

MINUTES  
STATE POLICE COMMISSION  
July 19, 2012

The State Police Commission convened its monthly meeting at 9:10 A.M. on Thursday, July 19, 2012 in Conference Room 308, Office of Management and Finance and OMV Building, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Present were Chairman Mark Oxley, Co-Chairman Jason Turner, Members William Goldring, Franklin Kyle, and William Norfolk, Attorney. Joe Cage and Freddie Pitcher were absent.

On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to approve the Minutes from the June 21, 2012 meeting.

Under Employee Opportunity to Address the Commission a letter by Sgt Brett Travis, Troop D, was read into the record. Sgt. Travis was on National Guard Duty and unable to address the Commission in person and received permission to do so via letter. The letter addressed his feelings regarding the 2012 promotional exam. Sgt. Travis took the exam in 2011 and was satisfied with his score and decided to not re-test in 2012 and instead carry over his score for an additional year, as is allowed by State Police Commission rules. Due to the 2012 scores being significantly higher than the previous years, Sgt. Travis's score is no longer competitive. He stated that he felt that the current scoring practices were not only unfair but also unable to be validated. He requested that the Commission review the current testing practices.

Jason Turner stated that he agreed with Sgt Travis' letter and felt that questions being deleted simply because 40% of test takers missed them was unacceptable. Chairman Mark Oxley stated that not all questions that were deleted from the test were because of this. Some questions were removed on the counsel of the subject matter experts. Chairman Oxley also reiterated that the same testing material and grading system that was used in 2011 had to be reused in 2012 in order to ensure that the process was equitable for those who chose to carry over their grades. He further stated that he felt confident in the services provided by LSUS and Dr. Helen Wise. Of the 252 troopers who took the exam, there were 45 complaints, with approximately 15-20 of those being actual complaints regarding the exam itself. Jason Turner stressed that the use of 40% of people

missing a question resulting in the question being thrown out be reevaluated for the 2013 exam. The Commission staff will continue to work with LSUS to address concerns for the 2013 cycle. Franklin Kyle suggested that it would be helpful for Dr. Helen Wise to attend a Commission meeting to accomplish this.

Regarding General Circular 161, Revision of State Police Commission Rule 11.34 Crisis Leave Pool, on motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to approve this change allowing compensatory leave being added to the leave pool.

Regarding the appeal of Brian Ardoin, Docket Number 12-204-S, a settlement agreement has been reached by both parties and was presented to the Commission for review. On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to approve the proposed settlement agreement.

Under Commission Business, Attorney Bill Norfolk stated that there were currently six appeals pending. He felt that several would possibly enter into settlement agreements. Dates in August and October were discussed as future hearing dates.

At the Conclusion of the Commission's agenda, on motion duly made and seconded, by unanimous vote of the members present, the Commission voted to adjourn its meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mark Oxley, Chairman



Cathy Derbonne, Executive Director