

MINUTES

Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)

May 14, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Warren Byrd called the meeting of **Louisiana Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority (LATIFPA)** to order at 10:07 a.m. Director Denise Cassano called the roll.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Mr. Warren E. Byrd, Chairman
Treasurer John Kennedy by Jason Stagg, Designee
Lieutenant Allen Carpenter
Mr. Richard Soileau
Mr. Terrance Apple
Mr. Thomas McCormick

Members Absent

Representative A.B. Franklin
Senator Troy Hebert
Mr. Ryan Marine
Mr. Larry Hinton

Staff Members Present

Ms. Denise Cassano
Mr. Kevin Smith
Ms. Alydia Washington
Ms. Virginia G. Benoist, Assistant Attorney General
and Legal Counsel to the Louisiana Department of Insurance

Staff Members Absent

Chairman Byrd declared that a quorum was present. The minutes of the February 5, 2009 board meeting were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Lieutenant Allen Carpenter to adopt the minutes as presented. Mr. Jason Stagg seconded that motion. The minutes of the February 5, 2009 meeting were approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

Director Cassano gave a report on the **LATIFPA** billboard buy. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas McCormick to approve the billboard buy as presented and its design. The motion was seconded by Lieutenant Carpenter. The billboard buy was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

Lieutenant Carpenter gave a report on the March 19, 2009 meeting of the **LATIFPA** Steering Committee on Equipment Purchases. This report contained a series of recommendations by the committee. Several motions were made in response to those recommendations.

The first motion was made by Mr. Richard Soileau to approve the purchase of a fourth camera from PIPS Technology for the Baton Rouge Police Department License Plate Reader at a cost of \$4,905. The motion was seconded by Mr. Terrance Apple. The motion was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

A second motion was made by Mr. Soileau to approve the New Orleans Police Department as the next grant recipient for a second license plate reader funded by **LATIFPA** through its Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the National Insurance Crime Bureau. This motion was seconded by Mr. Apple. The motion was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

A third motion was made by Mr. Soileau and seconded by Mr. Stagg to approve the purchase of a PIPS New Generation three camera license plate reader system at a cost of \$ 19,217.50 for placement with the New Orleans Police Department. The motion was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

A fourth motion was made by Mr. Soileau to approve the Lafayette Police Department as the next grant recipient for a third license plate reader funded by **LATIFPA** through its Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the National Insurance Crime Bureau. Mr. Apple seconded that motion. The motion was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

A fifth motion was made by Mr. Soileau and seconded by Mr. Stagg to approve the purchase of a PIPS New Generation three camera license plate reader system at a cost of \$19,217.50 for placement with the Lafayette Police Department. The motion was approved and adopted by unanimous consent.

Director Cassano gave a report on fundraising efforts and expenditures of **LATIFPA**. The report was accepted as given.

Due to the absence of Mr. Charles Peters of the National Crime Insurance Bureau, Director Cassano gave a report on the license plate reader in operation in Baton Rouge and a report on the installation and operation of the license plate reader granted to the New Orleans Police Department. Director Cassano further reported on the bait vehicle deployment activity in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Shreveport and Bossier City.

Board members discussed the placement of bait vehicles in the future. It was suggested that consideration be given to moving the bait vehicles around amongst the various law enforcement agencies in the **LATIFPA** bait vehicle program. Chairman Byrd asked the staff to make a chart listing the current locations of the bait vehicles, the car make and model in the various locations and the length of time each bait vehicle has been in a particular location for review at the next quarterly board meeting. The board members also requested that staff send notice and accept selection applications from the law enforcement agencies around the state with city populations over 50,000 for placement of a bait vehicle.

Assistant Director Kevin Smith gave a report on the middle school curriculum presentations. Assistant Director Smith informed the board members on the school commitments that have been received to date for the 2009-2010 school year. Assistant Director Smith also reported on the recent vehicle theft prevention presentation given at Louisiana State University. He further informed the board members on the commitments that have been received to make other college presentations.

Ms. Alydia Washington gave a report on the high school curriculum presentations.

Discussions were held regarding the most effective way to spend the remaining balance of **LATIFPA** allocated self-generated revenue for fiscal year 2008/2009. There were recommendations for both lapel stickers and lanyards for distribution in the middle and high schools as part of the **LATIFPA** school education program on vehicle theft and vehicle theft prevention. The potential for purchasing shirts with the **LATIFPA** logo was also brought up for discussion. It was concluded by the board that the **LATIFPA** staff would research all options and make the final decision.

Chairman Byrd advised board members of their reporting obligations to the Louisiana Board of Ethics which were due on or before May 15, 2009.

Director Cassano announced that because of budget cuts that Ms. Washington would no longer be working with the **LATIFPA** staff in the Louisiana Department of Insurance.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.