

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

December 14, 2017

Department of Public Safety - Media Room

Atlanta, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Greg Dozier
Sheriff Dane Kirby
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr. - via conference call
Chief Mark Revenew
Mr. Charles D. Sikes
Mr. Peter J. Skandalakis - via conference call
Sheriff Joey Terrell - via conference call
Chief Craig Tully
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Wayne Abernathy
Mr. Danny M. Bryant
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Mr. Steve D. Cronic

OTHERS:

Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Judge Rooney Bowen, Dooly County Probate Judge
Judge Chase Daughtrey, Cook County Probate Judge
Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety
Deputy Commissioner Russell D. Powell, Department of Public Safety
Captain Mark Lambert, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Ms. Amy Stancil, Department of Public Safety
Ms. Melissa J. Rodgers, Department of Public Safety
Ms. Joan Crumpler, Department of Public Safety
Ms. Laura Thompson, Department of Public Safety
Sergeant Anthony Hughes, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Tony Hightower, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Ms. Cindy Jones, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Ray Saxon, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Richard Dixon, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Bruce Stanford, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Ike McConnell, Georgia Fire Academy
Captain Les Wilburn, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Captain Chris Wright, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Captain Chad Riner, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Lt. Garrett Fiveash, Department of Public Safety/GSP
SFC Maurice Raines, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Cpl. Chris Carlisle, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Ms. Jaqueline Bunn, State Board of Pardons and Paroles

Ms. Olivia Duke, Office of Planning and Budget
Mr. Brian Tukes, Department of Community Supervision
Mr. Joseph Drolet
Mrs. Cindy Tully

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the December 14, 2017, Board of Public Safety meeting to order.

Mr. Dan Kirk gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

DONATIONS

Ms. Cindy Jones, Comptroller, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donation:

Radar Sign	\$3,000.00	Carrollton Police Department
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The motion to accept this donation was made by Chief Mark Renew, which was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes and Chief Craig Tully, and voted approved by the Board members.

Ms. Amy Stancil, Comptroller, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donation:

One Tele-Communications Shelter	\$110,368.00	Drug Enforcement Administration
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The motion to accept this donation was made by Mr. Greg Dozier, which was seconded by Chief Craig Tully, and voted approved by the Board members.

RESOLUTION

Ms. Joan Crumpler, Attorney, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following resolution.

To declare permanently vacated the improved property located at the Perry-Houston County Airport, formerly utilized by the Georgia State Patrol Division under a 50-Year Lease, for a transfer to the Perry-Houston County Airport Authority.

The motion to accept this resolution was made by Chief Mark Renew, which was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes, and voted approved by the Board members.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked everyone to introduce his or her self.

Chief Mark Renew presented Mr. Joseph Drolet with a resolution for his years of service as the Board's Attorney. Chief Renew acknowledged and spoke of Mr. Drolet's many accomplishments. Chief Renew thanked Mr. Drolet for the time and assistance he had provided the Board over the years. Mr. Drolet accepted the resolution and addressed the Board and guests.

Vice-Chairman Wood introduced Judge Rooney Bowen and acknowledged that he is a previous member of the BPS and friend of criminal justice.

Judge Bowen introduced himself as the current President of the Council of Probate Judges and introduced Judge Chase Daughtrey, who is the past president of the Council. Judges Bowen and Daughtrey have started a certification program for the 88 Probate Judges in the state that handle traffic cases. The purpose of the training is to increase the training and professionalism of the judges when it comes to traffic cases. Cases can be complicated due to the opioid crisis and the different kinds of DUI offenses. Judge Bowen met with Colonel McDonough, GSP Command staff and Troop Commanders in Sylvester Georgia to discuss the best ways to get education out there from the time a ticket is given on the side of the road to it moving through the Courts and the system. Last June, as a precursor to the program that will begin in 2018, Col McDonough appointed Lt. Garrett Fiveash and he provided a full day of training for the judges. Now all the judges are going through field sobriety training and it has really educated all of the judges. The training program will begin in March of 2018. It will cover constitutional law and following citations all the way through the system. The Superior Courts have provided a lot of assistance, as well as, the Prosecuting Attorney's Council and Lt. Fiveash will be a big part of the training. Regarding the Field Sobriety, Judge Bowen said he had been contacted by almost every level of court to join in on the classes. Judge Bowen wanted the Board to know about the training and the assistance the many different agencies are providing. GBI is providing toxicologists assistance and training. All the training is mock, and any judge will be able to go back and refer to at any given time. The Training Center has also been great in proving the mock courtroom for training. He concluded by thanking all for the time and support.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Colonel Mark McDonough discussed HB 292 that came out of the previous legislative session related to courthouse security. He said DPS requested an opinion on the bill from the Attorney General's Office. Col McDonough thanked AG Tina Piper for all of her hard work on the opinion. The law says weapons are allowed in a courthouse, but the courtroom it is the purview of the judge. So, all over the state sheriff's will have to deal with this and the instructions to our employees are comply with the security procedures at each courthouse. It is an opinion that is very specific as to what can and cannot be done.

Secondly, you may seen in the last few months the Patrol's support of metro police departments. This trend is taking shape across the country where in certain circumstances cities are asking for the support of the state police. In some circumstances, these are becoming permanent detachments. Examples include Newark, NJ and New Orleans, LA. The cities of Savannah and Atlanta have both reached out to GSP. We do not have permanent detachments but our personnel continue to support both city's police force. There was a wine bar murder here in the city of Atlanta, 29 year old manager was murdered and APD reached out for assistance. Troop C and the Criminal Interdiction Unit (CIU) have been called upon to provide a lot of heavy lifting. He continued that there is an effort is called "Ride Atlanta" and is a concentration related to unlicensed unregistered four-wheelers and ATVs that are

terrorizing city streets and residents. In just a few actions by GSP personnel, this activity has been greatly reduced.

Col McDonough invited everyone to the DPS holiday lunch immediately following the meeting.

GBI Assistant Director Dan Kirk reported that the agency had recently closed a dark chapter related to an Inspector who had misappropriated state funds with the agency purchasing card. The Inspector plead guilty, and the sentence was not what the state had asked for, but the judge made the decision for 10 years' probation and \$60,000 restitution. Once she pays off the restitution, her sentence will end due to the First Offender Act. She was not required to give up her certification.

The GBI has not purchased a drone. Though a drone could be of assistance to the GBI in crime scene research, and are looking into purchasing. Currently, preparing for the next legislative session.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked about the status of the Savannah lab. Mr. Kirk said it is being worked on and advised that the construction of the Augusta cyber lab is moving quickly. Chief Mark Renew mentioned that his Department uses a drone and took training course through GPSTC and said it was very informative.

Director Chris Wigginton said that the Training Center's numbers are continuing to increase and is large part due to the hard work of the staff. He said the hard work has paid off and we are now seeing great results. Director Wigginton introduced Mr. Ike McConnell as the new Fire Academy Director. He continued, regarding the Coroner's Council, it became known that an annual report should be provided each year. That report is now complete and provided in your materials. The Coroner's Council has to have a medical examiner as a member. Also included in your materials is the resume of the person we would like to recommend as the representative.

The motion to accept the nomination of the Coroner's Council representative was made by Mr. Greg Dozier, which was seconded by Chief Craig Tully, and voted approved by the Board members.

Director Wigginton asked for a motion to continue discussions with Hall County related to opening a regional academy.

The motion to approve continued discussions related to the Hall County Regional Academy was made by Chief Mark Renew, which was seconded by Mr. Greg Dozier, and voted approved by the Board members.

Vice-Chairman Wood reminded the members that there is change for the January meeting, and will be held at DPS headquarters. Meeting locations for the February and March meetings will be determined later.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked the board to please continue to keep Ms. Cheryl Buie in mind. He said she is very appreciative of everyone who has reached out to her.

Mr. Charles Sikes thanked Ms. Laura Thompson and Sgt. Anthony Hughes for their time and assistance to the Board. Vice-Chairman Wood mentioned that Sgt. Hughes will be retiring soon.

Vice-Chairman Wood said that the 2018 DPS Awards Banquet will be held at Jekyll Island.

There be no further business Vice-Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting.

Chief Mark Revenew
Secretary