

Arkansas State Crime Laboratory Board Meeting
Minutes
July 12, 2019

The following board members were present:

- Chief Jackie Davis
- Chuck Graham
- Dr. Eric Rosenbaum
- Gary Smith
- Sheriff Tim Helder
- Dr. Ian Birkett

The following persons were present:

- Director Kermit Channell
- Assistant Director Cindy Moran
- Secretary of Dept. of Public Safety, Jami Cook
- Dr. Charles Kokes
- Ryan Black
- John Smith
- Carol Grinstead
- Kristin Mauldin
- Dr. Enoch Kuo, UAMS

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chuck Graham, and Carol Grinstead took roll. Six board members were present at the meeting and a quorum was made.

Approval of Minutes

Sheriff Helder made a motion to approve the board minutes from April 12, 2019. Chief Jackie Davis seconded that motion and the minutes were approved.

Crime Lab Update

Financial

John Smith gave the following financial update: FY2019, there was \$264,366.91 remaining in appropriations of general revenue. 1VM fund – asset forfeiture funds came in the second slowest in the last 15 years. We use it for JusticeTrax, equipment, maintenance agreements, vehicles & construction matching. Uniform Filing Fee came in \$78,180.53 ahead of budget.

Caseload Status

Cindy Moran presented the caseload status:

- Digital Evidence: Mobile is at 21 day TAT; Computers TAT is 41 days
- Firearms: All cases at 24 months TAT; Homicides at 4 months TAT; NIBIN at 15 days TAT.
- Latent Prints: Currently at 24 day TAT
- Drug Chemistry: TAT is at 5 months
- Toxicology: DUI/DWI at 29 day TAT; Coroner at 32 day TAT; Medical Examiner at 30 day TAT.
- Physical Evidence:
 - Trace: 24 day TAT
 - Serology: Sexual Assault at 20 day TAT; Homicide at 30 day TAT; Property at 8.5 months TAT
- DNA: Sexual Assault kits at 6 months TAT; Homicide is at 5 months TAT.
- CODIS: We had 304 hits from January – June.
- Medical Examiner: Still need (1) doctor; received additional ME position and morgue technician position on July 1.
 - NAME stats: 93% within 90 days; 60% within 60 days

Dr. Birkett joined the meeting at 11:30 a.m. Director Channell announced that Dr. Kokes will be retiring soon; he will be stepping down as Chief Medical Examiner but will remain a Forensic Pathologist here. We will advertise for a new Chief.

Pay plan has helped with employee retention; we have only lost 1 analyst in Q1 & Q2 of 2019.

Renovation of Serology lab is complete and all Physical Evidence analysts will now be in the same area. Open House to celebrate the opening of the new area will be August 5th.

Construction of the Lowell Lab is progressing well; hoping to do casework by September.

Digital Evidence has physically transferred its office to ASP headquarters.

New Business

- FORESIGHT 20/20: We look great compared to other labs nationally; we were awarded the Maximus award by them.
- ICITAP (International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program): Director Channell assisted the Dept. of Justice in Mexico at various laboratories.
- Arkansas Transformation: ASCL is now under Dept. of Public Safety lead by Secretary Jami Cook.

Charity & Outreach Projects: Latent Prints examiners went to Cabot Jr. High Police Academy to educate students on Latent Print techniques. We've raised \$890 towards the summer cereal drive from events Taco-walk-o-thon, Pi Day & Valentine's strawberries.

Ryan Black joined the meeting at 12:10 p.m. Sheriff Tim Helder motioned to adjourn, Chuck Graham seconded that motion, and the meeting was adjourned @ 12:10 p.m.