

MINUTES
STATE POLICE COMMISSION
April 18, 2013

The State Police Commission convened its monthly meeting at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 18, 2013 in Conference Room 308, Office of Management and Finance/OMV Building, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Present were Chairman Jason Turner, and Members Freddie Pitcher, William Goldring, Joe Cage, W. Lloyd Grafton and William Norfolk, Attorney. No members were absent.

On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to approve the Minutes from the January 17, 2012 meeting.

There were no employees present for the Employee Opportunity to Address the Commission.

William A. Norfolk, the Commission Referee, conducted the swearing in of new Commission Member W. Lloyd Grafton. Cathy Derbonne, Executive Director, reported that Donald "Boysie" Bollinger had also been appointed to the Commission; however, Mr. Bollinger was not present at the meeting.

Due to the expiration of Vice-Chairman Franklin Kyle's term on the Commission, a new Vice-Chairman was elected. On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to elect Joe Cage as Vice-Chairman.

Captain Jason Starnes, Operational Development, served as a representative for Colonel Michael Edmonson and provided a report to the Commission on the need to re-evaluate the current practice of Performance and Planning Review. Captain Starnes stated that the current PPR is conducted annually and is a time-intensive ten page document. He stated that in 2012 Civil Service adopted a streamlined two page PES system. Captain Starnes stated that modifications to the Civil Service system would be need to be made in order for the PES to meet the needs of State Police, but by adopting this new system supervisors will save time and the new system would provide organizational consistency. Meetings with Human Resources to discuss the internal changes that would be needed have been scheduled. William A. Norfolk stated that a rule change would be required in order for the proposed change to occur. Captain Starnes will provide more information on

the proposed rule change and a General Circular will be issued. Mr. Norfolk also recommended that the Commission evaluate the need to change Rule 2.10(a) in order to allow the adoption, amendment or repeal of any rule to be approved by the Commission upon 15 day written notice and approval after a public hearing. The current Rule 2.10(a) requires a 30 day written notice.

A hearing on the request to suspend Sergeant Ronald Thomas was held, Faye Morrison represented the Appointing Authority. Sgt. Thomas' attorney, Fredrick D. Jones, was scheduled to be available for the hearing via teleconference but attempts to contact him were unsuccessful. His request for a continuance was denied. Following the presentation of testimony by the Office of State Police, the Commission (absent Chairman Jason Turner, who recused himself) entered into Executive Session. On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to approve the request by Office of State Police to the extent that Sgt. Ronald Thomas be placed on unpaid suspension for a period of sixty days, effective immediately.

Under Commission Business, Attorney Bill Norfolk reported that three new appeals had been filed. Two have been scheduled for hearings and one is pending a pre-trial conference.

Frank Besson reminded the Commission that the Louisiana State Troopers Association convention will be held in Monroe June 27 – 29 and urged Commission Members to attend.

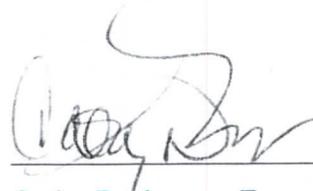
Cathy Derbonne, Executive Director, reported that the Legislative Audit report had been received and no deficiencies had been found. A copy of the report has been posted on the Lotus Notes Bulletin Board.

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 10:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jason Turner, Chairman



Cathy Derbonne, Executive Director