

**BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

September 13, 2012

Rabun County High School, Tiger, Georgia

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Daniel M. Bryant  
Chief Jon Canada  
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan  
Sheriff Steven D. Cronic  
Mr. C. Murray Kight  
Sheriff Dane Kirby  
Chief Bill Myers, IV  
Commissioner Brian Owens  
Chief Irene Pennington  
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr.  
Mr. Brian M. Rickman  
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mr. Wayne Abernathy  
Sheriff Gary C. Vowell

**OTHERS:**

Mr. Joe Drolet, Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Ms. Cheryl L. Buie, Board Liaison  
Commissioner M. W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety  
Lt. Colonel R. D. Powell, Department of Public Safety  
Captain Allen Marlowe, Department of Public Safety, GSP  
Captain Tommy Waldrop, Department of Public Safety, GSP  
Ms. Brenda Scarborough, Department of Public Safety, GSP  
Mr. Peter Adams, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety  
Director Tim Bearden, Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Mr. Ray Saxon, Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Ms. Cindy Franklin, Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Ms. Nelly Miles, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Mrs. Louise Rampy  
Mrs. Maggie Rickman  
Mrs. Mitzi Powell  
Mrs. Rita Kirby  
Mrs. Rachel Kight  
Public Safety Officials of the Mountain Judicial District  
Judicial Officials of the Mountain Judicial District  
Lieutenant David Cody, Department of Public Safety/GSP

Mr. Mark Earnest, Principal of Rabun County High School welcomed everyone to Rabun County High School. Mr. Earnest went on to thank Rabun County School Superintendent Matt Arthur and the Board of Education as the school is very excited about playing football in the new Frank Snyder Stadium this Friday night. Principal Earnest introduced Rabun County School Superintendent Matt

Arthur. Mr. Arthur welcomed everyone to Rabun County and the Rabun County High School, and then introduced the Rabun County School Board members.

Vice-Chairman Wood called the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Board of Public Safety meeting to order. Vice-Chairman Wood explained to the students that the BPS is made up of individuals from all over the state who are appointed by Governor Deal who serves as Chairman of the BPS. Vice-Chairman stated it was a privilege and honor to serve as Vice-Chairman in the absence of Governor Deal. Vice-Chairman Wood thanked Rabun County High School Principal Earnest for his patience and endurance in planning and helping coordinate the BPS meeting and also the Rabun County School Board for hosting the Board of Public Safety. The BPS members introduced themselves to the students. Vice-Chairman Wood told the students that what they would hear today is focused for young lives and interaction with different phases of public safety. Vice-Chairman Wood told the students there would be five presentations that affect public safety in the state.

Mr. Brian Rickman began by leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Brian Rickman introduced public safety officials and judicial officials from the Mountain Judicial Circuit which consists of Rabun County, Habersham County and Stephens County.

Mr. Brian Hickman called on Pastor Joey Thompson of the Clayton Baptist Church to deliver the invocation.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Colonel Mark W. McDonough, Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety spoke to the students about the Book of Esther. Colonel McDonough told the students they have some responsibilities, with the first being to show up for school, to work hard at no matter what they do, whether in the classroom or on the ball field, and also they need to listen to the advice of parents, grandparents, teachers and coaches. Colonel McDonough asked the students to do a couple of things when they get behind the wheel of a car which was to slow down, wear their seatbelt and don't drink and drive.

Director Harris Blackwood, Governor's Office of Highway Safety spoke to the students about texting and asked them not to do it while driving. Director Blackwood told the students that car crashes are the number one killer of teens in the USA, more than any disease. Director Harris thanked the students who were members of the SADD Chapter and told them to get in touch with his office as the GOHS has some things to help the students with their SADD Chapter. Director Harris told the students that Governor Deal has announced the appointment of the Governor's Commission on Teen Driving which will have 19 teen drivers from around the state serving on the Commission and students can apply to be a member of the Commission if they have a clean driving record and good standing in their school.

Assistant Director Dan Kirk, Georgia Bureau of Investigation told the students that today things are more complicated on the drug scene than when he was a student. Mr. Kirk introduced Ms. Nelly

Miles, manager over the drug chemistry section at the GBI Crime Lab who explained to the students the dangers of synthetic marijuana and bath salts.

Director Tim Bearden, Georgia Public Training Center introduced Mr. Ray Saxon, Division Director of Basic Training who spoke to the students about becoming a police officer.

Department of Corrections Commissioner and Board member Brian Owens began by telling the students that they have a real American hero in Rabun County, Colonel McDonough. Commissioner Owens added that Colonel McDonough was raised in Rabun County, graduated from high school at the top of his class, graduated from the United States Naval Academy, was a combat aviator during a war, came back to Rabun County and started his second career and has worked his way up the ranks to be the top leader as the Colonel of the Georgia State Patrol.

Commissioner Owens shared information on the prison system with the students. Commissioner Owens introduced Mr. Buster King, supervisor for the DOC Canine Unit and his assistants who presented demonstrations involving a drug dog, an explosive dog and a handler protection dog.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for the approval of the May, June and July 2012 Board minutes. Mr. C. Murray Kight made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Sheriff Steve Cronic and voted approved by the Board members.

## **DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety began his report by telling the Board members that the opening ceremony for the Capitol Police Division and Post 50 will be Tuesday, September 18, 2012 at 1030 hours. Commissioner McDonough added that Governor Deal will give some remarks and invited everyone to attend. Commissioner McDonough stated that the Special Operations Center that will be opening up at the hangar at the Fulton County Airfield is almost complete and the transition for Post 48, Post 49, the SWAT and Dive teams, CIU and the Aviation Headquarters are moving into the facility and once this transition is complete in October, there will be another notification of an Open House. Commissioner McDonough added that the Augusta Hangar should be completed in two weeks and will also have an open house in October once the hangar doors have been hung.

Commissioner McDonough thanked Mr. Kacy Cronan and his family and Chief Jon Canada as the DPS has signed a five year lease for the new Gainesville Hangar with a complete internal build out and in December there will be an open house and ceremony for this hangar.

Commissioner McDonough announced that after only one year after the Aviation Division returned to the operational control of the DPS, the Aviation Division has been awarded the IACP and Bell Helicopter Textron Award for Aviation Excellence naming the Aviation Division the number one airborne law enforcement unit in the nation. Commissioner McDonough added that Director Billy

Smith and lead pilot Tony Hightower will be traveling to San Diego, California in October to accept this award.

Commissioner McDonough advised that the Mobile Field Force exercise in June went off very well. Commissioner McDonough thanked Captain Allen Marlowe as he is one of those guys that gets up every day, shows up and works hard and when you put together an event with over 500 peace officers from all over the state that show up and it all goes well; it is a tribute to Captain Marlowe's hard work along with Director Bearden and the GPSTC who fed all the participants. Commissioner McDonough stated that whatever happens in Atlanta before or after the election, whatever happens with the occupant movement, because of Capt. Marlowe's hard work and others and Director Bearden's support, the state is ready.

Commissioner McDonough stated GSP partnered with DNR on the opening day of school and had state troopers and DNR rangers in schools all across the state on opening day, particularly targeting the Middle Schools that did not have a School Resource Officer. Commissioner McDonough added that DPS received positive remarks, a lot of surprises that they showed up because we did so unannounced and this was done on purpose. Commissioner McDonough advised that only one School Superintendent called but in his brief remarks he stated that he was glad the GSP and DNR were at the school. Commissioner McDonough stated the partnership was a positive thing that went off without a hitch.

Vice-Chairman Wood advised the BPS members that the GSP Aviation Unit was featured in the Airborne Law Enforcement Aviation magazine about 60 days ago with a real nice feature article. Commissioner McDonough advised that he had plenty copies of the magazine to share with the BPS members.

Chief Jon Canada commended Hall County Sheriff Cronin and his department's tactical flight officer as they played a critical role in the Gainesville Hangar partnership.

Mr. Danny Bryant commended Commissioner McDonough for making the North Carolina troopers with the caisson unit, honorary GSP troopers.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation advised he did not have a report but asked that Dr. Herrin go ahead with his presentation.

Dr. George Herrin, Deputy Director of the GBI Division of Forensic Science began by reporting that over the last year the Crime Lab has completed the evaluation of three potential replacements of intoxilyzers used across the state. Dr. Herrin stated they have selected an instrument that is by the same manufacture that is currently being used, which is the Intoxilyzer 9000. Dr. Herrin advised that this is the first proposal of rule amendments to Rule 92-3 Implied Consent, which basically allows the continued use of the Intoxilyzer 5000 until the year 2015 and beginning January 1, 2013, the Intoxilyzer 9000 will be an acceptable instrument. Dr. Herrin advised that the instrument would costs

around \$8,000.00-\$8,500.00 and the GBI is working to secure funding and a contract so that the local agencies can begin to buy the instruments.

Board Attorney Joe Drolet shared with the group the Administrative Procedure Act. Mr. Drolet stated that when an agency has to have rules or regulations approved, the rules have to be presented to the Board which the Board approves the rules for a first time to basically kick off the rule making process, then there is a period of one month for the agency to allow public comments; the rules are then brought back to the Board after the public comments, for the Board to take a final vote on any rule change. It then goes over to the General Assembly and to the Secretary of State and becomes part of the rules and regulations of the State of Georgia.

Chief Irene Pennington stated that she had viewed the Intoxilyzer at the Chiefs of Police Conference and it does seem to be well made and well versed for the police departments and other agencies need, and complimented those on the selection committee for the instrument.

Chief Irene Pennington made a motion to accept the proposed changes to GBI Rule 92-3, Implied Consent. This was seconded by Mr. Danny Bryant and voted approved by the Board members.

Director Tim Bearden, Georgia Public Safety Training Center began his report with an update on Mr. Chase Jones, Governmental Affairs person at GPSTC stating that he is still in the Shepherd Center and has a little movement in his wrist and yesterday he briefly moved his index finger on one hand. At this time it looks like a release date of November 11<sup>th</sup> from Shepherd and then 4-8 weeks of daily rehab. Director Bearden added that Chase and his family still have a long ways to go and to please keep them in your prayers and that Chase has been taken care of on sick leave through June 30 which is the max the department can do.

Director Bearden advised that Mr. Ray Saxon, Division Director of Basic Training and Mr. John Roberts, Manager of Driver Training has been doing some great work and the GPSTC will have high speed driving and basic EVOC classes to give the students the experience that they need with a pilot class to begin in November.

Director Bearden advised they had the ATV School last month and this was great training. Director Bearden stated that troopers, GBI agents, and DNR rangers went through this training at the training center.

Director Bearden shared that the front entrance at the GPSTC is finally complete, the sod has been laid and after tearing up the concrete three times, they finally got it right and are very happy with the project.

Director Bearden advised that the roofing project should be completed by early next month. Director Bearden stated that the conference center at the next graduation will not smell like wet hay and body odor as all of the carpet has been ripped out and replaced, the ceiling tiles have been replaced, the facility has been painted and now it is a very nice conference center.

Director Bearden advised that smart boards have been placed in every classroom at the GPSTC, as well as in the regional academies. The weight room has been completely redone with a couple of TVs in place.

Director Bearden advised that tentatively, November 5<sup>th</sup>, will be the day for the Governor's Public Safety Awards ceremony to be held at the Capitol.

### **DONATIONS**

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

Expenses associated with the 2012 American Legion National Conv.	\$ 1,475.00	The American Legion
Sanyo 55" TV	\$ 850.00	Tattnall County EMA
Fuel	\$ 500.00/mo	Carrollton Police Department
One Kustom Golden Eagle II Radar & One Kustom PRO 1000 Radar	\$ 6,000.00	Carrollton Police Department
One Stalker DSR Radar	\$ 3,105.00	Marion County Sheriff's Office
Two Stalker Dual SL Radars	\$ 6,000.00	Wilkes County Bd. of Commissioners
Two Stalker Radar Units	\$ 4,025.00	Screven County Bd. of Commissioners
Narcotics Canine	\$ 8,000.00	Tift County Sheriff's Office
Four Decatur Genesis II-Select Radars	\$ 8,820.00	Lowndes County Bd. of Commissioners
(16) Pair Electronic Earmuffs	\$ 1,000.00	Kiwanis Club of Statesboro
Six Stalker DSR2X Radars	\$ 17,970.00	Richmond County Sheriff's Office
One Stalker DSR2X Radar	\$ 3,012.50	Wheeler Co. Bd. of Commissioners
Four Stalker Radars	\$ 7,650.00	Tift County Sheriff's Office

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

Director Tim Bearden, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donation:

Dry Pipe Riser Valve Gauges & Air Compressor	\$ 1,100.00	GA Baptist C. H. & F. M. Inc., Palmetto
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The motion to accept this donation was made by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approved by the Board members.

### **FISCAL REPORTS ENDING JUNE 30, 2012**

Mr. Peter Adams, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety presented the DPS fiscal report ending June 30, 2012 which showed 0.24% remaining in the overall budget.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation presented the GBI fiscal report ending June 30, 2012 which showed 0.18% remaining in the overall budget.

Ms. Cindy Franklin, Administrative Services Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center presented the GPSTC fiscal report ending June 30, 2012 which showed 0.0% remaining in the overall budget.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Peter Adams, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety came before the Board of Public Safety with a Resolution asking the Board of Public Safety to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into negotiations with Justice Federal Credit Union and Georgia State Properties Commissioner for use of certain space formerly used by Georgia Department of Public Safety Credit Union at 959 E. Confederate Avenue, S.E., Atlanta, GA, co-located with the headquarters of the Department of Public Safety.

Mr. Danny Bryant made a motion that the members of the Board of Public Safety authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to negotiate an agreement through the Georgia State Properties Commissioner with Credit Union for the lease of such space for rent to be determined by SPC and to provide for payments to DPS to cover the costs of utilities and routine maintenance and to provide for the payment of costs for any capital expenditures for the repair or replacement of any major system within the said occupied space. This motion was seconded by Sheriff Steve Cronic and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation presented a Resolution asking the Board of Public Safety to declare surplus a facility which housed the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Northwest Regional Crime Lab, located in Trion, Chattooga County, Georgia, and the real property on which it resides, and to request that the State Properties Commission identify another state entity to

assume custody of the aforementioned property or for the Georgia General Assembly to authorize the State Properties Commission to dispose of the property.

Chief Irene Pennington made a motion that the Board of Public Safety declare surplus the property identified herein and requests that the State Properties Commission find another state entity to assume custody of the property or for the Georgia General Assembly to authorize the State Properties Commission to dispose of said property in the manner most advantageous to the State. This motion was seconded by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr. and voted approval by the Board members.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Director Bearden stated he had three different items dealing with the Public Safety Memorial Committee that he wanted to discuss with the BPS members.

Director Bearden began with the Public Safety Memorial Committee presenting Bylaw Amendments for the BPS members to approve and stated the last time the Bylaws were amended was March 28, 1999.

Sheriff Steve Cronic made a motion to accept the amendments to the Public Safety Memorial Committee Bylaws which was seconded by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., and voted approved by the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked Director Bearden to brief the newest BPS members on how the Public Safety Memorial Committee functions. Director Bearden responded by saying the Public Safety Memorial Committee meets twice a year and will be meeting tomorrow to discuss the Governor's Public Safety Awards to review 80 nominations for the awards. The approved nominations will then be presented to Governor Deal. In March, the committee will meet to review the nominations for the Public Safety Memorial to be held and then the honorees will be presented to the BPS for their approval for the Memorial which takes place at the GPSTC in May.

Mr. Drolet addressed the group stating this is somewhat an unusual procedure that the BPS goes through. All of this is simply assistance to Director Bearden in his role as the Director of the GPSTC. Mr. Drolet added that the BPS serves as an advisory group that gives a broad base input on some of these issues to assist Director Bearden in doing his job and since his job is under the BPS that is why the BPS is involved in the process.

Director Bearden advised that he is not on the Committee nor does he have a vote. Director Bearden stated the amendments would help streamline the bylaws allowing the committee to continue forward with their great work.

Director Bearden shared that the second part concerning the Bylaw Amendments gives the Director of GPSTC the ability to nominate two citizen members to the Public Safety Memorial Committee which

has to be approved by the BPS. Director Bearden nominated Mr. Ben Hinson, who has served as President/Chairman of the Public Safety Memorial Committee since its inception.

Mr. Brian Rickman made the motion to approve Mr. Ben Hinson to serve as a citizen member on the Public Safety Memorial Committee. This was seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approved by the BPS members.

Director Bearden also nominated Mr. Jim Hanson, retired police officer from Conyers, GA and also the father of deceased detective Shane Wilson. Director Bearden went on to add that he felt that it was important to have someone familiar with public safety and someone to be a spokesperson for those families that have lost a love one that worked for public safety. Director Bearden stated he was very grateful that Mr. Hanson wanted to serve on the Public Safety Memorial Committee.

Mr. Kacy K. Cronan made the motion to approve Mr. Jim Hanson to serve as a citizen member on the Public Safety Memorial Committee. This was seconded by Sheriff Steve Cronic and voted approved by the BPS members.

Director Bearden presented the name of Robert Shane Wilson to be added to Georgia Public Safety Memorial. Director Bearden stated when Officer Wilson's name was submitted for the past Memorial there was information that was not received and this made a big difference when this particular case was reviewed. After speaking with Chairman Hinson, Director Bearden stated they felt it would be best to go ahead and re-review this case again and present to the BPS. If approved, Officer Wilson's name would be added to the Memorial next year. Director Bearden added that due to the confusion that took place leading up to the last Memorial and the information that came in, the Memorial Committee felt it was best for the family and the committee to bring before the BPS at this time.

Mr. Danny Bryant made the motion for the name of Officer Robert Shane Wilson to be placed on the Georgia Public Safety Memorial at GPSTC. This was seconded by Chief Irene Pennington and voted approved by the BPS members.

Director Bearden advised the BPS members that the Memorial Committee made a criteria change where if the honoree was approved for the Federal Memorial in Washington, DC this will be used as a qualifier for the Public Safety Memorial in Georgia.

Chief Jon Canada made a motion to adjourn the Board of Public Safety meeting and go into the Georgia Crime Information Center Council, which was seconded by Chief Irene Pennington and approved by the Board members.

### **GEORGIA CRIME INFORMATION CENTER COUNCIL**

GBI Assistant Director Dan Kirk presented the FY2012 CJIS Security Violations Report for the Georgia Crime Information Center which involves unauthorized access and dissemination of criminal justice information. Mr. Kirk reported there were twenty-two violations reported during FY2012 and

presented the request for approval of actions taken to resolve security policy violations for FY2012 to the BPS members for their approval.

Mr. C. Murray Kight made the motion to accept the GCIC's recommendation; which was seconded by Sheriff Steve Cronic and voted approved by the Board members.

Chief Jon Canada made a motion to go back into the Board of Public Safety meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Kacy K. Cronan and voted approved by the Board members.

Commissioner Brian Owens presented a Military Recruitment Job Fair flyer to the BPS members and shared that he learned a month ago that the unemployment rate in the civilian world of the GA National Guard is approaching 40%. Commissioner Owens stated there are a lot of heroes in the military, the GA Guard, the GA Reserves and a lot of men and women coming back from combat operations from overseas. Commissioner Owens stated the DOC has quite a few jobs and colleagues in law enforcement that have current job openings or future job openings. Commissioner Owens stated the job fair would be held September 26, 2012 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm with representatives from all state law enforcement agencies who will be at the job fair to help recruit some of the men and women that have served their country.

Vice-Chairman Wood advised the BPS members that Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III, has been appointed to the CJCC and is not active on the BPS board anymore.

Mr. Danny M. Bryant made a motion to prepare and present Mr. Rooney L. Bowen, III with a Resolution for his service on the BPS. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., and voted approved by the members.

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded the BPS members that the October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 BPS meeting would be held at the FLETC in Brunswick.

Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr. thanked the Department of Public Safety for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary badge.

Chief Jon Canada recognized Chief Bill Myers for being nominated and voted on to be the Fire Chief of the Year for the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs.

On behalf of the BPS members, Mr. Kacy K. Cronan thanked Mr. Brian Rickman and Colonel McDonough for having the group in Rabun County.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jon Canada  
Secretary

