BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY CALL IN MEETING
March 8, 2018
Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Decatur, Georgia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mr. Steve D. Cronic
Commissioner Greg Dozier
Sheriff Dane Kirby-conference call
Mr. Lester D. Rampy, Jr.
Mr. Charles D. Sikes
Sheriff Joey Terrell
Chief Craig Tully
Mr. Ellison G. Wood

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Mr. Wayne Abernathy
Mr. Danny Bryant
Chief Mark Revenew

OTHERS:
Ms. Tina Piper, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Meagan Davidson, Attorney General’s Office
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 Hank Fielding, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Major Johnny Jones, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Major Billy Boulware, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Captain Jeremy Vickery, Department of Public Safety/MCCD
Lt. Shawn Prather, Department of Public Safety/GSP
Mrs. Melissa Rodgers, Department of Public Safety
Mr. Zachary Howard, Department of Public Safety
Mrs. Amy Stancil, Department of Public Safety
Mrs. Laura Thompson, Department of Public Safety
Director Vernon Keenan, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mrs. Deborah A. Purcell, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mrs. Connie Buck, Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Mrs. Michelle Jones, 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
Mrs. Sharla Shockley, Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Mr. Brian Lawler, Office of Planning and Budget
Ms. Ashley Larrow, Office of Planning and Budget
Mr. Timothy C. Ward, Department of Corrections
Mr. Read Ahlemann, Georgia Movers Association
Mr. Lee Lemke, Georgia Movers Association
Mr. Erik Christensen, Georgia Movers Association
Ms. Holly Stewart, Georgia Movers Association
Ms. Lisa Gresham, DeKalb County Marshal’s Office

Vice-Chairman Ellis Wood called the March 8th, 2018 Board of Public Safety meeting to order and thanked the Georgia Bureau of Investigation for hosting the meeting.

Assistant Director, Dan Kirk, Georgia Bureau of Investigation gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Attorney, Ms. Tina Piper introduced Ms. Meagan Davidson, new attorney at the Attorney General’s office who will be helping with Board of Public Safety duties.

Vice-Chairman Wood asked everyone to stand and introduce their self.

Vice-Chairman Wood called on the nominating committee for the election of the 2018 BPS officers.

Chief Craig Tully advised Mr. Charles Sikes, Sheriff Joey Terrell and himself served on the nominating committee and have spoken to all three agency heads and polled the BPS members and was unanimous in retaining the present Vice-Chairman Wood.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion to accept the recommendation for Mr. Ellis Wood to continue to serve as Vice-Chairman. Sheriff Joey Terrell seconded the motion and was voted approved by the BPS members.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion for Chief Mark Revenew to continue to serve as Secretary. This was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell and voted approved by the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood called for approval of the October 2017, November 2017, December 2017, and February 2018 minutes. Commissioner Greg Dozier made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Lester Rampy, Jr., and voted approved by the BPS members.

**DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Commissioner Mark W. McDonough, Department of Public Safety presented the DPS Organizational Chart showing a change for consolidating the supervision of the Honor Guard and Crisis Negotiation Team under a Captain’s supervision. Commissioner McDonough added this is necessary and noted in the past, honor guard details in the past consisted of a very small group of people and was not working. Commissioner McDonough stated the Honor Guard was not meeting the need or requests for the ceremonial type of thing for the retirees and the public. Commissioner McDonough stated the Honor Guard does a fantastic job and instead of a small group of troopers, all nine troops and every region has a designated group of officers in their region and in the troop that handles honor guard details. Commissioner McDonough stated there are nine teams that have between six and seven members on it,
a total of 63 plus people that are involved in the honor guard effort and when a detail occurs, it is the management of who to get to the best place at the right time. Commissioner McDonough added that when veterans have a funeral detail where their respective service is not able to provide honor guard support to the funeral, the DPS Honor Guard has been supporting the burial. Commissioner McDonough stated the Honor Guard is involved in hundreds of events all year long and it is essentially a full-time job to manage making sure the right people get to the right place, not only to support the agency issues and retirement issues, but also requests from the citizens. Commissioner McDonough stated the CNT group has not had supervision and as there are more SWAT call-outs and more barricaded gunman issues, that aspect of having the proper folks involved in the negotiation process, working hand and hand with the SWAT Commander will help make the right calls at the right time. Commissioner McDonough stated the SWAT guys want to breach the door, but sometimes the guy that is involved in the negotiation, may say I almost got him, hold up and noted this is a delicate mix between the negotiator and the SWAT guys, because there is a window of opportunity that is a safe opportunity for them to do their job.

Mr. Lester L. Rampy, Jr., made the motion to approve a change to the DPS Organizational Chart, adding Captain of Honor Guard/CNT. This was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronic and voted approved by the BPS members.

Commissioner McDonough stated DPS has received a completed statewide Single Audit report from the Department of Audits, which will apply to every state agency in the room and a lot of folks have already gone through this in the past year. Commissioner McDonough added the report comes not only to him, but also to the Board that oversees the agency. Commissioner McDonough stated within the report is the discussion as to what is known as internal controls. Commissioner McDonough stated DPS has been going by the guidelines of the State Accounting Office and in the audits report, there is a reference to what is known as the federal Green Book. Commissioner McDonough added this is the standard the Department of Audit requires by audits that all agencies go through this. Commissioner McDonough noted this is the deficiency the Board will see in the DPS report, as well as other state agency reports. Commissioner McDonough noted this audit will require everyone to look in the mirror. Commissioner McDonough advised the DPS Comptroller has met with her team and have identified within DPS, essentially 15 direct things that need to be addressed and are putting together a template that is specific to adhering to the federal Green Book standard. Prior to closeout over the next 15 weeks of this fiscal year, Commissioner McDonough advised they will be meeting with each individual group and going through that template and then after they close out this fiscal year, they will be sitting down with the DPS Planning Unit and going through and making sure that all policies and procedures and those internal controls are in place according to the Green Book standard.

Mr. Dan Kirk, Assistant Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation stated all of GBI’s legislation is sailing through with the exemption of Bingo, which died pretty quick. Mr. Kirk stated the legislature did not like the fact that Bingo was being deregulated and the legislation was rewritten to continue the regulation of Bingo, but move it to the local jurisdictions and was not liked, so the GBI still has it.
In regards to SB336, electronic communication subpoena, Mr. Kirk advised this bill has moved along well, but has since had another bill attached to it and the representative has assured the GBI that if it starts to pull the bill underneath the water, he would remove the other bill.

Director Chris Wigginton, Georgia Public Safety Training Center shared for last month at GPSTC, they had 260 courses and served 30,030 students, a substantial increase and the GPSTC continues to grow. Director Wigginton advised the driving track expansion should be closed out and will finalize the minor adjustments sometime this month.

Major Johnny Jones, Department of Public Safety MCCD Commander commented on the first MCCD graduation that occurred yesterday, after 25 weeks of training. Major Jones advised the graduates were already post certified before going to the MCCD School, which allowed additional training. Major Jones advised the school started out with 18 students and graduated 14 students. Major Jones shared the President of the class who is a retired Army soldier, in Special Forces and a diving instructor, very humble, docile guy, who has been through a lot, did an excellent job addressing those in attendance and his peers. Majors Jones stated MCCD is very proud as these officers have been to a lot of different places within other state agencies the last several years, but are now at home at DPS and have been here since 2005, with yesterday being a culmination of this. Major Jones stressed sometimes there are bad things that happen that have good outcomes. Major Jones noted when looking at the crashes that occurred on I-16 and I-95 in 2015, where 13 people lost their lives in a three month period, where two of the crashes involved distracted driving, one involved fatigue driving and out of that, Governor Deal and the GA Port Authority gave additional money to hire additional people. Major Jones stated this allowed MCCD to hire additional people which pushed MCCD’s numbers up in the 270s to where during the period of time when the crashes occurred, there were 201 officers including the Command Staff. Major Jones declared this type of support made this school possible and MCCD is very proud.

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

- Five Dragon Eye DESL Lasers $22,255.00 Banks County Sheriff’s Dept.
- Four Stalker DSR 2x Radars
- One Vizio 50” TV, One Wall Mount $570.98 Trenton Police Dept.
- One Samsung Blu-Ray Player
- One Stalker Dual SL Radar $3,000.00 Tybee Island Police Dept.
- One Set of Mobile Tag Readers (ELSAG Plate Hunter M6-3) $18,550.00 Franklin Co. Bd. of Commissioners
- Sixteen Whelen Howler Sirens/installation $19,468.00 W. Metro Drug Enforcement Office
- Twenty Garmin Drivesmart 51 NA LMT GPS Office
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Two Stalker DSR2X Radars $ 6,025.00 Columbia Co. Sheriff’s Dept.
One Dragoneye LIDAR $ 2,120.00 Cornelia PD
One Dragoneye LIDAR $ 2,115.00 City of Toccoa
Two Stalker Radars $ 6,060.00 Gwinnett Co. Sheriff’s Dept.

The motion to accept these donations was made by Commissioner Greg Dozier, which was seconded by Sheriff Joey Terrell, and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Tony Hightower, Deputy Director, Georgia Public Safety Training Center requested approval of the following donation:

400 yards of Assorted Carpet Remnants $ 40,000.00 Jamie Lanford

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

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Zachary Howard, Legal Services Officer, Department of Public Safety presented for approval an Administrative Order which will continue a variance for intrastate motor carriers operating in the State of Georgia. Mr. Howard stated the variance has been in effect since 2014, with no significant incidents during the most recent variance period. Mr. Howard added the Administrative Order for temporary hours of variance adopted by the Georgia DPS through section 395.341 of Chapter 1 the Georgia Department of Public Safety’s Transportation Rulebook will be extended for a period beginning this date and expiring on December 31, 2018.

Mr. Lester Rampy made the motion for the Board of Public Safety to approve the issuance of an Administrative Order extending the temporary hours of service variance adopted by the Georgia Department of Public Safety through section 395.341 of Chapter 1 the Georgia Department of Public Safety’s Transportation Rulebook for a period expiring on December 31, 2018. This was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronic and approved by the Board members.

Mr. Howard also presented Georgia Department of Public Safety Maximum Rate Tariff No.1 Intrastate Rates and Charges applying to Household Goods. Mr. Howard advised household goods movers are companies that help move from one resident location to another within the state and DPS is responsible for regulating their behavior, rates, etc. Mr. Howard stated the tariff establishes the maximum rates they are allowed to charge the customers and the tariff that is currently in effect was made by the Board of Public Service Commission when the PSC was in charge of regulating this behavior. Mr. Howard noted the last time the tariff underwent any substantial revisions was in 2006, and the last time the rates were changed was 2009, when the rates went up 2% and has been static since then. Mr.
Howard stated through the coordination of the Georgia Movers Association and Commissioner McDonough, DPS has implemented a 15% rate increase for that activity and have also changed the way the evaluation of the property that is being moved, about how that property is valued. Mr. Howard noted previously by default, when they were moving the property, the maximum amount the property could be insured was for $300.00 based upon the actual value of the property and are changing that method to comply with how it is done in intrastate commerce by the federal government, which will be a $0.60 per lb. evaluation based on the weight of the cargo being moved. Mr. Howard stated the DPS has taken the tariff that was implemented by the PSC in 2006, and put these two substantial changes into the tariff.

Sheriff Joey Terrell made the motion for the Board of Public Safety to approve a new maximum rate tariff applicable to intrastate household goods movers within the state of Georgia. The new tariff cancels the former Georgia Public Service Commission maximum rate tariff, which was applicable to household good movers. The substantive changes to the tariff include (1) a 15% increase in the maximum allowable rates; and (2) a change in the default valuation method for goods moved from depreciated value up to a maximum amount to released value at a rate of $0.60 per pound per article. The new maximum rate tariff becomes effective on March 20, 2018. This was seconded by Chief Craig Tully and voted approved by the BPS members.

Mr. Zach Howard, Legal Services Officer, Department of Public Safety, presented a Resolution asking the BPS to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into negotiations and agreements with Tift County, Georgia for a long-term lease of Georgia State Patrol Post 13 at the Henry Tift Myers Airport in Tift County, Georgia.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to enter into negotiations and agreements with Tift County, the Development Authority and the Tifton-Tift County Airport Authority and to execute all contracts and supporting documents as necessary to acquire a long-term lease of the 2005-constructed facilities and 3.637 acres of land at the Henry Tift Myers Airport for the barracks and headquarters of Georgia State Patrol Post 13. This was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes and voted approved by the Board members.

Mr. Zachary Howard, Department of Public Safety presented a Resolution asking the BPS to authorize the Georgia Department of Public Safety to transfer a Revocable License and Permanent Non-Standard Easement of unimproved land to Georgia Power for relocation of utility poles that serve Georgia State Patrol Post 6, Gainesville.

Mr. Charles Sikes made the motion to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to request the Georgia State Properties Commissioner to issue a Revocable License, and then to request the Governor and Georgia Legislature to issue a Permanent Non-Standard Easement, for such a footprint of property that shall accommodate the relocation of Georgia Power Company utility poles, to be followed by an as-built survey, for purposes of serving GSP Post 6-Gainesville and the DPS Communications Tower at 2000 Cleveland Highway in Hall County, Georgia. This was seconded by Mr. Steve Cronic and voted approved by the BPS members.
Mr. Kirk advised adjacent to the Savannah Crime Lab there is a bomb garage, which is in an old fire station and the GBI would like to build a new bomb garage next to the new crime lab being built in Pooler. Mr. Kirk added the City of Pooler is interested in negotiating with the GBI in building the bomb garage, on two acres of property, next to the Pooler Fire Department.

Commissioner Greg Dozier made the motion for the GBI to begin negotiations with the City of Pooler for two acres of land next to the Pooler Fire Department for a bomb garage. This was seconded by Mr. Charles Sikes and voted approved by the BPS members.

Director Chris Wigginton, GPSTC, presented 11 names for approval that were submitted by the Georgia Public Safety Memorial Committee to be added to the 2018 Memorial Wall. Director Wigginton advised the memorial will be held May 22, 2018 at 1000 hours for the following individuals:
Curtis Billue, Michael Butler, John Chester IV, W. Duncan, Kristen Hearne, Gregory Meagher, Christopher Monica, Michael Norton, Darrell Plank, Michael Thorne and James Wallace.

Chief Craig Tully made the motion to approve the names for the Georgia Public Safety Memorial, which was seconded by Commissioner Greg Dozier, and voted approved by the BPS members.

Vice-Chairman Wood advised the BPS will meet April 12th at the GA National Guard Armory in Glennville with the meeting to start at 1:30 pm.

Vice-Chairman Wood stated the BPS has a seat on the CJCC Board and asked the BPS members if any of them would like to volunteer to serve on the CJCC Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Chief Mark Revenew
Secretary

Note: There was a revote at this meeting of the correspondence that was presented and voted on at the February 8th, 2017 BPS meeting. This was due to the public notice of the February 8th, 2017 BPS meeting agenda not being posted.