

MINUTES OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING
February 11, 2021

The Arkansas State Police Commission met via conference call on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission Chairman Basore called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS ON CONFERENCE CALL:

Commissioner Neff Basore, Chairman
Commissioner John Allison – Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Steve Edwards - Secretary
Commissioner Jeffery Teague
Commissioner Jim Hinkle
Commissioner Murray Benton, Sr.
Commissioner Ken Reeves

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL ON CONFERENCE CALL:

Colonel Bill Bryant
Major Charles Hubbard
Emma French

OTHERS PRESENT ON CONFERENCE CALL:

Sara Farris, Attorney General's Office

Commission Chairman Basore asked Colonel Bryant to call the roll. All ASP Commissioners were present on the conference call.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Chairman Basore led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on February 05, 2021.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2021 regular monthly commission meeting. Commissioner Hinkle seconded and the motion passed.

DIVISION REPORTS:

Fiscal Section – Emma French

Ms. French gave an overview of the reports which were distributed to the Commission. Ms. French stated our finances are fine. We have been notified by Legislative Audit that they will be here within the next 4 to 6 weeks to start our audit.

Administrative Services – Major Charles Hubbard

Major Hubbard presented an oral summary of the written report distributed to the Commission. He began by reporting the Human Resources/Personnel transactions for the month. The uniformed noncommissioned transactions include three new hires and one termination. The commissioned transactions include forty-three new hires, fourteen terminations, thirteen of those were voluntary resignations and one was a retirement, two promotions and six transfers. We currently have five military deployments.

Regarding the ASP Health Plan, January paid claims were \$827,300 which was a decrease of \$551,871 from last month and the fund balance is \$257,278 higher than last month for a total fund balance of \$9,384,134. The average discount savings for the month of December was 63%.

Just a quick brief on our Troop School, we currently have thirty-two recruits. They are in week three, everyone is doing really well. The training staff and recruits both are strictly following the COVID 19 guidelines that have been put into place and have done really well.

Currently the schedule is set for graduation on April 29, 2021 and that would include a two week break in April for the promotional process to take place. A lot of our staff are involved in the promotional process so that provides them some time to work through that process with everyone and so everyone involved with the recruits can take part in the promotional process.

Commission Chairman Basore stated to confirm Thursday, April 29, 2021 is the projected graduation date. Major Hubbard stated that is the projected date for now, of course that is if nothing else happens with the COVID situation and we don't have to delay anything, and we can stay on track with where we are right now. That would include the two weeks break in April and we would tentatively graduate the recruits on the 29th of April.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commission Chairman Basore stated we have Assistant Attorney General Sara Farris here, the John Talley Appeal that we decided a while back, the Attorney General's Office and representatives for Talley have met and agreed upon the language of which this final order has been drafted. It has been distributed, assuming everybody has familiarized themselves with it, are there any questions. Commission Chairman Basore asked Sara Farris is there any comments you need to make; we will have to take action on this. Sara Farris stated I would just like to stress I am happy to take any questions any commissioners have, but Robert Newcomb who is Mr. Talley's attorney and I have agreed on the terms of this amended final administrative order, which we need for purposes of the appeal. So, I would ask the commission to accept and adopt this amended final administrative order.

Commission Chairman Basore asked are there any questions by the commissioners. Commissioner Teague made a motion to approve the amended final administrative order as presented, Commissioner Allison seconded, and the motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commission Chairman Basore stated Colonel Bryant I believe we have some promotions and personnel matters to consider so we need to go into executive session, is that correct. Colonel Bryant stated yes sir that is correct. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of considering employment, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining, or resignation of employees, Commissioner Allison seconded, and the motion passed. The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:15 a.m.

Commission Chairman Basore called the meeting back to order at 10:48 a.m. and asked Colonel Bryant to take us through those promotion recommendations.

Colonel Bryant stated the first promotion will be a Lieutenant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop D. My recommendation to the Commission would be Sergeant Philip Hydron. Commissioner Edwards made a motion that Sergeant Philip Hydron be promoted to Lieutenant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop D. Commissioner Hinkle seconded and the motion passed.

The next promotion will be the Lieutenant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop L. My recommendation to the Commission would be Sergeant Brandon Margis. Commissioner Hinkle made a motion that Sergeant Brandon Margis be promoted to Lieutenant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop L. Commissioner Reeves seconded and the motion passed.

The next promotion will be the Lieutenant in the Regulatory and Building Operations Division. My recommendation to the Commission would be Sergeant Tiffany Dycus. Commissioner Hinkle made a motion that Sergeant Tiffany Dycus be promoted to Lieutenant in the Regulatory and Building Operations Division. Commissioner Benton seconded and the motion passed.

The next position is a Sergeant in the Administrative Services Division, Recruiting/Wellness. Colonel Bryant stated I am going to use the Director's discretion and laterally transfer Sergeant Zach Owens into the Sergeant position in Administrative Services, Recruiting/Wellness, so there will not be a vote on this position.

NEXT MEETING:

Commission Chairman Basore stated the next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

With no more business, Commission Chairman Basore asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Allison made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Edwards seconded, and the motion passed. Commission Chairman Basore adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Chairman

Commission Secretary