The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Thursday, July 09, 2015 at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission Vice Chairman Guinn called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Frank Guinn, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Jane Christenson  
Commissioner Bill Benton  
Commissioner Neff Basore

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Dr. Lewis Shepherd, Secretary  
Commissioner John Allison  
Commissioner Bob Burns

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL ATTENDING:

Colonel Bill Bryant  
Captain Lindsey Williams  
Major Stan Witt  
Lieutenant David Sims  
Sergeant Stuart Woodward  
Lieutenant David Lafferty  
Captain Charles Hubbard  
Lieutenant Rick Neill  
Captain Forrest Marks  
Jackie Baker  
Alexis Winters  
Sherry Woods  
J. R. Hankins  
Gary Glisson  
Sergeant Mike Wallace  
Lieutenant Paulette Ward  
Lieutenant Jason Aaron  
Captain Mike Hagar  
Lieutenant Jeff Sheeler  
Bridget White  
Donna Humphries  
Major Shawn Garner  
Major Mike Foster  
Captain Steve Coppinger  
Emma French  
Lieutenant Stacie Rhoads  
Lieutenant Brady Gore  
Janet Chappelle  
Harmony Daniels  
Sergeant Kenneth Whitmore  
Caitlin Sparks  
Captain Alex Finger  
Lieutenant Brant Tosh  
Corporal Patrick Schmidt  
Sergeant Mike Bain  
Corporal Jeff Whitlock  
Captain Bryan Davis  
Captain Jeff Drew  
Lieutenant Kyle Drown

OTHERS PRESENT:

Meredith Rebsamen - AG Office  
Jeff Christenson  
Dr. Marvin Leibovich  
Michael Krenn – DFA Budget  
Randy Lann - ASPF  
Joe Thielke - ASPF  
John Morrow – Retiree

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Basore led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on July 01, 2015.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Basore made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2015 monthly Commission Meeting. Commissioner Benton seconded and the motion passed.
WEAPON RESOLUTIONS:

Major Henry La Mar presented the below resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Sergeant Mark Johnson efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of nineteen years, five months, and fourteen days;

WHEREAS: Sergeant Mark Johnson retired from this department May 31, 2015;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Sergeant Mark Johnson has made formal request that his service weapon be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, July 09, 2015, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, awards him his Glock Model 21, Serial Number PKS033, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

Commissioner Christenson made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Basore seconded and the motion passed.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Sergeant Mark Johnson efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of nineteen years, five months, and fourteen days;

WHEREAS: Sergeant Mark Johnson retired from this department May 31, 2015;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Sergeant Mark Johnson has made formal request that his shotgun be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, July 09, 2015 in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number D605877M, that Sergeant Mark Johnson has carried be affixed at $100.00, and that Sergeant Mark Johnson be permitted to purchase the shotgun for his personal use.

Commissioner Christenson made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Basore seconded and the motion passed.

Major Shawn Garner presented the below resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Corporal James Ault efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of fifteen years, one month, and seventeen days;
WHEREAS: Corporal James Ault retired from this department May 31, 2015;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Corporal James Ault has made formal request that his service weapon be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, July 09, 2015, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, awards him his Glock Model 21, Serial Number PKS173, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

Commissioner Benton made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Basore seconded and the motion passed.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Corporal James Ault efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of fifteen years, one month, and seventeen days;

WHEREAS: Corporal James Ault retired from this department May 31, 2015;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Corporal James Ault has made formal request that his shotgun be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, July 09, 2015 in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number D588759M, that Corporal James Ault has carried be affixed at $100.00, and that Corporal James Ault be permitted to purchase the shotgun for his personal use.

Commissioner Christenson made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Benton/Basore seconded and the motion passed.

OFFICIAL COMMENDATIONS:

Captain Forrest Marks gave an overview of the incident for which Trooper Darren Henley was nominated for an Official Commendation.

Captain Marks stated on December 29, 2014 an Amber Alert was issued by the Houston, Texas Police Department for a 14 month old child who was missing when his mother was found murdered at her apartment in Houston, Texas. The following day the Miller County Sheriff’s Office learned of information that the suspect and child were located in Texarkana. As soon as that information was received, we broadcast the information out to the troopers in Troop G. Trooper Henley was stationary at the 29 mile marker on Interstate 30 and within a few minutes of the broadcast, Trooper Henley actually saw the vehicle and began following the suspect vehicle. Bear in mind Trooper Henley has only been working a couple of years; he did an excellent job, maintained his composure, followed the suspect vehicle and fell back at the line and then initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. Unfortunately the suspect exited the vehicle and took his own life in front of his children.
Trooper Henley kept his composure, showed a great compassion for the three children who were located inside the vehicle and it is based on how he handled himself during this incident that he is deserving of this Official Commendation.

Colonel Bryant presented an Official Commendation to Trooper Darren Henley.

Colonel Bill Bryant invited current and former members of the ASP SWAT Team, and the Little Rock Police Department SWAT Team to come forward as he makes another commendation. Colonel Bryant then invited Dr. Marvin Leibovich to step forward and join them at the front of the room. Colonel Bryant stated it is his honor today to present a commendation to Dr. Marvin Leibovich. I have known him for a long time, when I was with DEA I went on operations with Little Rock Police Department SWAT Team and he was always there and he has always been with the ASP SWAT Team on call outs. He loves law enforcement and we love him. Colonel Bryant then read the commendation, which states in grateful appreciation for his devoted service to the Arkansas State Police and his countless acts and sacrifice offering medical care and trusted friendship to State Troopers and their families everywhere and for his loyal readiness over the course of 14 years answering the calls alongside the troopers of the State Police SWAT Team and for his courage in harm’s way serving as tactical team physician and for his demonstrated commitment as a stalwart guardian of this department the men and women who hold the badge of the Arkansas State Police will be forever indebted. It is my distinct honor to present this commendation to Dr. Marvin Leibovich.

Dr. Marvin Leibovich stated it was his honor to get the opportunity to work with everyone of these guys in SWAT they are the guys who won’t back down. Like I have told you at many of the Christmas parties and other events, my favorite quote about SWAT is “People sleep peacefully in their beds at night, but only because strong men stand ready to do violence on their behalf” and you guys are the heroes and I am just the guy on the sidelines.

Robert Speer stated there are givers and takers in this world, more takers than givers and we deal with them every day in our law enforcement profession and I have known Dr. since the 80’s when we stole him from the Little Rock Police Department. Dr. has always been a giver; not very many people in this world with his credentials would volunteer their time to help law enforcement. He has been all across this state giving of his time. There is not anyone of us standing up here who has not called him with a medical question for ourselves or our family and he has always been there. He would always give us the best advice and go behind the scenes and open many doors for us. When I went through my cancer, he walked every step of the way with me. When Doc came down with his cancer, we have been walking the walk together on this to. I just want to take this opportunity to say thank you on a personal and professional level.

A representative from the Little Rock Police Department stated we met Doc many years ago and how we met was we had an training accident where someone fell off of a repel tower, injuries not so bad but he cracked his head open and Doc was there to stitch him up. Not being there at the time I can only tell you what was told to me and that was Doc had much enthusiasm and interest in helping law enforcement out. Over the years I have participated with Doc in training other physicians to take his place, in other cities across this state. He has spread this growth not only across this state but perhaps this country. He has always been there for us and we just want to thank him.

Dr. Leibovich has been a tremendous friend to law enforcement and above being a healer; he had been a friend, just love sharing this moment with him today.

DIVISION REPORTS:

Fiscal Report – Emma French

Ms. French gave an overview of the reports which were distributed to the Commission. She stated if you look at the report, it is mainly how we ended last year.
We left $104,000 to pay old year vouchers, as you know you have to leave some money to show that you could have paid any bills that come in after June 30, but you also have to take it out of this year’s monies. We are starting off the new fiscal year and our budget is going to be a little over $143 million and we are up and running.

Administrative Services – Harmony Daniels

Ms. Daniels presented an oral summary of the written report distributed to the Commission. She began by reporting the Human Resources/Personnel transactions for the month; we had three civilian new hires, two promotions, three voluntary resignations, two retirements, and two extra help new hires. The commissioned transactions included one reinstatement, one lateral transfer, and five retirements. We currently have four members on military deployments.

An update on Troop School, the 2015A Troop School is currently in its eighth week. There are 30 recruits remaining and graduation is scheduled for October 1.

Regarding the ASP Health Plan, the fund balance is higher than last month for a total fund balance of $8.1 million. The June paid claims were $971,587 which was an increase of $228,023 from last month. The average discount health care savings for the month of June was 67%. We will continue to monitor the fund balance, claims and savings utilization on a monthly basis.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commission Vice Chairman Guinn announced the Commission would go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:27 a.m. and the open meeting resumed at 10:50 a.m. Commission Vice Chairman Guinn announced personnel matters were discussed and no action was taken.

NEXT MEETING:

The next monthly meeting of the Commission will be held Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. with the Christopher Crim appeal hearing to follow adjournment at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Basore made a motion to change the date of the September meeting to Wednesday, September 9, Commissioner Christenson seconded and the motion passed. The September monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. with the Jassen Travis appeal hearing to follow adjournment at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Basore made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Christenson seconded and the motion passed. Commission Vice Chairman Guinn adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

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Commission Vice Chairman

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Commission Secretary