

COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

JULY 11-12, 2023

ARKANSAS STATE POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Meeting called to order at 10:00 A. M.

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Doc Holladay
Vice Chair Barry Phillips
Mr. Thomas Marsh
Sheriff Phillip Miller
Mr. Richard Wingard
Dr. James Golden
Major Stacie Rhoads

Commissioners Absent:

Sheriff Lafayette Woods
Chief Mike Reynolds

Others Present:

CLEST Director Chris Chapmond
Chief Heath Helton
CLEST Deputy Director Brad King
CLEST Deputy Director Fred Weatherspoon
CLEST Attorney Eric Wacaster
Kreasha Williams, DPS Legal Services Specialist
Sue Albritton, CLEST Administrative Assistant
Charles Moulton, Hearing Officer
Trish Hendrix, Court Reporter
Kaleisha Wise, CLEST Agent
Brian Johnson, CLEST Agent
Jesi Feld, DPS Attorney
John Redman, Trumann PD
Janie Runkle, DPS Communications
Tia Marsh
Corey Wilson, Lee County Sheriff's Office
Justin Tapley, Lt. Governor's Office
Darrell Crowder
James Atchley, Texarkana Police Department
Jamie Crowder

Commission Meeting Minutes
July 11, 12, 2023
Page 2

Timothy Turley, Lee County Sheriff's Office
Daniel Strickland, Helena/West Helena School District
Drew Evans, Lt. Governor's Office
Tess Bradford, DPS Attorney
Elizabeth Taylor, Department of Corrections/DCC
Jamie Keys, Department of Corrections/DCC
Luke Roe
Shelby Roe
Ben Bristow, Attorney

Present July 12, 2023:

Selvain McQueen, Stamps, Police Department	Michelle Pounders
Todd Gray, Turrell Police Department	Kris Spangler, Lowell Police Department
Tia Marsh	Tim Kuth, Lowell Police Department
S. Phonexayphona, Lowell Police Department	Robert Drake
Elbert Lee Bones, Arkansas City Police Department	Ricardo Cleveland
Perry Jennings, Turrell Police Department	Danny Williams, Attorney
Denise Richardson, Pine Bluff Police Department	Janie Runkle, DPS Communications
Rodney Davenport, Arkansas State Police	Mike Pitts, Eudora Police Department
Randy Harvey, Benton County Sheriff's Office	Travis Dotson, City of Huntsville
Chris Flanagan, Attorney	Todd Thomas, Huntsville Police Department
Daniel R. Field, Arkansas Public Defender	Jessica Fritts, Huntsville City Attorney
Jonathan Taylor, Huntsville Police Department	Chasity Taylor
Zachary Carothers	Lynn Taylor
James Taylor	Regina Harvey
Eric Evans, Dermott Police Department	Carl McCree, Dermott Police Department
Jesi Feld, DPS Attorney	

A motion to accept the minutes of the May 11, 2023, meeting was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item I: Item one was a request from the Division of Community Correction for an extension for Brittnei Eastman under CLEST Rule 1002. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item II: Item two was a request from the Lee County Sheriff's Office for an extension for Timothy Turley under CLEST Rule 1002. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

Item III: Item three was a request from the Lt. Governor's Office to establish its own police department under ACA 12-9-118. Having met all the requirements, a motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item IV: Item four was a request from the Texarkana Police Department to withdraw the decertification request for former Officer Danielle Thompson. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item V: Item five was a request from the Springdale Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Crystal Walker. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item VI: Item six was a request from the Sherwood Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Jonathan Moores. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item VII: Item seven was a request from the Magnolia Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Lisa Miller. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item VIII: Item eight was a request from the Division of Community Correction for the decertification of former Officer Tonya Robinson. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Marsh and seconded by Commissioner Wingard. Motion carried.

Item IX: Item nine was a request from the Bentonville Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Vincent McCullough. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item X: Item ten was a request from the West Fork Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Christopher Cordeiro. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item XI: Item eleven was a request from the Ft. Smith Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Isaias Ramirez. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item XII: Item twelve was a request from the Ft. Smith Police Department for the decertification of former Officer William Willard. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XIII: Item thirteen was a request from the Brinkley Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Jacob Gammel. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

At the conclusion of the regular meeting, decertification hearings were held. Two (2) Consent Agreements were presented for **Justin Babbitt** and **Joshua Cannon** for a final vote. Commissioner Rhoads made a motion to accept the Consent Agreements and decertify. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried. Five (5) Uncontested Hearings were conducted for **Zachary Purrington, Brandisha Hargraves, Audrey Reed, Grant Swearingin, and Jonathan Cruise**. Commissioner Phillips made a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law had been met and to decertify. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried.

On July 11, 2023, Contested Hearings were held for **Luke Roe, Darrell Crowder and Danielle Thompson**. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Rhoads that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify **Luke Roe**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Miller that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify **Darrell Crowder**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Rhoads that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law have been met but do not rise to the level of decertification, and to not decertify **Danielle Thompson**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

On July 12, 2023, Contested Hearings were held for **Ricardo Cleveland, Jonathan Taylor, Christopher Sweeny, Perry Jennings, and Michelle Pounders**. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Rhoads that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had not been met and to not decertify **Ricardo Cleveland**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Rhoads that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met but do not rise to the level of decertification, and to not decertify **Jonathan Taylor**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Rhoads that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify **Christopher Sweeny**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Miller that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify **Perry Jennings**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. After hearing all evidence presented, a motion was made by Commissioner Miller that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify **Michelle Pounders**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried. All hearings were presided over by Hearings Officer Charles Moulton and recorded by Trish Hendrix. A total of twelve (12) officers were decertified and three (3) officers were not decertified.

Director's Report:

Director Chapmond reported that he would be attending NWALETA, CALETA and ALETA graduations later in the month. He advised that CALETA would move from Camp Robinson on August 15, 2023 and that negotiations were underway with UAPTC to host the CALETA academies at the North Little Rock campus. He reported that Agent Territha Reed is leaving Standards, that Agent Amanda Chaney will be promoted to her position as the statewide CIT Coordinator and that Agent Chaney's vacant position will be advertised. He also reported that Educational Training Coordinator Mandy Hill is leaving Standards and will be replaced by Barbara Varnell. That Administrative positions were advertised and interviews conducted for both Central and NW, being processed. That he would be attending the personnel subcommittee approval to combine two GS03 positions into a GS07 assitant online education coordinator and that additional stipend assignments will be moving forward with ongoing meetings this month to determine new rules and deadlines.