

#### ACTION/MINUTES

John Bel Edwards Governor

## LOUISIANA STATE POLICE COMMISSION GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020 <u>9:00 A.M.</u>

Jason Hannaman Executive Director

### STATE POLICE COMMISSION, VETERANS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM, SUITE 1247, DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY BLDG., 5825 FLORIDA BLVD., BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

### I. <u>Call to Order</u> The State Police Commission convened its monthly general business meeting at 9:23 A.M. on Thursday, November 12, 2020.

II. <u>Roll Call</u>

Present were Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr., Vice-Chairman Brian Crawford, Commissioners Leonard Knapp, Jr., Robert Mire, Jared Caruso-Riecke, and Harold Pierite, Sr. There was a quorum. Additionally, Commission Referee Lenore Feeney and Executive Director Jason Hannaman were present.

- III. <u>Moment of Silence</u> A moment of silence was observed.
- IV. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. <u>Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others concerning items on</u> the agenda. (Please submit a speaker request form prior to the meeting being called to order.) No comments.

# VI. Business

 <u>Consideration of the October 8, 2020 regular business meeting minutes.</u> On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and passed; the Commission voted to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2020 business meeting.

> In Favor: All Opposed: None

2. Consideration of a request from the Office of State Police, in accordance with SPC Rule 12.5, to place Trooper Michael Satcher on suspension without pay pending criminal proceedings until the resolution of these criminal charges, or there is no longer a need for the suspension. (Representative of the agency to be available to answer any questions of the Commission.)

Michele Giroir, DPS Attorney, and LSP Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Doug Cain, appeared on behalf of the Department of Public Safety, Office of State Police.

On motion duly made by Commissioner Knapp, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Commission voted to approve the request of the department to place Trooper Michael Satcher on suspension without pay pending criminal proceedings until the resolution of these criminal charges, or there is no longer a need for the suspension.

In Favor: All Opposed: None 3. <u>Consideration of a request from the Office of State Police for reinstatement of 185.95</u> hours of sick leave for State Police Master Trooper Patrick Bell per SPC Rule 11.21.1. (Representative of the agency to be available to answer any questions of the <u>Commission.</u>)

Chairman Simien recused himself from this agenda item. Vice-Chairman Crawford presided over consideration of the agency's request.

Susan Hudson, DPS Human Resources Specialist, appeared on behalf of the department to answer questions of the commissioners.

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to approve the request for reinstatement of 185.95 hours of sick leave for State Police Master Trooper Patrick Bell per SPC Rule 11.21.1.

In Favor: All Opposed: None Recused: Chairman Simien

The Commission went into recess at 9:34 A.M.; Chairman Simien called the meeting back to order at 9:43 A.M.

4. In the matter of Joey Schouest (Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police), Docket No. 20-245-T. Jill L. Craft and W. Brett Conrad, Jr. represent the Appellant, Joey Schouest, Michele Giroir and Jericha Remondet represent the Office of State Police.

Commissioner Mire recused himself from this agenda item.

The Commission conducted a public hearing in the matter of Joey Schouest (Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police), Docket No. 20-245-T.

a. Public hearing

Brett Conrad, legal counsel representing the appellant, and Michelle Giroir and Jericha Remondet, legal counsel representing the Department of Public Safety (DPS), appeared before the Commission on behalf of their clients.

The Commission went into recess at 10:49 A.M.; Chairman Simien called the meeting back to order at 11:02 A.M.

The Commission went into recess at 11:46 A.M.; Chairman Simien called the meeting back to order at 12:34 P.M.

The Commission went into recess at 1:48 P.M.; Chairman Simien called the meeting back to order at 2:03 P.M.

The Commission went into recess at 3:15 P.M.; Chairman Simien called the meeting back to order at 3:27 P.M.

b. <u>Executive Session to discuss investigative proceedings regarding</u> <u>allegations of misconduct</u>

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Commission voted to go into Executive Session at 4:40 P.M. to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct.

**Roll Call Vote:** 

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Brian Crawford, Commissioners Leonard Knapp, Harold Pierite, Sr., Jared Caruso-Riecke, and Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr.

**Opposed:** None

**Recused:** Robert Mire

Commissioner Mire excused himself from the meeting room during the Executive Session.

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Commission voted to end Executive Session at 5:02 P.M.

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Brian Crawford, Leonard Knapp, Harold Pierite, Sr., Jared Caruso-Riecke, and Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr. Opposed: None Recused: Robert Mire

c. <u>Public discussion of appeal and possible vote</u>

On motion duly made by Commissioner Knapp, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Commission voted to affirm the decision of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections as set forth in the letter of February 4, 2020.

In Favor: All Opposed: None Recused: Robert Mire

5. Consideration of a Motion to Take from the Table the consideration of Chapter 11 rule changes as promulgated in General Circular 203 on January 29, 2020. On motion duly made by Commissioner Knapp, seconded, and unanimously passed; The Commission voted to remove from the table and bring back on the agenda on January 14, 2021.

In Favor: All Opposed: None

VII. Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others on matters not on the agenda. (Please submit a speaker request form prior to the meeting being called to order.) No comments.

#### VIII. Director's Report

- <u>Commission Vacancy</u> Executive Director Hannaman conveyed his understanding that a selection has been made to fill the SPC Commissioner vacancy for the 2nd Congressional District; however, formal written notice has not yet been received from the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions.
- <u>Election of the Employee Member of the Commission</u> Two classified employees of the state police service have qualified for the upcoming election to be held on December 4, 2020.
- <u>Annual Training</u> The attention of the Commission was directed to the required annual training that needs to be completed by the end of the calendar year.
- <u>Commission Expenditures</u> The attention of the Commission was directed to the Commission's Monthly Expenditure Report that had been provided for its review. There were no questions or comments about the Report.
- IX. Adjourn

There being no further business on a motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Commission voted to adjourn at 5:04 P.M. on Thursday, November 12, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Hannaman, Executive Director

Eulis Simien, Jr., Chairman