

POLICE SUPPLEMENTAL PAY MEETING MINUTES

February 12, 2025

A regular meeting of the Municipal Police Supplemental Pay Board of Review for February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 occurred at the Louisiana Department of Public Safety, Management and Finance Building in suite 308.

Board Chairman Kip Judice called the meeting to order. Candy Diez took a moment to introduce those who were new to this board meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

The following board members and staff were present:

Board Members:

Voting:

Jim Craft  
Ternisa Hutchinson  
Kip Judice  
Lance Kennedy  
Carl Richard  
David Touns

Non-voting:

Adrienne Bordelon  
Rebekah Taylor Hill  
James LeBlanc

Staff:

Candy Diez  
Kay De Benedetto  
Misty Bentley  
Sherlyn Shumpert  
Jordan Moreau  
Garett Lee  
Gregory Graphia  
Robert Burns  
Jason Hessick

Visitors:

William Scheufens  
Linda Clark  
Shandon Davis  
Dustin Jenkins  
Denise Champagne

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No corrections to the previous meeting’s minutes were brought forward. David Toups motioned to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes for the November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting. Carl Richard seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**APPEALS**

None.

**NEW MUNICIPALITIES**

**McNeese University Police:**

A great deal of discussion was had surrounding many of the legal considerations for the acceptance of McNeese University’s Police Department to be accepted as a new Municipality. Their legal counsel for this meeting was Mrs. Linda Clark. She spoke to the case as well as providing additional documentation from Senator Mark Abraham. Sherlyn Shumpert and Jason Hesseck advised that they should provide the same documentation as Southern University at New Orleans and University of New Orleans but also brought up additional geographic and legal considerations. There seemed to be an agreement that it was time to make a determination to either approve or deny the department supplemental pay so that things could move forward as appropriate in either case. In the end, the documents were deemed acceptable, the department was approved as an entity with a motion from Carl Richard and a second by Jim Craft. The presented officer applications were accepted with a motion from Jim Craft and a second from David Toups. Both motions pass unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**New Orleans Police:** James Godwin

This officer had been found in need of an additional Personnel Action form subsequent to his emergency 10-day appointment which would show that the position was made permanent. Shandon Davis came ready to provide additional testimony but they had provided every document and correction that was requested. The revision to the original application would result in additional funds both now and through Act 110. This application was approved with a motion from David Toups and a second by Ternisa Hutchinson. The motions carried unanimously.

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Ashley Carter  | Christina Laureano  |
| Blaine Dickson | Devin Ransom        |
| Dallas Forman  | Darrell Richardson  |
| Daniel Foster  | Wendelisha Robinson |
| Mark Hamilton  | Calvin Thompson     |

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These officers' applications were also subject to post factum revision due to the department having provided the wrong Personnel Action form to establish their start date. Subsequent to the previous Board Meeting, they had made all necessary corrections to each application and provided all needed documentation to substantiate their eligibility date revisions. Jim Craft motioned to accept all ten of these applications and Carl Richard seconded that motion. It passed unanimously.

### **New Iberia Police:**

Having been accepted at her current job at Jeanerette Police Department, Shanee Higdon's previous employer New Iberia submitted an application for her to get back pay from her time there. The timing of actions and validity of certain aspects of the previous job, which was the basis for her one year requirement, were discussed. Adrienne Bordelon lead the discussion and it was determined that she had not been overpaid at her current employment and her eligibility date did not need to be moved. Also, only the 4/19/2023 to 6/18/2023 period of this prior service would be eligible to be paid back pay. This was motioned by Jim Craft, seconded by David Touns, and passed unanimously.

### **Gramercy Police:**

Dustin Jenkins, the elected Chief of Gramercy Police, had two hiring detail letters that brought him before the board. One of them had the added detail that he was a part-time chief. Upon his testimony and board discussion, it was determined that it was more salient that the Mayor's letter did not have this detail and that he did work full-time. His application was approved with a motion from David Touns, second by Jim Craft. Lance Kennedy was opposed and it passed with a majority assenting vote.

### **Baldwin Police:**

Denise Champagne's application was discussed presenting two issues for eligibility consideration. Her job title of Administrative Officer and Corrections with a Level 2 POST certificate. Upon her testimony, it was determined that her department did not have sufficient facilities for a jail, thus discounting her correctional duties. It was determined that she would need a Level 1 POST certificate to be eligible and as such, she was denied. This was motioned by Ternisa Hutchinson, seconded by Jim Craft, and carried unanimously.

## **POLICE INCENTIVE PAY APPLICATION REVIEW**

**Old Business:** None

### **New Business:**

After Jim Craft departed, the board proceeded with review of new Incentive Pay Applications.

Tysean Briggs- Rebekah Taylor-Hill affirmed that the information that she proves for this review are all that have been reported to POST for these officers. Missing information being a result of municipalities'

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inconsistent follow-through. Notwithstanding a missing end date for his prior service, he does have prior service making him ineligible for Incentive pay. He was denied with a motion from Carl Richard, a second from Ternisa Hutchinson, and it carried unanimously.

Jamie Davis- Based on prior service he was denied with a motion from Carl Richard, a second by David Toups and it carried unanimously.

Nicholas Graves- Based on prior service he was denied with a motion from Carl Richard, a second by Lance Kennedy and it carried unanimously.

Brandon Guillory- Based on prior service he was denied with a motion from Carl Richard, a second by David Toups and it carried unanimously.

Samantha Guzzardo- Based on prior service he was denied with a motion from Carl Richard, a second by Ternisa Hutchinson and it carried unanimously.

Dederick Walker- Based on prior service he was denied with a motion from Carl Richard, a second by Ternisa Hutchinson and it carried unanimously.

Amadou Ndong- Based on no record of the officer with POST his application was tabled with a motion from David Toups, a second by Carl Richard and it carried unanimously.

Thirty-seven new incentive pay applications were determined to be without issue. These were approved with a motion from David Toups, a second by Carl Richard, and it carried unanimously.

### **NEW APPLICATIONS**

One hundred and twenty-four new applications for Supplemental pay have been received and reviewed since the last board meeting. Another discussion was had about the board's eligibility responsibilities requiring them to approve of these applications which they affirmed was only if there was a question of eligibility, as the board understands it. Therefore, it was given as information.

### **NEW ACT 110 MONEY APPROVAL**

We stated that we had new applications owed funds from the prior fiscal year since the last board meeting totaling \$52,020.00. Act 110 was approved based on the existing applicants having already been found to be acceptable for supplemental pay. This approval was motioned by Ternisa Hutchinson, seconded by David Toups, and it carried unanimously.

### **CERTIFYING SIGNATURE AUTHORITY UPDATE**

The staff presented the issue with the Leesville municipality concerning their Police, Marshal, and, even, Fire services needing the Mayor to sign as the Certifying authority. The Mayor being part-time was decided to be a municipality internal factor insufficient to override program statute, rules or procedures. The Board agreed but a vote was unnecessary.

### **LAGOV ACCOUNTS RECIEVABLE UPDATE**

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Kay Debenedetto presented information concerning the LaGov Accounts Receivable project. We informed the board that our current system has no way to retract fund from a Municipality without compromising recipient records. Strategies were discussed for resolving this issue. Kip Judice stated that he would discuss this with the Chiefs at the next Louisiana Chief's conference.

**BUDGET PROJECTIONS**

We stated that we had expended \$19,296,474.00 thus far and currently have a projected end of fiscal year remaining balance of \$790,845.00. Motion to approve these budgetary projections was made by David Toups and seconded by Jim Craft.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

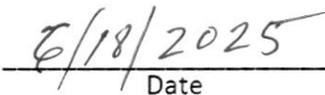
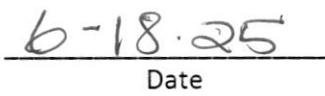
None.

**TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

**ADJOURN**

Move to adjourn made by David Toups, seconded by Carl Richard. It carried with no opposition.

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|----------------------------|---|---|
| Chairman Kip Judice        | <br>Signature  | <br>Date |
| Program Manager Candy Diez | <br>Signature | <br>Date |