Director Dan Kirk, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Deputy Director Terry Gibbons, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Fiscal Officer Connie Buck, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Director Timothy Bearden, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Deputy Director Bill Bryant, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Chase Jones, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Deputy Director Michael Parkerson, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Sharla Shockey, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Vonnie B. Stewart, Department of Corrections
Warden Carl Humphrey, Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison
Mrs. Louise Rampy
Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the May 10th, 2012, Board of Public Safety meeting to order and called on Commissioner Owens who in turn introduced Warden Carl Humphrey of the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison. Commissioner Owens stated that Warden Humphrey has served as a warden at six institutions and has actually worked at 13 institutions. Commissioner Owens added that this is not by accident, as the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison is the toughest prison in the state of Georgia, the most complex run in the state of Georgia, the largest and most expensive and one has to be on the top of their game to be the warden at the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison. Commissioner Owens expressed that this speaks highly of Warden Humphrey who has served for 30 years in the Department of Corrections and he is the role model for young wardens to follow and most wardens strive to become the warden at the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison.

Warden Humphrey welcomed everyone to the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison and shared the GDCP’s three primary missions, the first being that all male offenders that are entering into the GA Department of Corrections are processed at this prison with some 17,000 inmates being processed last year. The prison is also responsible for housing the inmates who are sentenced to die under the death sentence with 94 on death row. Warden Humphrey advised this prison has the Special Management Unit or High Max which houses 192 inmates who are the most dangerous and violent inmates in the system. Warden Humphrey stated he will offer two tours after the BPS meeting and lunch.

Commissioner Owens introduced DOC Chaplain Danny Horne who gave the invocation and prayer and then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

Chief Jon Canada read and presented a Resolution to LaGrange Police Chief Lou Dekmar, former BPS member. Chief Dekmar stated he appreciated the opportunity to serve on the Board of Public Safety and with the people that served in the different agencies. Vice-Chairman Wood remarked that Chief Dekmar had provided tremendous leadership and helped him on a lot of issues one in particular, the pilot program of the technical colleges and trying to look at different training options; Chief Dekmar was a tremendous asset during this time and appreciates all that Chief Dekmar has done for the state and the special leadership to him.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the April Board minutes. Mr. C. Murray Kight made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Sheriff Gary Vowell and voted approval by the Board members.
DIRECT REPORTS

Commissioner Mark McDonough, Department of Public Safety began his report stating that Wave 1 of the combined GSP, DNR and GBI SAR effort had been completed. Commissioner McDonough stated that 687 critical infrastructures located have been patrolled and checked upon. Commissioner McDonough declared there were no reports of fights between the agents, troopers or DNR personnel, no stolen lunch money and no personal complaints of hygiene of any of the folks they spent time with. Commissioner McDonough added that Wave 1 has been a good success with two more weeks to follow and thinks the intent is to highlight that we live in a different age and we have critical infrastructures that need to be checked, but on a bigger note the opportunity for our respective agencies to spend time together and the relationship building is probably the most positive thing that will come out of this.

Commissioner McDonough stated that the test pilot of the due regard training in Troop H has almost been completed with over 50 classes being held in Troop H with 897 troopers, deputies, police officers and firemen trained. At the conclusion of the training, Troop H will have over 1000 people that will have gone through the training and with the implementation of the pilot program statewide; it could impact over 10,000 first responders who will be trained. In addition to this, Commissioner McDonough advised that GSP has completed the testing of EVOC 101 on line which is an intersection clearing training; Commissioner McDonough asked Mr. Bowen for some comments. Mr. Bowen stated on his behalf and Sheriff Vowell, they both reiterated what Commissioner McDonough had said about the pilot program in Troop H dealing with due regard training. Mr. Bowen stated that the response has been overwhelming, starting off small and then people realized what this training is all about and a lot of this involved the local volunteer firefighters. Mr. Bowen added that the local volunteer firefighters did not realize what the ramifications could be if it was not done in the proper manner and this training to him has been worth its weight in gold. Mr. Bowen added that he had taken the EVOC 101 on clearing intersections and it was some of the best web based training that he has experienced and the training actually puts one in the car and one has to make decisions on what you are going to do to get through the intersection and (SearchScanIdentifyPredict DecideExecute) will be imbedded in Mr. Bowen’s mind forever. Mr. Bowen reiterated to the BPS that in all of his years on the BPS, this is the one opportunity that really stands out in his mind where this Board can take the forefront on an issue and carry it throughout the state and help something good come out of something bad, which has been proven in Troop H and asked all the BPS members to please take this interest in their areas and keep up with it on a weekly or monthly basis. Mr. Bowen encouraged the other BPS members to attend some of the training sessions, take the EVOC 101 and realize what has got to be done.

Commissioner McDonough added that once Troop H completes this pilot program we will get with all the other troop commanders and use it as a model and then implement this throughout the state. Commissioner McDonough told the Chiefs and Sheriffs that this training is coming to their area and will do our best to meet their needs and get as many people trained as possible.
Commissioner McDonough stated the second wave is an on-line training that will be in conjunction with our training and what the Department did with the EVOC 101 class on line training is do a test and evaluation and phase three will be where we will actually put the trainer on the road out in the field.

DOC Commissioner Owens remarked that two weeks ago today, there was a fatality in Monroe County and he and his child were at a downtown square and was getting ready to make a left turn and had the green light and happened to look to his left and there was a Ford F-150 with small red lights and no siren that blew through both intersections downtown. Commissioner Owens stated he and his child were very near to being victims of someone not knowing what the rules are. Commissioner Owens told Commissioner McDonough that he appreciates what DPS is doing and hopes the training arrives in Troop D real soon.

Commissioner McDonough reminded the BPS members of what the Department had done in regards to MFF training in March, what has been done in April and in May, DPS has basically trained in preparation for a large exercise that will be hosted at the GPSTC. Commissioner McDonough stated all nine mobile field forces of GSP will be in attendance as well as Savannah-Chatham County, Augusta-Richmond County, Atlanta PD, Macon-Bibb County and Columbus-Muscogee County. There will be 500 sworn officers on the GPSTC campus on June 29th to participate in a one day MFF exercise. Commissioner McDonough added that the Savannah-Chatham County team may even bring their horses. Commissioner McDonough noted this is another opportunity for DPS to work together with the major agencies in the state, rebuild some relationships and added that MFF training for GSP has not set idle for us since 2004, but it is time that we reestablish those relationships in the event we find ourselves in an Occupy Atlanta, Occupy Savannah or Occupy Muscogee County type situations; we will have trained and be prepared for it.

Commissioner McDonough stated the DPS will be partnering with the DNR so that on the opening day of school, the schools that do not have school resource officers in them which is primarily the elementary and the middle schools, we are going to try to place a trooper or a DNR ranger at these schools for the opening day of school. Commissioner McDonough stressed this is to supplement the school resource officer effort and this is also a reflection of where we find ourselves in this day and time with terrorism, if we just look at the data and the intelligence we are trying to be pro-active to assist and keep the children safe when they arrive at their schools.

Sheriff Kirby stated he had received an email from the GA Sheriff’s Association mentioning something about the MFF training for other agencies and asked Commissioner McDonough if this one day event MFF training was the only event that the DPS has planned or is there something else coming later on. Commissioner McDonough stated that MFF training is on going for DPS and anyone that wants to get involved in the MFF training, DPS will entertain this and an example of that is training that Troop C does with Kennesaw State University as they have a MFF and we routinely work with them. Commissioner McDonough advised that any sheriff’s department or anyone that has a MFF or wants to observe the training we will be happy to assist and provide that. Commissioner McDonough
added that the DPS is sending over 45 people to Alabama to a federal training course in June and DPS will be as fresh as we can be in all the techniques and consistencies.

Director Vernon Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation reported that Ms. Lisa Urich, Fiscal Officer of the GBI retired and introduced Ms. Connie Buck as the new Fiscal Officer. Director Keenan advised that Ms. Buck was recruited from the DNR Environmental Protection Division and has 13 years of state service and two children. Director Keenan stated Ms. Buck was a welcomed addition to the GBI and more importantly she had the stamp of approval of Ms. Lisa Urich.

Director Keenan stated last month, the GBI co-hosted with the US Department of Justice, a national conference on the sexual exploitation of children. Director Keenan remarked that there are many federally funded task forces across the United States that are supported by the US Department of Justice and they have a mission to investigate cases involving the production, the distribution and the possession of child pornography. This is a major issue and initiative for the federal government and for the state of Georgia. The GBI has a child exploitation unit and Director Keenan relayed that in his remarks at the conference he outlined some of the statistical data that the unit has accomplished. Director Keenan stated that the GBI Task Force is not just GBI personnel as GBI partners with 182 local agencies and through federal grants we have trained personnel in those 182 local agencies, sheriff’s departments and police departments on how to work child pornography cases. Director Keenan noted that the agencies have been provided with specialized equipment and software to accomplish this type of work, which makes it a partnership of the state and the local agencies. Director Keenan stated there has been tremendous success and the GA Task Force was number one in the nation in the number of child pornography cases that have been made for the last three years; they made 175 arrests last year which is more than any other task force in the nation. Director Keenan reminded the BPS members that many of the cases are prosecuted at the federal level as this is a priority for the Department of Justice and they have some very steep penalties at the federal level. In addition to making 175 arrests, the task force has trained over 600 law enforcement officers and in addition they have trained 16,000 citizens in how to protect their children from the dangers on the internet as this is where many of the connections are made by the child predators operating over the internet. Director Keenan declared this state is very fortunate that we have had the top task force in the country and have been so for three years. Director Keenan added that Attorney General Eric Holder made remarks at the conference before nearly 1000 attendees from task forces all over the U.S.

Director Keenan stated in addition to having the child exploitation unit, the GBI has a child sex trafficking unit and this unit began in October last year and thus far the unit has worked over 130 cases while going through a learning process to work these type cases. Director Keenan related that the GBI had a sting operation working with the Athens-Clarke County Police Department, a task force affiliate. Director Keenan shared what occurs is that on the back page internet advertisement sites, they will actually advertise young women for sale and the GBI does not know when the sting operation is set up if the young person is actually going to be a child or not. Many times they may be adults that started out being trafficked as a child and they have been in business for so long they are an adult and it does not fall under the penalties that exist in Georgia for child sex trafficking. In the operation that was in Athens, there was an order placed for a young lady and she showed up at the site and she was brought
in by the sex trafficker who remained in the parking lot and when the young girl comes up to the room
where the agents are doing the sting operation, she is then taken into custody and she turned out to be
16 years of age which does fall into child sex trafficking. Director Keenan stated that Assistant
Director Dan Kirk had volunteered to go out and work with the unit in Athens and I know that
something has happened when he calls me on the phone and refers to me as Director Keenan and when
he has that formality I know he is in to something. Director Keenan stated when the child showed up
at the hotel and was taken into custody by the agent, hence the trafficker was in the parking lot and
when he saw what was happening he fled from the scene. There was a short pursuit, he turned into the
University of Georgia campus and the agents broke off the pursuit, he escaped. We know who he is
and we are tracking him down and he will be featured on America’s Most Wanted in the upcoming
program because of the emphasis placed on arresting the child sex traffickers. Director Keenan
declared that the child sex traffickers unit has had some great success stories.

Chief Pennington asked Director Keenan if there are some programs to assist those that are older than
the parameter that he spoke about. Director Keenan replied if they are asking for help there are many
programs they can go into. Director Keenan reiterated that the person under age does not have a
choice, they are going into a system, we are not arresting them, and we are getting them help, but if
there is an adult and they ask for assistance, we can refer them to available services. Director Keenan
stated what has been found is that many adult prostitutes started out as children and then this is the life
they have lived.

Sheriff Vowell thanked Director Keenan and Commissioner McDonough, the Sylvester GBI office and
Post 13 Tifton as on April 13, there was a feature on America’s Most Wanted, two wanted out of
Louisiana who had been on the run for 7-8 years and in less than 12 hours, they had them in custody
and the two agencies played a big part in the capture of those two individuals and the community sends
their thanks also.

Director Tim Bearden, Georgia Public Safety Training Center began his report by relaying in working
with some of the private partners one of the things that they are working on at this time at the GPSTC
is the Fire Suppression Lab. Director Bearden stated they have been working with State Fire Marshal
Wayne Garrison and some private vendors along with the donations that were approved last month, we
are taking part of the fire station that was used as a warehouse and will convert this over to the fire
suppression lab not only for the training of fire personnel, but for private fire inspectors that go in
restaurants will be set up so they can check the controls and know that the equipment is working
properly and if not, then how to fix the problem if there is a problem. Director Bearden stressed that
the important thing on this is that the GPSTC may have to ask the state for a little bit of bond money,
around $600,000.00 and if we ask the state or taxpayers for anything, it will be much less. We are
trying to save the taxpayers’ money and get the best training that we can by working with our partners
in state government and private partners around the state.

Director Bearden stated that GPSTC has a goal of January 1, 2014, hopefully approved by POST by
then, that we will have a 14-16 week Basic Training Academy for the police and sheriffs’ departments.
Director Bearden believes that the state needs to do more and we are trying to make sure that we have
the paperwork together for this training. Director Bearden stated emphasis for him in this training is more training on driving.

On a lighter note, Director Bearden stated the Public Safety Memorial went very well and gave the credit where it was due as Sharla did a great job working a lot of long hours putting this together and when it goes good, usually someone is behind the scenes making it happen. Director Bearden told Commissioner McDonough the troopers did a great job during the ceremony and appreciated their help.

Director Bearden advised that the roofing replacement project is moving forward at good speed. Construction on the front entrance will begin today, taking up all the concrete; will have a new design pretty soon, which should be completed in 4-5 weeks.

Director Bearden passed around a copy of the new GPSTC Seal which has been approved by the Governor’s office.

Director Bearden advised the GPSTC has a lot of classes going on and the premium dorm rooms have been a big success, booked all the time, and GPSTC is moving forward with a great working environment with the GSP, GBI and DNR at the training center.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked Director Bearden about the relationship of the technical schools. Director Bearden commented that the last he heard was if the technical college could afford to provide the service they would continue with the training. Director Bearden advised that he will be having a meeting with the technical school in Americus and still does not know if the technical schools will be able to afford the training. Director Bearden added that the GPSTC will work with the technical schools in any way that we can and what the technical schools are unable to accomplish we will make sure that the GPSTC handles it.

Mr. Rooney Bowen asked Director Bearden if GPSTC had any training modules for volunteer fire fighters that encompassed the due regard training, driver training or the issue of liability. Deputy Director Bryant remarked that most of the training is geared to actual fire fighting. Mr. Bowen stated with the new people coming in for firefighting training, maybe training could be added concerning liability and what their actions can dictate as far as repercussions go when responding to fires. Director Bearden stated he would take a look at this and maybe the issue of liability and driver training could be added to the firefighter training and will share this with the Fire Training Council who has an office on the GPSTC campus.

Chief Canada added that some years ago EVOC classes were available to the fire service and at some point that was taken away which took away at least the basic concept of responding. At the time there were some ambulances and sedans for driver training and Chief Canada advised that he went through the course and was actually one of the last few that went through it. When this went away, there was nothing put in its place. This was pushed back to the local jurisdictions and some of the larger departments, including Gainesville Fire Department, have a driving paddock, send our firemen through
this but there are a lot of fire departments that do not have this, especially the volunteers as they do not have the resources. This is not taught in the basic firefighter’s program which it should be, but think this is something we can work on and move forward by integrating this in to the training.

Mr. Bowen added that if we cannot actually put them on a track or pad or whatever the case may be for the time being, at least make them abreast of what the liabilities are when they are put into an official role of acting as a firefighter, that they are taking on new responsibilities and these firemen do not know this, a lot of the volunteer firefighters are kids, they get involved in it at a young age as it is exciting and they can put lights on their truck and get to get into fires and that sort of thing and they do not think about this side of it. Mr. Bowen thinks that if we can hit them at the beginning when they have to go through the training, this will be a good place to try and catch it.

Mr. Danny Bryant asked if the red light permits came through the DPS. Mr. Bowen advised that the red light permits are issued by the Department of Public Safety to the individual. Mr. Bryant added that maybe there should be a prerequisite to take some type of course before a red light permit is issued and Mr. Bowen added that maybe this change could be made through a rules change by the BPS where the applicant would have to have some type of class before the red light permit is issued.

Sheriff Vowell thanked Director Tim Bearden for their assistance with the Free Spring Free Female Firearms Training Course that is held every year and has been a great success. Sheriff Vowell thanked the ABAC Police Academy for their help especially on the second day at the firing range.

**DONATIONS**

Mr. Robert Orange, Interim Comptroller, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donations:

- Funds for Associated Expenses of VFW National Convention $2,000.00 Veterans of Foreign Wars of US
- Funds for Associated Expenses of GA Cities Foundation Heart and Soul Tour $492.91 Georgia Municipal Association
- Fuel $600.00 Hart County Board of Comm.
- Decatur Genesis II Select Radar Unit $1,700.00 Tybee Island PD
- (2) Narcotic Detection Canines $15,000.00 Troup County Sheriff’s Office
- (1) LWRC M6 223 Cal Rifle $2,200.00 Troup County Sheriff’s Office
- (1000) Remington Model 870 Police Shotguns $420,000.00 Troup County Sheriff’s Office
- One Narcotics Safe $390.00 Coweta County Sheriff’s Office
One K-9 Crate $ 599.00 Coweta County Sheriff’s Office

Withdrawal of Donation
One Belgium Malinois Canine $ 500.00 TFC Jeremy L. Swain

The motion to accept these donations was made by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., seconded by Chief J. Irene Pennington and voted approval by the Board members.

FISCAL REPORTS ENDING MARCH 31, 2012

Mr. Robert Orange, Interim Comptroller, Department of Public Safety began his fiscal report by pointing out a few things with the first being that DPS is 1% off the 25% mark for March 31, 2012. Mr. Orange added that a spending freeze was put in place for the remainder of the calendar year and will hit the target by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Orange also pointed out that Aviation has 12.26% remaining but if you take in the onetime capital expense of a helicopter, then Aviation is really at 20%. Mr. Orange added that with the post fiscal affairs transfer, which will shore up the budget to the expenses and with this, everything will come in line for the end of the fiscal year.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked Mr. Orange if the high gas prices were impacting the budget. Mr. Orange replied that the DPS did receive an additional $500,000.00 allotment in the amended budget and were able to increase the fuel coffers for the troopers from $500.00 to $650.00 a month.

Mrs. Connie Buck, Fiscal Officer for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation began by stating the GBI’s fiscal report ending March 31, 2012 is just under 27% for budget spent and does not expect any surprises as GBI moves toward the end of the year in closing out and will come within budget. Mrs. Buck pointed out that the fund sources listed at the bottom of the fiscal report, shows the state budget slightly lower than expenditures and assured the Board members that this was not a reflection that GBI has overspent and as the GBI collects the revenue, it is amended into the budget and we are in the process of increasing the other funds so that they will be in line.

Mr. Michael Parkerson, Deputy Director of Operations for the Georgia Public Safety Training Center presented a very straightforward financial summary noting that the Fire Academy Division has 38% of funds remaining, the Police Academy Division with 30% of funds remaining and the GPSTC with 26% of funds remaining which puts the GPSTC overall state general funds with 27% of budget remaining, which is slightly higher that the target would be for this year; however the GPSTC anticipates closing out the year within the guidelines needed to successfully spend the money.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Deputy Director of Legal Services for the Department of Public Safety came before the BPS to present for final adoption, Proposed Rule 570-34-.01 through 570-34-.11 which
relates to HB253 which created new code section 35-2-58 that will govern the disposition of vehicles for sale by the Department of Public Safety.

Mr. Danny Bryant made the motion to adopt Proposed Rule 570-34-.01 through 570-34-.11, which was seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Lee O’Brien, Deputy Director of Legal Services for the Department of Public Safety came before the BPS members presenting a General Obligation Bond Resolution in the amount of $6,400,000.00 for general expenditure obligations for the Department of Public Safety.

Commissioner Brian Owens made the motion to adopt the Bond Resolution for the DPS, which was seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation came before the BPS members presenting a General Obligation Bond Resolution in the amount of $1,845,000.00 for various equipment and repairs for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

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

Mr. Michael Parkerson, Deputy Director of Operations for the Georgia Public Safety Training Center came before the BPS members presenting a General Obligation Bond Resolution for two bond packages, one in 20 year bonds for $3,730,000.00 and 5 year bonds for $225,000.00.

Mr. C. Murray Kight made the motion to adopt the Bond Resolution for the GPSTC, which was seconded by Sheriff Gary Vowell and voted approved by the Board members.

Vice-Chairman Wood commented that House Representative Anne Purcell would be retiring at the end of her term this year and announced that retired Colonel Hitchens has agreed to run for this position.

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded everyone that the BPS would not meet in June, July or August unless there is a special called meeting. Vice-Chairman Wood advised that the September meeting will be hosted by Mr. Brian Rickman along with Commissioner McDonough in Rabun County. The October BPS meeting will be in Brunswick at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the November and December meetings will probably be in the Atlanta area.

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.
Jon Canada
Secretary