

MINUTES OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
May 9, 2013

The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission Chairman Christenson called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Jane Christenson, Chairman
Commissioner Woody Futrell, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Wallace Fowler, Secretary
Commissioner Frank Guinn
Commissioner John Allison
Commissioner Dr. Lewis Shepherd
Commissioner Bob Burns

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL ATTENDING:

Colonel Stan Witt	Lt. Colonel Tim K’Nuckles
Major Henry La Mar	Lieutenant Mike Kennedy
Lieutenant Forrest Marks	Sergeant Wanda James
Lieutenant David Lafferty	Sergeant Stacie Rhoads
Lieutenant Jason Aaron	Emma French
Corporal Scott Luter	Jenna Castleberry
Captain Keith Ereamea	Sergeant Barry Roy
Sergeant Scott Woodward	Gary Glisson
Captain Ron Stayton	Captain Lindsey Williams
Sergeant Ken Whitmore	Major J. R. Hankins
Janet Chappelle	Sergeant Brad Lann
Sergeant Paulette Ward	Captain Jeffery Drew
Lieutenant Brant Tosh	Corporal Kevin Webb
Bridget White	Debra Hollis
Sergeant Kim Warren	Sergeant Mark Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Larry Robinson, Governor’s Office	Joe Thielke, ASP Foundation
Michael Krenn, DFA	Dwane Luter, Retiree
Randy Lann, ASP Foundation	Melinda French
Mitch Grant	Robert Newcomb
Meredith Rebsamen, Attorney General’s Office	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Frank Guinn led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on May 4, 2013.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Allison made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2013 Arkansas State Police Commission Meeting, Commissioner Burns seconded and the motion passed.

OFFICIAL COMMENDATION:

Sgt. Stacie Rhoads gave a brief overview of the event for which Special Agent Scott Luter was commended. She advised in a small community like Conway County, Special Agent Scott Luter plays a large part for the Arkansas State Police. Law enforcement isn't always about making arrests, sometimes in the State Police; our job is to provide a service to our community. What I am going to tell you today about Special Agent Scott Luter is the impact he has on the small community he represents. Special Agent Scott Luter is a bike rider, and over the last few years he's spent a lot of hours traveling the state taking part in bike races. These bike races are fund raisers for non-profit organizations. Last summer Special Agent Luter was approached by one of his friends, Dwane Webb who is the director for Glenhaven Youth Ranch. Glenhaven gets no government assistance; they work off of donations and fund raisers. Just like everybody else, they have felt the recession with their donations having been impacted. Glenhaven is a youth home for troubled youth aged 10 to 18, and they really needed to raise some money. Special Agent Luter volunteered to host a bike race for Glenhaven. In preparing for the race, he had to pick three different race routes, organize volunteers, go out and get sponsors, and that was just a start. Then on race day, there's the safety of all these people traveling the roads in Arkansas and the clean up. I can't imagine how overwhelmed Special Agent Luter must have been. They had the race on June 30th of last year with 93 participants and they raised over \$11,000. Glenhaven was able to pocket \$10,000 of that to help keep their operation going. If it had not been for Special Agent Luter's time and effort, it would have never happened. I'm also proud to let you know they are going to have another race this year, and you are all encouraged to go. I believe for the time and effort he has put forth in helping this worthwhile organization he deserves this Official Commendation.

An Official Commendation was presented to Special Agent Dwane Scott Luter.

Commissioner Allison commented that he would like to congratulate Special Agent Luter for his award and the recognition by Sergeant Stacie Rhoads, and he noted that she had made the complete presentation without any notes.

Commission Chairman Christenson stated also that it is good to see our State Police not only protecting us but also going out into the communities and helping with special projects and special needs.

DIVISION REPORTS:

Fiscal Report – Emma French

Ms. French reviewed the reports which have been distributed to the Commission. She stated we should be at about 83% and are doing pretty well. She stated they have been working on finishing up FY 13 budget and have started building the FY 14 budget. We did not receive any budget cuts, and we did not receive any unfunded mandates, so those are both very positive things for us. We got our exit conference on our FY 11 audit with no findings. The auditors came on Tuesday and will be here for a month auditing FY 12. For some reason they are a year behind on us. We have paid the lawsuit. So those are all good things.

Commissioner Allison asked what amount we ended up paying, and Ms. French advised \$1,790,000 and the Governor's Office paid \$1.2 million. He asked if she was pleased with the Legislative Session. Ms. French advised there were no cuts. He asked if there was anything we did not get that we wanted. She said there are always a lot of things we could use, but we are very happy.

Administrative Services – Lieutenant Mike Kennedy

Lieutenant Kennedy presented an oral summary of the written report distributed to the Commission. He reported under Human Resources/Personnel transactions; we had six civilian new hires, three civilian volunteer resignations, one retirement, one civilian promotion and one civilian termination. On the Commission side we had one termination, one resignation, and one commission transfer. We currently have 7 department members on military leave at this time.

Lieutenant Kennedy then reported on the Health Plan and stated claims were higher this month. Our overall fund balance was also higher by \$95,000 even with the increased claims. Our pot of money is still growing there; we have 9.9 million dollars currently on hand in our Health Care Plan.

Lieutenant Kennedy reported the Recruit School is still moving along with 25 recruits remaining. This is the same number we had at this time last month. They are at week 16. They will graduate after week 20 on June 6th. You will be receiving an invitation in the mail for June 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the Capitol.

Since the last time we met, they completed their Emergency Vehicle Training, Traffic Stops Training, Advanced Firearms, and they will be doing Active Shooter starting next week. So since the last time we met, they've been in the classroom very little. They've been out in the field getting reality based training which I emphasized here before.

Commission Chairman Christenson asked Colonel Witt if he had anything to add as far as the Session this year.

Colonel Witt stated overall he feels we had a good Session and got most everything we asked for. He said one of the biggest things was we didn't have any unfunded mandates.

Commissioner Guinn asked if we would get \$9.2 million for new cars out of the \$31 million the Governor will be giving.

Colonel Witt advised that is general improvement fund money that the Governor has, so we don't know how much of that we will get or when it will be released.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Chairman Christenson asked if there was any other new business before scheduling the hearing. She advised we need to schedule an appeal hearing for James Shannon McCoskey and she recommended that they schedule the meeting to coincide with their August meeting which will be August 8th. She advised there are appeal hearings scheduled for June 6th after the Commission Meeting and also on July 11th after that Commission Meeting.

Commission Chairman Christenson asked that they schedule the Commission Meeting for 9:00 and the hearing for 10:00 like the others.

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled Commission Meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on June 6, 2013 and an Appeal Hearing for Raymond Siggers will be held at 10:00 a.m. That night we will continue on for the Troop School Graduation.

Then, Thursday, July 11, 2013 the Commission will meet at 9:00 a.m. and an Appeal Hearing for Mitch Grant will be held at 10:00 a.m.

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The August Commission Meeting will be held Thursday, August 8, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. and the James Shannon McCoskey Appeal Hearing will be at 10:00 a.m.

Commission Chairman Christenson advised after adjournment we will take about a ten minute break, and then we will come back and have our pre-appeal hearing at that time.

With no new business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Allison moved the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded by Commissioner Burns and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Commission Chairman

Commission Secretary