



## ACTIONS/MINUTES

LOUISIANA STATE POLICE COMMISSION  
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022  
9:30 A.M.

John Bel Edwards  
Governor

Jason Hannaman  
Executive Director

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

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I. Call to Order

The State Police Commission convened its monthly general business meeting at 9:31 A.M. on Thursday, December 8, 2022.

II. Roll Call

Present were Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr., Vice-Chairman Brian Crawford, Commissioners Leonard Knapp, Jr., Monty Montelongo, and Jared Caruso-Riecke. Absent was Harold Pierite, Sr. There was a quorum. Additionally, Commission Referee Lenore Feeney, Deputy Director Aarika Dorsey, and Executive Director Jason Hannaman were present.

III. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others concerning items on the agenda)

No requests were received.

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VI. Business

1. Consideration of the meeting minutes from October 13, 2022.

On motion duly made by Commissioner Knapp, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission unanimously voted to adopt the meeting minutes from October 13, 2022.

**In Favor:** All

**Opposed:** None

2. Consideration of a request from the Office of State Police for the two-year reauthorization of two (2) part-time WAE positions. (Representative of the agency to be available to answer any questions of the Commission.)

Lt. Colonel Chavez Cammon, Chief of Staff, appeared on the behalf of the Office of State Police; he advised the department's support for the request. Lt. Colonel Cammon stated that the WAE program and positions ensure critical functions remain covered by rehired retirees and asked the Commission to continue to approve the reauthorization of these WAE positions due to the agency being short-staffed.

Chairman Simien requested that the department provide additional demographic data when the quarterly renewal request is submitted to the Commission for approval.

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to approve the request from the Office of State Police for the two-year reauthorization of two (2) part-time WAE positions.

**In Favor:** All

**Opposed:** None

3. Updates from the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police.

Lt. Colonel Chavez Cammon, Chief of Staff, appeared on the behalf of the Office of State Police along with Lieutenant Brian Lee, Captain David Stelly, and Business Analytics Specialist Allen Carpenter.

Lt. Colonel Chavez Cammon advised the Commission that the department is taking a top-to-bottom, side-by-side look at how it conducts business and has solicited the critique and assessment of the Bowman Group; has welcomed and stand in cooperation with the Department of Justice; and, is looking at any recommendations to help make the department better. He provided an overview of some of the initiatives implemented by the agency:

**Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE).** This program is designed to train and change the mindset of officers on how to give intervention, how to receive it, and how to follow up on intervention to prevent future harm. Lieutenant Brian Lee, the senior trainer for ABLE, advised that the department is looking at a 6-month training timetable.

**Law Enforcement Active De-escalation Strategies (LEADS).** This program teaches de-escalation techniques, conflict resolution, and active diffusion strategies. The most recent cadet class was the first class trained in LEADS and the Lt. Colonel hopes to see the entire department complete the training by the end of 2023.

**Implicit Bias Training.** The department is training employees to identify their personal implicit biases, understand how those biases can influence their behaviors, and devise ways to prevent their biases from leading to the unfair treatment of members of the public. All LSP personnel have received this training.

**In-Car and Body-Worn Camera Policy.** Updated in April, the policy now requires the cameras to be on and ready to record at all times while on duty. Additional cameras have been deployed to the level of Lieutenant and below. Mandatory reporting of misconduct and reviews by the troop Commander is in the policy as well as behavior coaching.

**Technology Enhancements.** E-citation devices have been deployed as well as a new eCrash solution. Additionally, enhanced data analytics and reports will be available with the expansion of the Computer-Aided Dispatch and Records Management Systems.

**Specialized Sections.** The Force Investigation Unit began in February 2022 to investigate DPS-related Use of Force incidents and the Professional Standards Compliance Section began in October 2022 to identify areas for growth as revealed by ongoing assessments and evaluations.

Vice-Chairman Crawford asked for an explanation of the different types of training and Commissioner Knapp inquired about the implementation timelines. Lt. Lee provided an overview.

Chairmen Simien expressed support for the changes but noted that policy changes must also include protections for Troopers when they are required to report policy violations.

Vice-Chairman Crawford also expressed his encouragement about the initiatives instituted but raised his concerns that in some scenarios the subordinate may think he is acting under the policy; however, upon review, it could be considered insubordination. He would like to see the department look closely at scenarios to ensure that comprehensive training is rolled out that considers these concerns.

Upon conclusion of the presentation by Lt. Col. Cammon, Chairman Simien commented on the resiliency of the personnel of the department, which is full of wonderful and dedicated public servants. He noted that there have been those that did not act in good faith and eroded the trust of the department amongst substantial parts of our society. He acknowledged that the department has a lot of work to do to earn back trust but it appears that things are moving in the right direction.

4. In the matter of Albert Paxton (Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police), Docket No. 21-258-RV, regarding whether attorney fees should be awarded.

- Executive Session regarding allegations of misconduct

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session at 10:49 A.M.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Crawford, Commissioners Knapp, Montelongo, Riecke, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to end Executive Session at 11:09 A.M.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Crawford, Commissioners Knapp, Montelongo, Riecke, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

- Public discussion and possible vote  
On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to award attorney fees to the appellant in this case in the amount of \$1500.

**Roll Call Vote:**

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Crawford, Commissioners Knapp, Riecke, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

Abstained: Commissioner Mongelongo did not vote because he was not on the board when the appeal was heard.

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VII. Director's Report

Commission Expenditures:

The attention of the Commission was directed to the Commission's Monthly Expenditure Report that had been provided for its review. There were no questions regarding the report.

Press Release:

The commissioners were advised that on December 1, 2022, the Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas, announced the inaugural members of the Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council. Commissioner Harold Pierite was appointed to serve on that 15-member advisory council, an external advisory body providing advice to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Annual Training Requirements

The commissioners were reminded that their annual ethics training and preventing sexual harassment training courses are due by December 31, 2022.

Next Meeting:

The attention of the Commission was directed to General Circular Number 229 for a list of monthly meeting dates for 2023.

The next regular business meeting is set for January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

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- VIII. 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.)  
No requests to address the Commission were received for matters not on the agenda.

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IX. Adjourn

There being no further business on a motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adjourn at 11:14 A.M. on Thursday, December 8, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Jason Hannaman, Executive Director

  
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Eulis Simien, Jr. Chairman