

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

October 18, 2018

Department of Public Safety
959 E. Confederate Avenue. SE
Atlanta, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Kacy K. Cronan-via conference call
Mr. Steve D. Cronic-via conference call
Commissioner Greg Dozier-via conference call
Mr. George Hartwig
Mr. Sam Heaton-via conference call
Commissioner Michael Nail-via conference call
Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr.-via conference call
Chief Mark Revenew
Mr. Charles D. Sikes-via conference call
Sheriff Joey Terrell-via conference call
Chief Craig Tully-via conference call
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Wayne Abernathy

OTHERS:

Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Cheryl L. Buie, Board Liaison-via conference call
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 Billy Boulware, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Mark Lambert, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Captain Jeremy Vickery, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Mrs. Melissa Rodgers, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. John Durden, SAC Region R5, Georgia Bureau of Investigation-via conference call
Mr. Tony Hightower, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center-via conference call
Ms. Cindy Jones, Georgia Public Safety Training Center-via conference call
Ms. Ashlie Moncrief

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the October 18, 2018, Board of Public Safety meeting to order and led the group in prayer.

Vice-Chairman Wood advised there would be a re-appointment of Board members this morning.

Sheriff Joey Terrell nominated Mr. Wayne Abernathy to be re-appointed to serve for the Member-At-Large #6 seat. This was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Charles Sikes nominated Mr. Mark Renew to be appointed to serve for the Member-At-Large #8 seat. This was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the Board members, with Mark Renew abstaining from the vote.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Commissioner Mark W. McDonough said it was interesting that 12 members of this Board, took time out of their busy day, speaking for himself and others, to make this a priority, it is nice to have a Board that is full again of people that will call in and participate.

Commissioner McDonough advised there are seven IRT teams in Southwest Georgia, helping out with a bad situation. Commissioner McDonough thanked Chief Craig Tully for his hospitality, trying to take care of the guys' needs while in Southwest Georgia and will be there for the duration as long as needed.

Chief Tully responded there is no way he can thank him, cannot paint the picture to this Board what a wonderful job the GA State Patrol has done in Southwest Georgia and could not have made it without them. Chief Tully expressed they are fantastic, Major Waldrop and Captain Godby are here and taking the problems off of the citizens as far as security and with their presence knowing we have support, means so much and are very indebted to DPS.

Commissioner McDonough presented the DPS Organizational Chart with a change to the Motor Carrier Compliance Division. Commissioner McDonough stated Region 10 will be moved from an administrative oversight unit with the rest of the Regions and will report directly to Major Jones. And in addition to this, Commissioner McDonough advised a new special operations group which includes a new unit called the Radiological Nuclear Detection Team will also be under Major Jones. Commissioner McDonough reminded the BPS members the RNDT will have technical expertise and equipment to be able to essentially filter who may be transporting illegal nuclear or biological material. Commissioner McDonough advised this equipment can be put in a helicopter so you can see the capability they can provide to a large event such as a Super Bowl or to protect and hopefully apprehend the material or potentially a dirty bomb. Commissioner McDonough stated the team is in the process of receiving the new equipment and training and that is the purpose of structuring them as there is a one full-time supervisor and 13 others that will work like the SWAT team does, they are full-time and then supplemented by others in the field.

Mr. Mark Renew made the motion to approve the changes to the DPS Organizational Chart. This was seconded by Mr. George Hartwig and voted approved by the BPS members.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, stated during the normal course of business, the GA Department of Corrections and the Department of Community Supervision collect DNA from convicted felony offenders per Georgia law. Mr. Kirk advised the DNA samples are then forwarded to the GBI Crime Lab for analysis and entry into the CODIS DNA Database. Mr. Kirk stated that occasionally DNA samples from offenders who have been sentenced under the First Offender Act are taken and forwarded to the GBI Crime Lab, and the Crime Lab, not knowing these

are First Offender DNA samples, analyzes the samples and enters them into the CODIS DNA Database. Mr. Kirk advised Georgia law does not allow the collection of First Offender DNA samples and the samples that were inadvertently collected, analyzed, and placed into the CODIS Database produced a number of CODIS matches to a variety of crimes. Mr. Kirk noted once the CODIS match is made and the Crime Lab determines that the match was from a First Offender, a report is generated regarding the match and sent to the law enforcement agency and the District Attorney's Office. Mr. Kirk stated the provided DNA sample of the convicted offender is then removed from the database. Mr. Kirk added the GBI has alerted the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council about the situation and Georgia prosecutors are looking at possibly making changes to the current law due to the severity of the crimes associated with these First Offenders.

Deputy Director Tony Hightower, Georgia Public Safety Training Center shared Director Chris Wigginton welcomed another grandson this morning and all are doing well.

Mr. Hightower stated the staff at GPSTC is thinking of all of those in SW Georgia there were affected by Hurricane Michael. Mr. Hightower stated when the Governor announced the state of emergency, the GPSTC became a logistic staging area with the command center as well. Mr. Hightower added there were out of state partners that were assisting with the aftermath and have a great relationship with those partners.

Mr. Hightower stated the GPSTC is still working and training, touching about 15,000 students last month.

Mr. Hightower presented an amendment to the selection criteria for the Governor's Public Safety Awards Program under eligibility for nominations for the Act of Heroism Award shall only be considered timely if presented at the selection committee meeting occurring in the year following the close of the fiscal year of this occurrence. Waiver of this requirement may be considered if the event is involved in an ongoing investigation, or there are other extenuating circumstances the committee feels should be considered.

Mr. Sam Heaton made the motion to approve the amendment to the selection criteria for the Governor's Public Safety Awards Program. This was seconded by Sheriff Dane Kirby and voted approved by the Board members.

DONATIONS

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

Two MPH BEE III Radars and Two DragonEye DESL Lasers	\$	8,840.00	Dawson Co. Bd. of Commissioners
One Decatur Genesis II Select Radar	\$	2,114.00	Emanuel Co. Sheriff's Department

