Actions/Minutes AGENDA



LOUISIANA STATE POLICE COMMISSION GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018 9:00 A.M.

John Bel Edwards Governor

Jason Hannaman Executive Director

STATE POLICE COMMISSION, VETERANS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM, SUITE 1247, DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY BLDG., 5825 FLORIDA BLVD., BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

Executive Session will be held in the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium. Upon the acceptance of a motion to enter into Executive Session, members of the general public shall exit the auditorium to the building atrium until notice is given that the commission is ready to be called back into regular session.

I. Call to Order

The State Police Commission convened its monthly general business meeting at 9:01 A.M. on Thursday, April 12, 2018.

II. Roll Call

Present were Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr., Vice-Chairman Dr. Michael W. Neustrom, Commissioners Nelson Cantrelle, Jr., Jeffrey Foss, Harold Pierite, Sr., and Jared Caruso-Riecke. There was a quorum. Commissioner Brian Crawford was absent. Additionally, Commission Referee Lenore Feeney and Executive Director Jason Hannaman were present.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others concerning items on the agenda. (Please submit a speaker request form prior to the meeting being called to order.)
Mr. Leon "Bucky" Millet appeared before the Commission to speak in favor of General Circular on Prohibited Political Activity.

Floyd Falcon, representing the Louisiana State Troopers Association, appeared before the Commission regarding the verbiage contained in General Circular 191. It is his assertion that the LSTA has a right to participate in political activity as an independent entity.

Jay O'Quinn president of the LSTA appeared before the Commission to speak on General Circular 191. Mr. O'Quinn advised that he was elected two years ago and since that time the LSTA has not made endorsements or any political contributions during his term. Mr. O'Quinn communicated his belief that it is important to be able to have the ability to have every tool in their tool box to advocate on behalf of trooper; including political involvement if necessary.

Chairman Simien advised that General Circular 191 would be promulgated effective April 12, 2018. In response to Mr. O'Quinn's testimony, he advised that based on the LSTA president's testimony the LSTA has continued over the last two years without engaging in political activity that the circular indicates would be prohibited and upon closely reading the very specific verbiage of the circular, it would not prohibit the LSTA in continuing those activities which the LSTA president indicated it was performing in the last two years.

V. Business

1. Consideration of the March 8, 2018 minutes.

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Neustrom, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2018 meeting.

In Favor: All Opposed: None

2. Request from Louisiana State Police to consider amending Chapter 8 of State Police Commission Rules to allow for consideration of top seven (7) grade groups for promotional opportunities rather than top five (5) as currently written. (Appearance by LSP administrator)

Colonel Kevin Reeves appeared before the Commission to seek an expansion of the list of eligibles to broaden the pool of candidates for promotion to give more opportunities for consideration.

Lt. Col. Mike Noel appeared before the Commission in support of the request. He hoped that rule changes could be approved for future promotional opportunities using the upcoming May examination scores.

No Commission Action Taken.

3. Request from Louisiana State Police to amend the upcoming 2018 Promotional Exam to remove the written essay question from all versions of the exam. (Appearance by LSP administrator)

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Commission voted to remove the written essay questions from the exam.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>In Favor:</u> Commissioners Jeffrey Foss, Nelson Cantrelle, Jr, Jared Caruso-Riecke, and Harold Pierite, Sr.

Opposed: Vice-Chairman Michael Neustrom

- 4. Consideration of Prohibited Political Activity:
 - a) Promulgation of General Circular 191
 Chairman Simien advised that General Circular 191 contains the items considered to be prohibited political activity by the State Police Commission.
 - b) Motion to Withdraw proposed rule changes to Chapter 14 as promulgated in General Circular 190 on January 23, 2018 as unnecessary based on General Circular 191.

No Commission Action Taken; Item remains tabled.

5. Other Commission Business

No other Commission Business at this time.

VI. <u>Director's Report</u>

- Monthly budgetary expenditures have been included in Commissioner binders.
- SPC staff office relocation The upcoming move is May 1, 2018 located inside of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry Building.
- VII. Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others on matters not on the agenda. (Please submit a speaker request form prior to the meeting being called to order.)

 Mr. Leon "Bucky" Millet appeared before the Commission to advise that the Board of Ethics dismissed the case against the troopers that took the trip to Las Vegas. He is concerned that there will be no consequences as a result of the actions of those that participated in the Las Vegas trip.

VIII. Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adjourn at 10:18 A.M. on Thursday, April 12, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Hannaman, Executive Director

Eulis Simien, Jr., Chairman