



ACTIONS/MINUTES
STATE POLICE COMMISSION
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026
10:00 A.M.

JEFF LANDRY
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

- I. Call to Order
The State Police Commission convened its monthly general business meeting at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 14, 2026.
- II. Roll Call
Present were Chairman Monty Montelongo, Vice-Chairman Ross Bourgeois, Commissioners Mark "Aubrey" Cole, Michael DuBos, James Kowalski, Stephen Guidry, Jr., and Jonathan Kernion. A quorum was present. Commission Referee Lenore Feeney, Deputy Director Aarika Dorsey, and Executive Director Jason Hannaman were also present.
- III. Moment of Silence
A moment of silence was observed.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance
Chairman Montelongo led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. 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.)
There were no requests by employees or others to address the Commission on matters on the agenda.

Prior to the start of business, Chairman Montelongo advised that the Louisiana State Police have 991 troopers with 44 cadets in Cadet Class 108, for a soon-to-be total of 1,035. Cadet Class 109 will begin on June 28, 2026, and applications for the January 2027 cadet class 110 are due before August 11, 2026.

- VI. Business
 1. Consideration of the meeting minutes from February 12, 2026
On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adopt the meeting minutes from February 12, 2026.
In Favor: All
Opposed: None

2. Consideration of resolutions for recipients of the 2026 Distinguished Service Award
Chairman Montelongo provided an overview of the State Police Commission's Distinguished Service Award and thanked Vice-Chairman Bourgeois for spearheading the initiative to recognize distinguished classified service by the Commission.

The recipients of the Louisiana State Commission Distinguished Service Award for 2026 are Master Trooper Charles Robertson and Lieutenant Kory Borcharding.

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adopt resolutions for the award winners.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Chairman Montelongo & Vice-Chairman Bourgeois read the resolutions into the record.

3. Consideration of a request from the Office of State Police for a long-term Temporary Duty Assignment (TDY), pursuant to State Police Commission Rule 8.10(e)4, and a temporary Individual Pay Adjustment in the amount of \$262.17 biweekly for Tyler Scott, State Police Trooper, in accordance with State Police Commission Rule 6.16(c), effective March 31, 2026, for the duration of his assignment to the Protective Services unit or until he attains eligibility for detail to Sergeant, whichever occurs first. (Representative of the agency to be available to answer any questions of the Commission.)

On motion duly made by Commissioner Kowalski, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to approve the request.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

4. Consideration of a request from the Office of State Police to establish an Academic Degree Reward Program, in accordance with State Police Commission Rules 6.13 and 6.29. (Representative of the agency to be available to answer any questions of the Commission.)

Chairman Montelongo provided an overview of the proposed policy, describing the possible lump sum monetary rewards for each type of degree.

Superintendent Robert Hodges appeared before the Commission in favor of the request. Commissioner Kowalski inquired about the reasoning for lump sum pay versus a base pay increase. Colonel Hodges provided insight on the budgetary impact of these increases and asked for approval as submitted to establish a State Police Service policy that aligns with the department's existing Civil Service policy.

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission approved the request from the Office of State Police to establish an Academic Degree Rewards Program, in accordance with State Police Rules 6.13 and 6.29.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

5. Consideration of a request from the Office of State Police, in accordance with SPC Rule 12.5, to place Lieutenant James Jefferson on suspension without pay pending criminal proceedings until the resolution of the criminal charges, or there is no longer a need for the suspension. (Representative of the agency to be available to answer any questions of the Commission.)

- Opportunity to Respond

Attorneys Joseph Oubre and Juliette Scioneaux appeared on behalf of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police. Attorney Jill Craft appeared on behalf of the appellant, Mr. James Jefferson.

- Executive Session to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session at 10:30 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, Commissioners Cole, DuBos, Guidry, Kowalski, Kernion, and Chairman Montelongo

Opposed: None

Prior to officially entering Executive Session and following clarifying responses by legal counsel, the Commission decided to remain in open session.

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to withdraw the motion to go into Executive Session at 10:31 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, Commissioners Cole, DuBos, Guidry, Kowalski, Kernion, and Chairman Montelongo

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session at 10:38 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, Commissioners Cole, DuBos, Guidry, Kowalski, Kernion, and Chairman Montelongo

Opposed: None

Prior to officially entering Executive Session and following clarifying responses by the attorneys in the matter, the Commission decided to remain in open session.

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to withdraw the motion to go into Executive Session at 10:38 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, Commissioners Cole, DuBos, Guidry, Kowalski, Kernion, and Chairman Montelongo

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Commissioner Kowalski, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to withdraw the prior decision to admit items into evidence at today's hearing.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session at 10:50 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, Commissioners Cole, DuBos, Guidry, Kowalski, Kernion, and Chairman Montelongo

Opposed: None

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

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, Commissioners Cole, DuBos, Guidry, Kowalski, Kernion, and Chairman Montelongo

Opposed: None

- **Public discussion and possible vote**

Commissioner Kowalski made a motion for the Commission to approve the department's request to place Lt. James Jefferson on suspension without pay pending criminal proceedings provided that he be allowed to exhaust accumulated annual leave balances and compensatory leave time balances. The motion was seconded.

On discussion, Attorney Joseph Oubre objected to the Commission's use of Rule 12.5 to permit use of paid leave. Commissioner DuBos responded that 12.5(a) provides that "the suspension may be for such duration under such conditions as the Commission may allow" and that it has been the precedent for cases like this in the past to permit the use of leave that has been earned and accrued.

The Commission unanimously approved the motion of Commissioner Kowalski.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

6. Consideration of a resolution for the professional legal services contract for Fiscal Year 2027.

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Bourgeois, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to approve the resolution for a professional legal services contract for Fiscal Year 2027.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

7. Consideration of a motion to adopt a Rewards and Recognition policy for the State Police Commission, effective May 11, 2026.

Executive Director provided an overview of the proposed Rewards and Recognition policy for the Commission staff and members of the State Police Commission.

On motion duly made by Commissioner Cole, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adopt a Rewards and Recognition policy for the State Police Commission, effective May 11, 2026.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

8. Consideration of a motion to adopt a Special Entrance Rate policy for the State Police Commission's four (4) unclassified administrative positions, effective May 11, 2026.

On motion duly made by Commissioner Cole, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adopt a Special Entrance Rate policy for the State Police Commission's four (4) unclassified administrative positions, effective May 11, 2026.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

VII. Director's Report

- Commission Expenditures

The Commission was directed to review the Monthly Expenditure Report provided for their consideration. There were no questions.

- Ethics Disclosure

The commissioners were advised that their annual Tier 2.1 financial disclosure forms are due to the Board of Ethics by May 15, 2026.

- May 2026 Promotional Exam

The commissioners were advised of the upcoming May promotional exam. The exam will be a mandatory retest for all state troopers seeking promotional opportunities for the classified ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, or Captain.

- The next regular business meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. on June 11th, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

- Possible Office Closure

In the second week of July, the Department of Agriculture intends to close the building for a building generator replacement. A closure impacts the Commission's administrative office as well as the regularly scheduled Commission meeting in July. Our team proactively reserved the third Thursday of July in case a meeting is necessary.

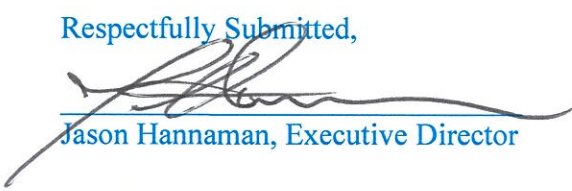
VIII. Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others on matters not on the agenda. (Please submit a speaker request form prior to the meeting being called to order.)

There were no requests by employees or others to address the Commission on matters not on the agenda.

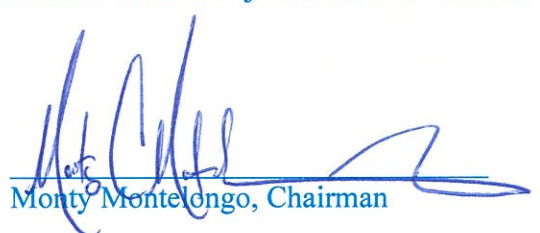
IX. Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion duly made by Chairman Montelongo, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adjourn at 11:20 A.M. on Thursday, May 14, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jason Hannaman, Executive Director



Monty Montelongo, Chairman