

LHSC COMISSION MEETING MINUTES

December 6, 2021

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Louisiana Highway Safety Commission

7919 Independence Boulevard

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

CALL TO ORDER:

Commission Members were welcomed by Commission Chairman Jim Craft and Executive Director Lisa Freeman. Commissioner Craft introduced the newly appointment Commission Members. All members were emailed packets containing the following information: Meeting Agenda, Ethics presentation, Information and Guidance to the Drug Policy Board regarding the establishment of Policy Positions, Resolution to Oppose the Legalization of Marijuana for Recreational Use in Louisiana, Voting Ballots and FY2022 Meeting Dates.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Craft, Chairman
Commissioner Oxley, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Blache
Commissioner Snow
Commissioner Dair
Commissioner Elder
Commissioner Hull
Commissioner Mack
Commissioner Pohlmann
Commissioner Skains
Commissioner Tyson
Commissioner Green

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:

Commission Chairman Craft asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June, 2021 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Green wanted the June, 2021 minutes to reflect proxy was given but Commissioners cast individual votes. Commissioner Blache offered the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Skains, and without objection, the minutes of the meetings were approved.

ETHICS OVERVIEW – Recusal from Voting/Discussion:

Faye Morrison, Attorney – DPS – Office of Legal Affairs (see entries below)

- DPS Staff Attorney addressed the ethics overview regarding the voting discussion/recusal process and invited questions/concerns from the Commissioners.

Consideration & Voting Items:

- Drug Policy Board Resolution re: Legalization of Recreational Marijuana
 - District Attorney Warren Montgomery (Washington/St. Tammany Parishes) briefly discussed the resolution which he authored and is presenting to the Drug Policy Board, requiring LHSC to register a vote at the January, 2022 DPB Meeting, on which the LHSC Executive Director sits. D.A. Montgomery responded to questions and comments from Commissioners, after which time, Chairman Craft called for the motion to vote and allow Executive Director Freeman to represent the Commission on the Drug Policy Board, taking a policy position by voting in favor of the resolution to Oppose the Legalization of Marijuana for Recreational Use in Louisiana. Commissioner Skains offered the related motion, seconded by Commissioner Mack, which passed with one vote in opposition.

- Dissolution and Re-establishment of LHSC Executive Committee authorized by R.S. 48:1356
 - Commissioner Chairman Craft informed the Commission of the Re-Established Executive Committee for LHSC which consist of Commissioner Oxley, Blache, Pohlman, Tyson and Snow. Commissioner Skains offered the motion to accept the Re-Established Executive Committee, which was seconded by Commissioner Green, and without objection, the motion passed.

GRANT FUNDING AMENDMENTS & VOTING:

Deputy Director Cummins presented programmatic overviews, emphasis areas/amended project funding recommendations for the following:

- DWI Court – 4th JDC (Quachita & Morehouse Parishes)
 - DWI Court – 14th JDC (Calcasieu Parish)
 - DWI Court – 32nd JDC (Terrebonne Parish)
 - American Bar Association Judicial Outreach Liaison
 - NHTSA – Required Observational Seat Belt Survey
- Formal ballots were submitted and Commission Mack moved to approve the amended project funding recommendations, seconded by Commissioner Pohlman, and with no objection, the amended project funding recommendations for FFY21-22 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Director Freeman updated the Commission that all of LHSC's audits were closed and findings were corrected, and informed the Commissioners that the recent federal management review (audit) resulted in no findings and issued a commendation to LHSC regarding the diversity outreach efforts and initiatives.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Chairman Craft and Executive Director Freeman welcomed the newly appointed Commissioner and allowed members to introduce themselves.

- Commissioner Dair – MADD - Victim Services Specialist
- Commissioner Mack – Retired Captain, Baton Rouge Police Department
- Commissioner Elder –Physician, Greater New Orleans
- Commissioner Hull – Beyond the Badge Foundation – Founder
-

ADJOURNMENT:

After the presentation of new business, Commission Chairman Craft called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mack, seconded by Commissioner Blache, and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Freeman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Lisa Freeman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.