

MINUTES OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
October 07, 2020

The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Wednesday, October 07, 2020 at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission Chairperson Christenson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and since she was on conference call, she turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Basore.

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Commissioner Neff Basore, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Steve Edwards
Commissioner John Allison
Commissioner Jeffery Teague
Commissioner Jim Hinkle

MEMBERS ON CONFERENCE CALL:

Commissioner Jane Christenson, Chairperson
Commissioner Bill Benton, Secretary

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL ATTENDING:

Colonel Bill Bryant	Major Charles Hubbard
Major Forrest Marks	Major Mark Hollingsworth
Major Lindsey Williams	Sergeant Randall Murphy
Donna Humphries	Emma French
Sherry Woods	Captain Mike Moyer
Robin Gifford	Sergeant Rockey Rapert
Sergeant Levi Fleming	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sara Farris, Atty General's Office	Falaise Murphy
Heather Moyer	

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on October 05, 2020.

MINUTES:

Commission Vice Chairman Basore stated the minutes have been distributed to the commission, are there any changes or additions. Commissioner Hinkle made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2020 regular monthly commission meeting. Commissioner Teague seconded and the motion passed.

WEAPONS RESOLUTIONS:

Major Lindsey Williams presented the following resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS: Lieutenant Cora Gentry efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-five years, four months and sixteen days;

WHEREAS: Lieutenant Cora Gentry retired from this department August 31, 2020;

WHEREAS: Her 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: Lieutenant Cora Gentry has made formal request that her service weapon be retired with her and remain in her possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Wednesday, October 07, 2020, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, awards her, her Glock Model 19, Serial Number BMFZ736, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

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

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS: Lieutenant Cora Gentry efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-five years, four months and sixteen days;

WHEREAS: Lieutenant Cora Gentry retired from this department August 31, 2020;

WHEREAS: Her 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: Lieutenant Cora Gentry has made formal request that her shotgun be retired with her and remain in her possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Wednesday, October 07, 2020 in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number D585835M, that Lieutenant Cora Gentry has carried be affixed at \$100.00, and that Lieutenant Cora Gentry be permitted to purchase the shotgun for her personal use.

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

PROMOTION CERTIFICATES:

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Sergeant Rockey Rapert promoting him to Sergeant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop C, Craighead and Poinsett Counties.

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Sergeant Levi Fleming promoting him to Sergeant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop D Cross, Lee & St. Francis Counties.

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Sergeant Randall Murphy promoting him to Sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company A.

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Captain Michael Moyer promoting him to Captain in the Regulatory and Building Operations Division, Administration.

DIVISION REPORTS:

Fiscal Section – Emma French

Ms. French stated we are through our first quarter of this Fiscal Year. Our budget hearing is scheduled for October 22, so we are preparing for that. The only other thing I would mention is we have seen an increase in concealed handgun revenue, so we certified some additional money for that, but we hope that it is going to offset the increase in health insurance that we are going to have.

Commissioner Allison asked so how much revenue increase. Ms. French stated we did \$500,000 over the year. Commissioner Allison stated percentage increase. Ms. French stated I really do not remember, it wasn't a lot, but we are just seeing a very steady, almost every day there is three big tubs of concealed handgun applications.

Administrative Services – Major Charles Hubbard

Major Hubbard presented an oral summary of the written report. He began by reporting the Personnel transactions for the month. The uniformed noncommissioned transactions include three new hires and two transfers. The commissioned transactions include one promotion, one termination, and seven transfers. We currently have seven military deployments.

Regarding the ASP Health Plan, September paid claims were \$1,056,689 which was an increase of \$84,825 from last month. The fund balance is \$46,867 higher than last month for a total fund balance of \$9,157,467.00. The discount savings for August was 71%.

A quick overview regarding the 2021A Troop School, we currently have 74 backgrounds that are out being reviewed and once we get those back in then we will begin the oral interview process with Colonel Bryant. We expect to start that process the first part of November. Troop School will start January 10, 2021 and will graduate on April 01, 2021.

Commissioner Allison asked was there any trend on the health care, is it still just nip n tuck or are we growing a little bit. Major Hubbard stated it seems to be pretty steady right now. Of course that could change with a rise in claims at any time, but we are comfortable with where we are at as far as what we had expected in the beginning of the transition the first of the year. Commissioner Allison stated so you have seen about the same during the COVID as you saw prior to or just a little less. Major Hubbard stated we really haven't got a good overview of the COVID yet, so we hope before the end of the year we have a better grasp on those claims. It is really hard to tell at this point, as far as any big impact, we haven't seen that. Commissioner Allison stated the hospitals weren't doing surgeries for a period of time and they are back now.

Commission Vice Chairman Basore stated there are a lot of treatments not being done and the question is will they be caught up. Commissioner Allison stated that is a good point, you would think we would be down and then maybe expect a spike. Major Hubbard stated claims have been down this year, we have seen that so that could be part of it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commission Vice Chairman Basore asked Colonel Bryant if there was any new business. Colonel Bryant stated we have one promotion and some personnel matters to discuss in Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Allison made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of considering employment, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining, or resignation of employees, Commissioner Teague seconded and the motion passed. The Commission went into Executive Session at 9:14 a.m. Commission Vice Chairman Basore called the meeting back to order at 9:40 a.m. and stated Colonel Bryant you have some personnel matters you would like to present.

Colonel Bryant stated we have one promotion to consider today before the commission. It is an ASP Lieutenant position in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company B, Pine Bluff. Colonel Bryant stated my recommendation to the Commission is Sergeant Robert Wilson for the Lieutenant position in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company B. Commissioner Allison made a motion that Sergeant Robert Wilson be promoted to Lieutenant in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company B. Commissioner Hinkle seconded and the motion passed.

Colonel Bryant stated we also have for consideration by the Commission a reinstatement request from Gabe Chambers. Colonel Bryant stated a brief history, Gabe Chambers was originally hired by the Arkansas State Police in February, 2012, graduated troop school and was stationed in Troop D. In September, 2014 he was transferred to Troop L and worked there until August, 2017, when he resigned from the Arkansas State Police. In February, 2018, he applied for reinstatement, was reinstated by the ASP Commission went back to Troop L and then he transfer over to the Criminal Investigation Division, Company D. Due to personal family reasons, he resigned from the Arkansas State Police on March 4, 2020. Since the time he resigned from the Arkansas State Police, he has worked as a police officer in two police departments and both of them gave him high recommendations. He has requested reinstatement, to come back to work for the state police, he successfully passed the background and received high recommendations from former ASP employees and current ASP employees for outstanding work effort. What is the will of the commission?

Commissioner Teague made a motion that Gabe Chambers be reinstated as a trooper with the Arkansas State Police. Commissioner Allison seconded and the motion passed.

NEXT MEETING:

Commission Vice Chairman Basore stated the next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Colonel Bryant stated Vice Chairman you can go ahead and set a tentative date for Jarueben Lee. Commission Vice Chairman Basore stated the Jarueben Lee Appeal Hearing has been tentatively scheduled for the commission meeting date of June, 2021.

With no more business, Commissioner Allison made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Hinkle seconded and the motion passed. Commission Vice Chairman Basore adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Commission Chairperson

Commission Secretary