



ACTIONS/MINUTES

LOUISIANA STATE POLICE COMMISSION
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023
9:00 A.M.

John Bel Edwards
Governor

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. Call to Order

The State Police Commission convened its monthly general business meeting at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, September 14, 2023.

Chairman Simien introduced our newest member to the Commission Mr. Tony Pierite.

II. Roll Call

Present were Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr., Vice-Chairman Brian Crawford, Commissioners Monty Montelongo, Jared Caruso-Riecke, Bernell Nevil, Jr., Mark "Aubrey" Cole, and Tony Pierite. There was a quorum. Additionally, Commission Referee Lenore Feeney, Deputy Director Aarika Dorsey, and Executive Director Jason Hannaman were present.

III. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Eulis Simien led the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others concerning items on the agenda. (Please submit a speaker request form prior to the meeting being called to order.) There were no requests by employees or others to address the Commission on matters on the agenda.

VI. Business

1. Consideration of the meeting minutes from August 10, 2023

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to approve the meeting minutes from August 10, 2023.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

2. In the matter of Russell Graham (Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police), Docket No. 22-264-S. Mary Ann White representing Mr. Graham. Gail Holland and Tunde M. Animashaun represent the Office of State Police.

• Public hearing – concluded August 10, 2023

Attorney Mary Ann White appeared on behalf of the appellant, Lt. Russell Graham. Attorneys Gail Holland and Tunde M. Animashaun appeared on behalf of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police.

- Executive Session to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session to discuss issues regarding allegations of misconduct at 9:02 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Commissioners Cole, Montelongo, Nevil, Riecke, Pierite, Vice-Chairman Crawford, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

Prior to entering the Executive Session, Chairman Simien noted for the record that Vice-Chairman Brian Crawford was not present for the hearing, and neither was new Commissioner Tony Pierite; therefore, they are not participating in the discussions of this matter.

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to end Executive Session at 9:47 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Commissioners Cole, Montelongo, Nevil, Riecke, Pierite, Vice-Chairman Crawford, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

- Public discussion of appeal and possible vote

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appeal to rescind all the disciplinary actions, expunge the record, award back wages, pay reasonable attorney fees with a maximum fifteen hundred dollars, and reimbursement of any non-employee witness fees in accordance with the 19th JDC guidelines.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Commissioners Riecke, Cole, Montelongo, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: Commissioner Nevil

Recused: Commissioner Pierite and Vice-Chairman Crawford

3. Oral arguments on pre-hearing motions filed in the matter of Kasha Domingue (Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police), Docket No. 21-250-T. Kasha Domingue is a pro se litigant. Tunde Animashaun representing the Office of State Police.

Kasha Domingue appeared and represented herself. Attorney Tunde Animashaun appeared on behalf of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police.

- Executive Session regarding allegations of misconduct

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session to discuss issues regarding allegations of misconduct at 10:13 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Commissioners Riecke, Cole, Nevil, Pierite, Vice-Chairman Crawford, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

Abstained: Commissioner Montelongo

On motion duly made by Commissioner Riecke, seconded, unanimously passed; the Commission voted to end Executive Session at 10:24 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Commissioners Riecke, Cole, Nevil, Pierite, Vice-Chairman Crawford, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

Abstained: Commissioner Montelongo

- Public discussion and possible vote

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to reject LSP's motion for summary disposition in the matter of Kasha Dominigue, Docket No. 21-250-T and affirmed that the hearing be set for October 12th at 9:00 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Vice-Chairman Crawford, Commissioners Cole, Nevil, Pierite, and Riecke

Opposed: None

Abstained: Commissioner Montelongo

4. Oral arguments on pre-hearing motions filed in the matter of Daniel Fontenot (Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police), Docket No. 22-260-S. Michael Antoon representing Mr. Fontenot. George Hardy representing the Office of State Police.

Attorney Micheal Antoon appeared on behalf of the appellant, Daniel Fontenot. Attorney George Hardy appeared on behalf of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of State Police.

- Executive Session regarding allegations of misconduct

On motion duly made by Commissioner Montelongo, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session to discuss issues regarding allegations of misconduct at 11:03 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Commissioners Cole, Montelongo, Nevil, Riecke, Pierite, Vice-Chairman Crawford, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, unanimously passed; the Commission voted to end Executive Session at 11:45 A.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Commissioners Cole, Montelongo, Nevil, Riecke, Pierite, Vice-Chairman Crawford, and Chairman Simien

Opposed: None

- Public discussion and possible vote

On motion duly made by Chairman Simien, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to strike witness #6 on the subpoena list for not being relevant to the proceedings.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #5 – Lt. Johnathan Odom.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #7 – Sgt. Chris Hill.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #8 – Master Trooper Andrew Leonards.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #9 – Trooper Matthew Gaspard

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #10 – Officer Greg Marchand.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Chairman Simien, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to deny the appellee's motion to quash and strike witness #11 – Byron Sam.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #12 – Sgt. Lyle Robertson.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #13 – Sgt. Jared David.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #14 – Sgt. Julia Amanda Willis.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #15 – Lt. Joey Adaway.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #16 – Sgt. Wilbert Ponthieux.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #17 – Sgt. Sal Messina.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #18 – Captain Kelly Miseles.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #19 – Dr. Wayne Steve Thompson.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #20 – Alicia Pickins.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #21 – Lt. Kevin Kirkham.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's request to quash and strike witness #22 – Capt. Michael Ross McCain.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's motion to quash document requests #2 through #10 and #16.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's motion to quash document request #11.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

On motion duly made by Vice-Chairman Crawford, seconded, and passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's motion to quash document request #17.

In Favor: Commissioners Cole, Montelongo, Nevil, Riecke, Pierite, and Vice-Chairman Crawford.

Opposed: Chairman Simien

On motion duly made by Chairman Simien, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to grant the appellee's motion to quash document request #18 as being irrelevant to these proceedings.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Micheal Antoon, attorney for appellant Daniel Fontenot, lodged an objection to the Commission's decision on each of the aforementioned items. Chairman Simien advised that the objection was noted.

VII. Director's Report

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 regarding the report.

The next regular business meeting was confirmed for October 12, 2023, at 9:00 A.M.

The commissioners were reminded that their annual Ethics and Preventing Sexual Harassment training courses are due by December 31, 2023.

The commissioners were advised that the announcement for the Fall Promotional Exam will be sent out very soon.

VIII. 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.)

There was no request by employees or others to address the Commission on matters not on the agenda.

IX. Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion duly made by Chairman Simien seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adjourn at 12:13 P.M. on Thursday, September 14, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jason Hannaman, Executive Director



Eulis Simien, Jr. Chairman