The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Commissioner Neff Basore, Chairman
Commissioner Steve Edwards, Secretary
Commissioner Jeffery Teague
Commissioner Jim Hinkle
Commissioner Murray Benton, Sr.
Commissioner Ken Reeves

MEMBERS ON CONFERENCE CALL:
Commissioner John Allison

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL PRESENT:
Colonel Bill Bryant
Major Forrest Marks
Major Jeff Drew
Major Lindsey Williams
Dan Mack
Captain Mike Moyer
Captain Paulette Ward
Veronica King
Lt. Colonel Shawn Garner
Major Charles Hubbard
Major Jason Aaron
Sherry Woods
Gary Glisson
Jenna Castleberry
Katlyn Nelson
Donna Humphries

OTHERS PRESENT:
Sara Farris, Attorney General’s Office
Rep. Mark Berry
J. R. Hankins, DPS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commission Chairman Basore led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on January 6, 2022.

ELECTION OF ASPC OFFICERS FOR 2021:

Commissioner Hinkle made a motion to move Item 4, the election of officers for 2022 and the passing of the gavel, to the end of the agenda, Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2021 regular monthly commission meeting. Commissioners Benton seconded, and the motion passed.

WEAPON RESOLUTIONS:

Lieutenant Colonel Shawn Garner presented the following resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Major David Lafferty efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-nine years, two months, and eight days;
WHEREAS: Major David Lafferty retired from this department November 30, 2021;
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:  Major David Lafferty 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, January 13, 2022, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, awards him, his Glock Model 17, Serial Number BMSA122, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

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

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS:  Major David Lafferty efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-nine years, two months, and eight days;

WHEREAS:  Major David Lafferty retired from this department November 30, 2021;

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:  Major David Lafferty 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, January 13, 2022, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number D588823M, that Major David Lafferty has carried be affixed at $100.00, and that Major David Lafferty be permitted to purchase the shotgun for his personal use.

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

Major Jason Aaron presented the following resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS:  Corporal Kelvin Stewart efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-seven years, two months, and twenty days;

WHEREAS:  Corporal Kelvin Stewart retired from this department November 30, 2021;

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 Kelvin Stewart 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, January 13, 2022, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, awards him, his Glock Model 17, Serial Number BMSA360, 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 Teague seconded, and the motion passed.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Corporal Kelvin Stewart efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-seven years, two months, and twenty days;

WHEREAS: Corporal Kelvin Stewart retired from this department November 30, 2021;

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 Kelvin Stewart 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, January 13, 2022 in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number D596794M, that Corporal Kelvin Stewart has carried be affixed at $100.00, and that Corporal Kelvin Stewart be permitted to purchase the shotgun for his personal use.

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

Fiscal Section – Jenna Castleberry

Jenna Castleberry presented an oral summary of the written report distributed to the Commission. Ms. Castleberry stated we have completed half of the Fiscal Year, we are at 50%, we did have to make a few adjustments to our revenues this month just to bring us closer to projection. Everything is fine and we will continue to watch that as we gear up for closing out this Fiscal Year. We are preparing for our Fiscal Session Budget Hearing, which is next Tuesday, January 18.

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, three terminations, and one promotion. The commissioned transactions include five terminations, four of those were retirements and one was just a voluntary, and we had one lateral transfer. Currently we have six military deployments.

Regarding the ASP Health Plan, December paid claims were $1,077,498.00 which was an increase of $186,728.00 from last month and the fund balance is $95,193.00 higher than last month for a total fund balance of $11,278,486.00. The average discount savings for the month of November was 66%.

A quick update on our Troop School we currently have 39 recruits that participated in the orientation this past Monday, and we will begin that Troop School Training on January 23. It is a 21-week school, and we hope to graduate the full class on June 16, 2022 if everything goes well.

Commissioner Teague stated I have a question and I don’t know if it is directed to you or the Colonel. In the Highway Patrol Division report, I was just looking at the hazardous arrests and speeding arrests and 0-15 is 1331, 16 or more is 3168, my question is that trending upward, is it static, or trending downward? Colonel Bryant stated it is trending up. Commissioner Teague asked significantly? Colonel Bryant stated yes. Major Marks stated what we have seen in 2019, the 100 plus mile an hour tickets that we have written in 2019 were about 1,000. In 2020, we have seen that number double and last year for 2021 same
thing. It has increased. Commissioner Teague stated it is doubling per year. Major Marks stated I wouldn’t say last year doubled, but it beat what we had for 2020. We are seeing a lot of speeds, of course our fatalities last year, we finished up in our fatalities and we are contributing that to speed and to distracted driving. Commissioner Teague stated that is profound and Major Marks stated I agree.

Commission Chairman Basore asked Colonel Bryant do we have a promotion to consider? Colonel Bryant stated yes Mr. Chairman, we have one ASP Sergeant in Company D.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of considering a promotion, Commissioner Teague seconded, and the motion passed. The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:10 a.m.

Commission Chairman Basore called the meeting back to order at 10:44 a.m. and asked Colonel Bryant if he had a recommendation.

Colonel Bryant my recommendation for Sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company D which is Benton, Carroll, Madison, and Washington Counties is Corporal Eric Lee. Commissioner Hinkle made a motion that Corporal Eric Lee be promoted to Sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company D. Commissioner Edwards seconded and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

STIPEND AND MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT:

Commission Chairman Basore asked for a motion to approve the stipend of $60.00 per meeting. Commissioner Reeves made the motion to approve the stipend payment and it was seconded by Commissioner Hinkle. The motion passed.

Commission Chairman Basore asked for a motion to approve the mileage reimbursement. Commissioner Benton made the motion to approve the mileage reimbursement and it was seconded by Commissioner Teague. The motion passed.

Commissioner Hinkle asked Chairman Basore if he knows what the mileage reimbursement is? Chairman Basore stated I think it is .58 cents. Donna Humphries stated it is .42 cents a mile.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR 2022:

Commission Chairman Basore stated the new Chairman will appoint those and notify the Commissioners who will serve on the committee at a later date.

NEXT MEETING:

Commission Chairman Basore stated the next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

The ASP Commission is requesting a continuance in the Misael Ramos Appeal Hearing from the February Meeting due to the prevalence of COVID and not knowing which way that is going to go.

ELECTION OF ASPC OFFICERS FOR 2022:

Commissioner Hinkle made a motion that Commissioner Steve Edwards be elected Chairman for 2022. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Reeves and passed.

Commissioner Hinkle made a motion that Commissioner Murray Benton be elected Vice-Chairman for 2022. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Reeves and passed.

Commissioner Hinkle made a motion that Commissioner Jeff Teague be elected Secretary for 2022. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Reeves and passed.
Commission Chairman Basore stated the new Chair is Steve Edwards and here is your gavel.

Newly elected Commission Chairman Steve Edwards stated I would like to present to Neff Basore a plaque for his serving as Chairman and for all of the years he has served on the Commission. Thank you, sir, we appreciate you.

Commissioner Neff Basore stated I can’t say it hasn’t been an interesting seven years. Not to mention the last year, sometimes were more fun than others but for the most part I think it was productive. The best thing is that we made it through the year without anybody getting seriously hurt and we can thank God for that. Thank you all very much.

Commissioner Edwards stated my first order of business is a move to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Edwards adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.