

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

January 10, 2019

GEMA/HS

Atlanta, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chief Bruce Carlisle
Mr. Kacy K. Cronan
Mr. Steve D. Cronic
Mr. George Hartwig
Director Sam Heaton
Sheriff Dane Kirby
Commissioner Michael Nail
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr.
Mr. Charles D. Sikes
Sheriff Joey Terrell
Chief Craig Tully
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Mark Revenew
Commissioner Timothy Ward

OTHERS:

Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Cheryl L. Buie, Board Liaison
Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety
Lt. Colonel Russell Powell, Department of Public Safety
Major Jason Johnson, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Johnny Jones, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Major Billy Boulware, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Dawn Arrowood, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Lieutenant Shawn Prather, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Ms. Joan Crumpler, Department of Public Safety
Interim Director D. Scott Dutton, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
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
Mr. Bruce Stanford, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Ray Saxton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Ike McConnell, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mrs. Cindy Jones, Comptroller, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Director Homer Bryson, GEMA/HS
Mr. Harlan Proveaux, GEMA/HS
Mr. Chad Wilson, GEMA/HS
Mr. Ed Westbrook, GEMA/HS
Mr. Scott Mauer, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Community Supervision

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the January 10, 2019, Board of Public Safety meeting to order.

Director Homer Bryson, Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security welcomed the group to GEMA/HS.

Mr. Ed Westbrook gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Wood thanked Director Bryson for his service to the state and for hosting the BPS meeting.

Commissioner Mark McDonough introduced new Board member Chief Bruce Carlisle of Lavonia PD.

Chief Bruce Carlisle stated it is truly an honor and is humbled to serve on the BPS. Chief Carlisle stated he is in his 41st year of law enforcement, retired from Hillsborough County, FL Sheriff's Department with 2,000 sworn and another 1300 civilian employees to a smaller agency, so he thinks he has a pretty broad perspective about issues that are dealt with in law enforcement. Chief Carlisle stated he is honored to be a member of the Georgia Association Chiefs of Police Executive Board and also teaches in the new Chiefs Class and one thing he always stresses is to build relationships with their partners. Chief Carlisle stated his police department has a strong relationship with all of their partners. Chief Carlisle stated there is a GSP post in town, P52 and a weigh station in the area and also GBI Region 11. Chief Carlisle stated his police department cannot do what they do, without those partnerships that they have. Chief Carlisle stated they have had some devastating times within the last few years, an officer involved shooting, where two officers were shot in a routine traffic stop. Chief Carlisle stated a week after that they had a manhunt for a murder suspect from Oconee County. Chief Carlisle stated his police department relies heavily on its partners, and it is a tremendous thing to pick up the phone, call and the partners are there for our police department. Chief Carlisle shared one of the officers that was shot is now employed with MCCD, very proud of that and he will do a fantastic job for DPS. Chief Carlisle commended Director Wigginton and the GPSTC for the online training that was mandated by the governor's office, as it save him from sending his officers to Forsyth for the training. Chief Carlisle stated he requires his department to attend the GPSTC training as he thinks it is the best.

Commissioner Michael Nail of Department of Community Supervision introduced Mr. Scott Mauer, Assistant Commissioner at Department of Community Supervision.

Mr. Scott Dutton, Interim Director for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation introduced himself and stated it is a true honor to be selected for the position.

Mr. Charles Sikes made a motion to approve the appointment of GBI Interim Director Scott Dutton. This was seconded by Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr. and voted approved by the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the December 2018 minutes. Mr. Kacy Cronan made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell, and voted approved by the BPS members.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety began his report speaking about the GEMA/HS building and noted a lot of attention to detail went into what they had before and then what they have now. Commissioner McDonough acknowledged the work that Director Bryson, Mr. Harlan Proveaux and his staff have done from the perspective to what it used to be like, as in the past, they were piled in like cordwood. Commissioner McDonough stated when they designed the building and took that into consideration, it is almost hard to believe what they have now, compared to what they had. Commissioner McDonough encouraged everyone to take the time to look around and see what they have done, particularly in the SOC, as it is very, very nice and a reflection of a lot of hard work going from what they had and how it did not work, to now to what they have and how it works very, very well.

Commissioner McDonough advised the 106th trooper school began this past Sunday, with 50 cadets given the job and one did not show up, one did not pass the PT, and then one left that Sunday evening and have been holding at 47 cadets. Commissioner McDonough stated the cadets are in their fifth day in their very difficult first week and this is very promising to have 47 cadets still in school. At the opening ceremony, Commissioner McDonough stated it stood out to him that two-thirds or more of the class are veterans, so there is a class full of military veterans. Commissioner McDonough stated there is a cadet that was an elementary school special education teacher and left special education of 4th and 5th graders to come on the patrol and should be able to bring empathy and compassion to the job.

Concerning the upcoming governor's inauguration and the Super Bowl, Commissioner McDonough stated there are 247 troopers that are engaged with the inauguration, ranging from honor guard, to aviation, to include troopers from Troops A, B, C, D, and E. Commissioner McDonough stated there are venues they will be required to provide security; the Prayer Service on Monday, the swearing-in, the review of the troops and then Thursday evening, the Inaugural Ball.

In regards to the Super Bowl, Commissioner McDonough stated on January 26th, the ten day operational period will begin and anyone that is in state government from DCS, GEMA/HS, and GBI to GSP, everyone has a hand in a monster of an operation. Commissioner McDonough noted the Super Bowl is more like the Olympics than just a football game and with that said, everybody is engaged in some form or fashion. Commissioner McDonough noted from DPS's perspective, one third of DPS sworn personnel are involved in the Super Bowl as this is a huge support effort for the City of Atlanta and personally feels like Atlanta has done a very job with the planning effort of it. Commissioner McDonough stated the 10 days will start out slow, initially and then build towards the game, as there are a lot of NFL sponsored events that occur that will have the intensity of providing security which will be greater until the game begins. Commissioner McDonough stated he thinks DPS has a very good plan and will be interesting to see who wins the game, hopefully with no incidents. Commissioner McDonough stated the biggest thing for Atlanta will be issues with the non-sponsored NFL types of events. Commissioner McDonough noted it will be interesting for all of those to say they participated in it, it was successful and how it all turns out.

Interim Director Scott Dutton, Georgia Bureau of Investigation stated on January 2, GBI hired 6 agents to add to the current 285 agents. Director Dutton stated the GBI applied for a federal COPS grant, received it, which is based on an initiative for combating opioids in the metro Atlanta area. Director

Dutton stated the positions will be back filled through grants and relatively soon, the plan will be to have a task force in Metro-Atlanta for opioid type narcotics work. Director Dutton advised the task force will have four agents, an APD officer, with a GBI supervisor working on the mission and are looking to see a lot of results and benefits from this. Director Dutton stated they have learned from the other task forces throughout the state, the collaboration effort in passing things along, and noted things that originate out of Atlanta are passed to many of the task forces that work throughout the state.

Director Dutton advised the GBI has two agents and a supervisor at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, combined with the FBI and APD being part of a task force. Director Dutton stated the task force focuses on human trafficking, counterterrorism efforts, gun smuggling, money laundering and other things and are looking to see a lot of good results out of this project.

In regards to the Governor's inauguration, Director Dutton stated the GBI is working closely with DPS and is providing Intel support from the standpoint of the Fusion Center throughout the entire process.

Director Dutton stated the GBI is involved in the Super Bowl with 25 special agent bomb techs assigned throughout the entire event and have a total of 130 personnel assigned to the detail, which includes intel analysts as well as GBI agents, whose primary function will be intelligence and investigative work, working inside the footprint of the venue, working closely with the FBI. Director Dutton stated if there is threat information that comes in, they will know about it and if they see anything, they will report it.

In regards to potential impact from the federal shutdown, Director Dutton advised there has been no impact and have been in touch with their federal partners and have not received any formal instruction on monies that will not be available, but are monitoring closely, based on the fact, the GBI has several federal grants which could potentially impact the crime lab as well as the investigative division.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center stated the GPSTC started the year off with a bang, averaging 1200 students a day this week on the main campus, not counting online or at the regionals.

Director Wigginton thanked Chief Carlisle for his earlier comments concerning the online program and noted smaller agencies throughout the state have embraced the online training.

Beginning this year, Director Wigginton stated the GPSTC has released a suicidal awareness video, on the web page and you tube, which shows individuals that have attempted suicide, to dispatchers who have dealt with officer involved shooting deaths, a variety of things and talk from their perspective while the suicidal awareness number is going across the screen to give people that option. Director Wigginton stated suicide is very high in public safety workers throughout the state and the nation and are trying to curb that in any way to help in that arena.

Director Wigginton recognized Mr. Ike McConnell who has made substantial improvements in the Fire Academy at GPSTC. Director Wigginton stated new fire programs will be online and the numbers continue to rise and the volunteer program is busting out of the seams and the guys that are assigned to

this cannot keep up with the requests that are coming in. Director Wigginton thanked Mr. McConnell for his dedication in this area.

Concerning the federal shutdown, Director Wigginton advised there are 10 positions that are funded through the federal government, but have not been impacted yet and hopes to not get to the point where GPSTC will have to furlough people or lay some off.

Chief Craig Tully thanked the GPSTC, especially the fire academy, as the volunteer program is essential to Georgia as 72% of the fire service in Georgia are volunteers. Chief Tully also thanked Mr. McConnell as well, as there has been a substantial increase, a lot of positive talk and noted the fire academy is all the volunteer firefighters have, small town Georgia, cannot afford to have their own academies and thanked them for what they do.

Mr. Charles Sikes thanked GPSTC for their efforts in making the suicidal awareness video.

Chief Carlisle shared there was a tragedy in Hillsborough County, FL where a deputy had retired and was then rehired to work as a school resource officer. Chief Carlisle stated the officer went through psychological training, screening and everything and went out and his killed his wife, went to another house killed his daughter and granddaughter and then went to Chief Carlisle's former high school and called on the radio and they tried to talk him out of it, but he still committed suicide. Chief Carlisle stated everyone was asking why the administration didn't do something, even after the officer had been through all the training and screening. Chief Carlisle stated he thinks with the anonymity of the GPSTC program that officers will probably look at the suicide awareness video, knowing they will not have to log in and think big brother is watching them. Chief Carlisle stated many times that one thing that might affect one will not affect another and the officer will not typically talk to anyone about it. Chief Carlisle commended Director Wigginton and the GPSTC staff as suicide among law enforcement officers is a big issue.

DONATIONS

Major Jason Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Public Safety requested approval of the following donations:

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| Advertising Space | \$ 500.00 | Transitioning Military Veterans |
| One Stalker 2X Radar | \$ 2,995.95 | Nashville Police Dept. |
| Two Stalker 2X Radars Two Stalker Lidar-RLR's | \$ 10,981.92 | Cook County Commissioners |
| One Stalker DSR 2X Radar | \$ 2,967.50 | Tattnall Co. Sheriff's Department |
| Five Stalker DSR 2X Radars Two Stalker XLR Lasers | \$ 19,327.50 | Laurens Co. Commissioners |

The motion to accept these donations was made by Chief Craig Tully, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell, and voted approved by the Board members.

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

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|----------------------------|----|----------|-----------------------------|
| 2004 Ford Crown Vic | \$ | 250.00 | Hall County Sheriff's Dept. |
| 2005 Ford Crown Vic | \$ | 250.00 | |
| 2007 Ford Crown Vic | \$ | 250.00 | |
| Four 2008 Ford Crown Vic's | \$ | 1,000.00 | |
| 2011 Ford Crown Vic | \$ | 250.00 | |
| 2006 Chevrolet Impala | \$ | 250.00 | |
| 2010 Chevrolet Impala | \$ | 250.00 | |

The motion to accept these donations was made by Director Sam Heaton, which was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronic, and voted approved by the Board members.

Ms. Joan Crumpler, Deputy Director, Legal Services, Department of Public Safety presented a Resolution asking the BPS to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into negotiations, agreements, and leases for an aircraft hangar at the Athens-Ben Epps Airport for the use and operations of the Aviation Division of the Georgia State Patrol.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion for the members of the Board of Public Safety to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into negotiations, agreements, contracts, and all supporting documents that are necessary for acquisition and custody of an aircraft hangar at the Athens-Ben Epps Airport for operations of the Georgia State Patrol Aviation Division. This was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronic, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Director Sam Heaton announced he will be retiring from Cobb County Public Safety.

Mr. Charles Sikes made a motion to present retired GBI Director Vernon M. Keenan with a Resolution. This was seconded by Mr. Lester Rampy, and voted approved by the BPS members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mr. Mark Renew
Secretary