

MINUTES OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
July 14, 2022

The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission Chairman Edwards called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Steve Edwards, Chairman  
Commissioner Jim Hinkle  
Commissioner Ken Reeves  
Commissioner Neff Basore

ON CONFERENCE CALL:

Commissioner John Allison

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Murray Benton, Sr., Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Jeffery Teague, Secretary

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL PRESENT:

Colonel Bill Bryant	Major Forrest Marks
Major Stacie Rhoads	Major Charles Hubbard
Lieutenant Aaron Easley	Lieutenant Bobby Brown
Sergeant Phillip Roark	Jenna Castleberry
Amy Dick	TFC Marcus Simpson
Captain Mike Moyer	Sergeant Shawn Mason
Captain Scott Woodward	Captain David Williams
Sherry Woods	Gary Glisson
Captain Chris Goodman	Captain Roby Rhoads
Captain Paulette Ward	Corporal Trey Keller
Corporal Richie Whitley	Sergeant Marcus Daniels
TFC Dean Pitchford	Ashley Easterly

OTHERS PRESENT:

Daniel Faulkner, Attorney General's Office	J. R. Hankins, DPS
Colonel Anthony Sanders, Army National Guard	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commission Chairman Edwards led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on July 11, 2022.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 02, 2022 regular monthly commission meeting. Commissioner Hinkle seconded, and the motion passed.

WEAPON RESOLUTIONS:

Major Forrest Marks presented the following resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Trooper Jeffery Lovelis efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of four years, three months, and six days;

WHEREAS: Trooper Jeffery Lovelis retired from this department May 31, 2022;

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: Trooper Jeffery Lovelis 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 14, 2022, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, awards him, his Glock Model 17, Serial Number BMSA215, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

Commissioner Basore 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: Trooper Jeffery Lovelis efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of four years, three months, and six days;

WHEREAS: Trooper Jeffery Lovelis retired from this department May 31, 2022;

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: Trooper Jeffery Lovelis 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 14, 2022 in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number RS03365V, that Trooper Jeffery Lovelis has carried be affixed at \$100.00, and that Trooper Jeffery Lovelis 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 Basore seconded, and the motion passed.

Major Forrest Marks presented the following resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

R E S O L U T I O N

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

WHEREAS: Corporal Michael Springer succumbed to illness on February 12, 2022;

WHEREAS: The loss of Corporal Michael Springer creates a void in the hearts of law enforcement officers and upstanding citizens everywhere; and

WHEREAS: Corporal Michael Springer's 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;

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 14, 2022, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, awards his Glock Model 17, Serial Number BMSA616, to his spouse as a token of their esteem.

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

R E S O L U T I O N

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

WHEREAS: Corporal Michael Springer succumbed to illness on February 12, 2022;

WHEREAS: The loss of Corporal Michael Springer creates a void in the hearts of law enforcement officers and upstanding citizens everywhere; and

WHEREAS: Corporal Michael Springer's 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;

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 14, 2022 in accordance with Act 547 of 2003, determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number D597237M, that Corporal Michael Springer had carried be affixed at \$100.00, and that his spouse be permitted to purchase the shotgun as a token of their esteem.

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

PROMOTION CERTIFICATE:

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Major Stacie Rhoads promoting her to Major in the Criminal Investigation Division.

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Lieutenant Aaron Easley promoting him to Lieutenant in Highway Patrol Division, Troop B.

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Sergeant Shawn Mason promoting him to Sergeant in Administrative Services Division, Training.

Colonel Bill Bryant presented a promotion certificate to Sergeant Phillip Roark promoting him to Sergeant in Highway Patrol Division, Troop B, Lawrence and Sharp Counties.

NALOXONE AWARDS:

Lieutenant Aaron Easley stated on December 2, 2020 Trooper First Class Marcus Simpson was monitoring local radio transmission while working on Highway 67 near the 84-mile marker. While working, he learned of an unresponsive male at a nearby apartment complex. Trooper First Class Simpson was the first person on scene and, after assessing the situation, determined the male was likely a victim of an opioid overdose. Trooper First Class Simpson was able to administer a dose of Narcan, reversing the effects of the drug. Trooper First Class Simpson's quick actions undoubtedly prevented the death of the male subject.

Colonel Bryant presented a Naloxone Lifesaving Award to TFC Marcus Simpson

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AWARD:

Colonel Anthony Sanders stated that he was here on behalf Major General Kendall Penn. He is the Deputy Director of Military Support. He is here today to present the Arkansas Adjutant General's Diamond Award to Lieutenant Bobby Brown. As one of the family resounding of the Arkansas Army National Quick Reaction Response Force, Lieutenant Brown has ensured the successful partnership with the Army National Guard support operations. His expertise and capabilities have directly affected the safety of the citizens and the communities we serve. The training Lieutenant Brown has been able to provide our soldiers and airmen has directly influenced the success of many missions, including the mission of the summer of 2020. General Penn sends his gratitude on behalf of the soldiers and the airmen of the Arkansas Army National Guard and looks forward to future partnerships with the Arkansas State Police.

Colonel Sanders presented the lucrative Diamond Award that reads the Arkansas National Guard presents the Adjutant General's Diamond Award to Lieutenant Bobby Brown in appreciation for the leadership and dedication to the soldiers and airmen of the Arkansas National Guard. Always Ready, Always There.

Fiscal Section – Jenna Castleberry

Jenna Castleberry presented an oral summary of the written report distributed to the Commission. Ms. Castleberry stated June was a fast and busy month for us. We wrapped the fiscal year and ended well. Ms. Castleberry stated that we are currently busy planning the biennium budget due next week on Thursday. We are working hard to get that prepared and submitted. We are also in the middle of the new year start-up processes, so we have a lot going on. Our fuel average for FY22 ended at \$3.12 a gallon. We had budgeted \$2.05 a gallon for that year. It was over, but we were able to manage, and we are doing fine. We budgeted \$4.50 a gallon for this coming year.

Commissioner Hinkle asked Colonel Bryant if we have reduced travel any because of the increase in cost of fuel as far as patrol time is concerned? Colonel Bryant stated no sir, we are still operating at full capacity right now. Jenna and John Smith have done an excellent job at looking at our budget and we are able to continue operations remaining to that fact.

Administrative Services – Major Charles Hubbard

Major Charles 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 four new hire and three terminations. The commissioned transactions include two promotions, eleven terminations, which he will add that ten of those were retirements, so our agency took a large hit on our commission side on our retirements. We also had three transfers last month. Currently we have two military deployments.

Regarding the ASP Health Plan, June's paid claims were \$1,418,150.00 which was an increase of \$429,014.00 from last month. The fund balance is \$243,217.00 higher than last month for a total fund balance of \$11,761,952.00. For the month of May, we had an average of 67% discount savings.

Major Hubbard stated just a quick update on our recruiting efforts for our next troop school in 2023, I checked the numbers this morning and we had close to 226 applicants in the cue for troop school, which is pretty good. That number is up from about 50 last week, so we are showing some improvement, and we are getting some numbers coming in and looking forward to that school coming up next year.

Colonel Bryant asked Major Hubbard to discuss with the Commissioners about the upcoming recruiting video and what our plans are with that. Major Hubbard stated sure. We have been working on a recruitment video. We are always trying to find new ways to get the public's attention so that we can get those qualified applicants names in the cue. And this time around, we have been pushing out on social media as well as commercial that we have come up with that will be, hopefully in the next few weeks, getting it out on live stream, which is a service that's provided for T.V. that lets us basically live stream networks, rather than just the cable T.V. This is an internet source for us to be able to reach out to the public, but we will also be putting this out on regular network as well in the future.

Commissioner Hinkle stated that it will be interesting to see the results when that video hits, maybe next month you might have some numbers for us to see if there is definite uptick in applications after this video. Major Hubbard stated yes sir, I agree. Commission Chairman Edwards stated that we just saw a preview of that, and I would like to commend you all on the work. It looked really nice.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Commission Chairman Edwards asked do we have any new business to discuss. Colonel Bryant stated yes, Mr. Chairman, we have two to discuss in Executive Session, but I have one for an ASP Lieutenant's slot, Highway Patrol, Troop F. I am going to use Director's Discretion and laterally transfer Lieutenant Alex Krneta from Troop E to Troop F. Besides that, we have two, the Lieutenant in Company D and the Major in Regulatory.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to go into Executive Session to consider promotion to Lieutenant, in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company D and promotion to Major in Regulatory. Commissioner Basore seconded. The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:27 a.m.

Commission Chairman Edwards called the meeting back to order at 11:25 a.m. Commission Chairman Edwards asked Colonel Bryant if we had promotions to address.

Colonel Bryant stated thank you Mr. Chairman, the first promotion will be the ASP Lieutenant in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company D. My recommendation to the commission would be Sergeant Phillip Pierce. Commissioner Basore made a motion that Sergeant Phillip Pierce be promoted to Lieutenant in the Criminal Investigation Division, Company D. Commissioner Reeves seconded, and the motion passed.

Colonel Bryant stated the next position is an ASP Major position in the Regulatory Division. My recommendation to the commission would be Captain Michael Moyer. Commissioner Reeves made a motion that Captain Michael Moyer be promoted to Major in the Regulatory Division. Commissioner Basore seconded, and the motion passed.

Commission Chairman Edwards stated we did the lateral. Colonel Bryant stated yes sir that is already on the record.

Commission Chairman Edwards stated we have scheduled the Aaron Keith Appeal Hearing for August 11. The commission will meet at 10:00 a.m., followed by the appeal hearing at 11:00 a.m. or upon adjournment of the Commission meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

Commission Chairman Edwards stated the next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Commission Chairman Edwards asked if there was any other business?

Commissioner Hinkle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Basore seconded, and Commission Chairman Edwards adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

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Commission Chairman

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Commission Secretary