

State of Louisiana

Office of the Governor

Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement
and Administration of Criminal Justice

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

JIM CRAFT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



POST MEETING MINUTES

June 22, 2023

A regular meeting of the Louisiana POST Council was held Thursday, June 22, 2023, at the West Baton Rouge Convention Center in Port Allen, LA. Sheriff Ard called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present (or represented): Sheriff Jason Ard, Chairman, Chief Barry Bonner, Mr. Jim Craft (Vice-Chairman), Capt. Patrick Jackson (proxy for Ms. Bridget Dinvaut), Mr. James McGee (proxy for Mr. Stephen Dwight), Mr. Jeff Bergeron (proxy for Attorney General Jeff Landry), Chief Bry Layrisson, Capt. Patrick Jackson (proxy for Col. Lamar Davis), and Sheriff Brett Stassi (member and proxy for Sheriff Willy Martin).

Guests present: Sgt. Fredrica Palmer (New Orleans Police Dept.), Capt. Bruce Haney (New Orleans Police Dept.), Lt. Patsy Netherland (Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Gerald Butler (Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Robert Wimberly (Kenner Police Dept.), Sgt. Mark Iannazzo (Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Scott Wildey (Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office), Joey Disler (Gretna Police Dept.), Avery Leary (Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office), Joel Callahan (LA Probation & Parole), Josh Smith (LA Probation & Parole), Kevin Johnson (Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office), Shelmyra Clark (Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office), Lt. Scott Davis (LA State Police), and Pauline Carter (East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office).

Staff members present: Bob Wertz, Rebekah Taylor Hill, and Marshall Menou.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Sheriff Ard made a call for public comment, and none was heard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chief Layrisson made a motion to approve the minutes of the 03/30/2023 meeting. After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

No items on the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

No items on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Debra Becnel (Level 3)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Ms. Becnel's felony conviction. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Ms. Becnel, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Ms. Becnel's POST Correctional Officer certification. After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Wade Paul Bergeron (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Bergeron's felony conviction. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Bergeron, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Mr. Bergeron made a motion to revoke Mr. Bergeron's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Chief Bonner seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Kenneth Bowen (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Bowen's numerous felony convictions. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Bowen, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Sheriff Stassi made a motion to revoke Mr. Bowen's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Chief Layrisson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Robert Edward Burns (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Burns' felony conviction. Mr. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Burns, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Chief Layrisson made a motion to revoke Mr. Burns' POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Jared Preston Desadier (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Desadier's felony conviction. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Desadier, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Desadier's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Capt. Jackson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

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POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Robert Lo Faulcon, Jr. (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Faulcon's numerous felony convictions. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Faulcon, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Sheriff Stassi made a motion to revoke Mr. Faulcon's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Chief Bonner seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Robert Gisevius (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Gisevius' numerous felony convictions. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Gisevius, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Gisevius' POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Arthur R. Kaufman (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Kaufman's numerous felony convictions. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Kaufman, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Chief Layrisson made a motion to revoke Mr. Kaufman's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Mr. McGee seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Brian Skinner (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Skinner's felony conviction. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Skinner, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Skinner's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Capt. Jackson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Lisa A. Vaccarella (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Ms. Vaccarella's felony conviction. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Ms. Vaccarella, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Sheriff Stassi made a motion to revoke Ms. Vaccarella's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Mr. McGee seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Certification Revocation Hearing – Anthony Villavaso, II (Level 1)

Ms. Taylor Hill informed the Council members of Mr. Villavaso's numerous felony convictions. Ms. Taylor Hill asked if Mr. Villavaso, or a representative, was present and no answer was heard. Chief Bonner made a motion to revoke Mr. Villavaso's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Mr. McGee seconded the motion and the motion passed.

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POST Certification Reinstatement – Preston Mathew Durr (Ville Platte City Marshal's Office)

Ms. Taylor Hill presented the staff's recommendation for reinstatement, based on the POST In-Service Training Waiver Request (Medical) submitted by Sheriff Mark Wood (Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office – Deputy Marshal Durr's previous employer). Chief Bonner made a motion to approve the waiver request. After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed. Chief Layrisson made a motion to reinstate Deputy Marshal Durr's POST Basic Peace Officer certification. After some discussion, Mr. McGee seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST In-Service Training – 2022 POST In-Service Training Deficiencies

Ms. Taylor Hill presented the list of training deficiencies to the Council members. Chief Layrisson made a motion to revoke the POST certification(s) of all officers on the 2022 deficiency list. After some discussion, Chief Bonner seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST In-Service Training – 2022 POST In-Service Training Waiver Requests (Military)

Ms. Taylor Hill presented the recommendation of the POST Staff to approve all military waiver requests. Sheriff Stassi made a motion to approve all military waiver requests. After some discussion, Capt. Jackson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Involved Shooting (OIS) Investigator Training Course Approval Request

Ms. Taylor Hill presented the OIS Investigator Training Course recommended for approval by the OIS Investigator Training Committee. Ms. Dinvaute made a motion to approve the training course. After some discussion, Sheriff Martin seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Involved Shooting (OIS) Investigator Certification - OIS Investigator Training Waiver Requests

Ms. Taylor Hill presented the list of waiver requests recommended for approval by the OIS Investigator Training Committee. Chief Layrisson made a motion to approve the waiver requests as recommended. After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Ms. Taylor Hill then presented the list of waiver requests recommended for denial by the OIS Investigator Training Committee. Chief Bonner made a motion to deny the waiver requests as recommended. After some discussion, Ms. Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Ms. Taylor Hill then presented the list of waiver requests recommended for "pending approval" by the OIS Investigator Training Committee. Mr. Bergeron made a motion for the POST Staff to approve these waiver requests when the required training is completed and submitted to POST. After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST Basic Peace Officer Certification Exam – Updated Percentage Breakdown

Ms. Taylor Hill presented the updated percentage breakdown of number of questions on the POST Basic Peace Officer certification exam, based on the current POST Basic Peace Officer curriculum. Chief Layrisson made a motion to approve the updated percentage breakdown. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

POST School Resource Officer (SRO) Training – Eligibility Requirements for POST SRO Training (Basic & Advanced)

Sheriff Ard presented the eligibility requirements for POST SRO Training (Basic & Advanced) to the Council members and presented the submitted registrations for the upcoming trainings that do not meet the requirements. Chief Bonner made a motion to deny any registrations that do not meet the eligibility requirements for POST SRO Training (Basic & Advanced). After some discussion, Sheriff Stassi seconded the motion and the motion passed. Chief Layrisson then made a motion to allow the POST Staff to deny any future registrations that do not meet eligibility requirements, to allow agency heads to request a waiver (in writing that includes the eligibility requirement(s) they are requesting be waived and a justification for the need of a waiver), and for the POST Council to consider the waiver requests on a "case-by-case" basis. After some discussion, Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Craft informed the Council members of a request he received concerning the potential emergency suspension of Officer Marvin Martin, Jr.'s POST certification. Sheriff Ard informed the Council members that he was made aware of the request and will gather additional information applicable to his consideration of the potential emergency suspension of Officer Martin's POST certification, and he will notify the POST Staff and Council members of his decision.

Sheriff Ard made a call for other business, and none was heard.

Chief Bonner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bergeron seconded the motion and the motion passed.