

MINUTES  
STATE POLICE COMMISSION  
January 9, 2014

The State Police Commission convened its monthly meeting at 9:10 A.M. on Thursday, January 9, 2014 in Conference Room 308, Office of Management and Finance/OMV Building, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Present were Chairman Jason Turner, Vice Chairman Joe Cage and Members Franklin Kyle, Freddie Pitcher, Bill Goldring, W. Lloyd Grafton, and attorneys Lenore Feeny and William Norfolk. 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 December 12, 2013 meeting.

Under Employee Opportunity to Address the Commission, Assistant Superintendent, Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Dupuy and Colonel Michael Edmonson requested the adoption of a new pay plan for commissioned personnel in the classified service. Extensive research has been conducted by Operational Development, and vetted by Louisiana State University – Shreveport, to analyze and compare the salaries and related benefits of State Police commissioned personnel to that of other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. The adoption of a new pay plan is critical so that recruiting and retention of qualified personnel will no longer be adversely affected. The proposed pay plan will place State Police in a competitive position as it pertains to salary comparisons among other law enforcement agencies and addresses the need for growth potential for career employees. On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to adopt the proposed pay plan and to allow State Police to move forward in working with the Governor and the members of the Louisiana Legislature to secure the funding necessary for implementation.

Colonel Michael Edmonson provided an update on the upcoming State Police Academy which is scheduled to begin January 12, 2014. This will be the first class to be held in five years. The academy will be composed of 47 cadets and 14 Department of Public Safety officers who will be cross trained in order to fill State Police vacancies.

There is the possibility for an additional academy to be held late 2014 or early 2015. Cadet testing will resume in early 2014.

Ginger Krieg, Human Resources Director, and Captain Jason Starnes, Operational Development, presented a Proposed Crisis Leave Policy Revision that would allow troopers to donate to the crisis leave pool of civilian employees. The donations would be limited to annual leave donations only. Ginger Krieg reported that they are currently working with State Civil Service to allow for reciprocal donations from civilians to troopers. David Young, Executive Director of Louisiana State Troopers Association, and Floyd Falcon, legal counsel for LSTA, stated that LSTA was initially opposed to allowing the donations as problems can arise from being so closely tied to Civil Service and could cause the Legislature to merge the two departments. LSTA will not oppose the proposed change **only** if the donations are reciprocal. Floyd Falcon advised the Commission to only approve the rule change in Civil Service adopts a parallel rule. After discussion, the Commission decided to defer action on the proposal until they receive feedback from Civil Service.

Ginger Krieg, Human Resources Director, and Captain Jason Starnes, Operational Development, presented a request to increase the daily uniform allowance from \$5.30 per day to \$8. The last uniform allowance increase was in 2002 and since that time the cost of dry cleaning has increased substantially. On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to adopt the proposed increase in the daily uniform allowance.


Under the annual election of officers of the Commission Chairman and Vice-Chairman, on motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to elect Jason Turner as Chairman and Franklin Kyle as Vice-Chairman.

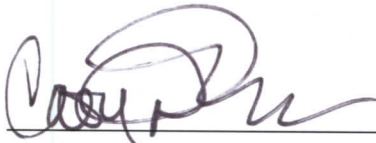
Under Commission Business, Ron Crouch, Legal Affairs, reported that the Scott Butler appeal, scheduled for February 13 – 14, 2014 would involve 19 witnesses, 16 from the Shreveport area. As this is anticipated to be a multiday hearing it would essentially shut down Troop G. Therefore, it was requested that the Commission hold the appeal in Shreveport and assign a referee to conduct the hearing. Rule 13.7(b) allows for the

relocation of hearings. . On motion duly made and seconded by unanimous vote of the Members present, the Commission voted to hold the appeal of Scott Butler in Shreveport.

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 10:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Jason Turner, Chairman

  
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Cathy Derbonne, Executive Director