Commission Meeting
MINUTES

West Baton Rouge Conference Center
2750 North Westport Drive
Port Allen, Louisiana 70767

June 5, 2025
10:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quarterly meeting of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice was held on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux, III, Commission Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Chairman Gautreaux welcomed the following new Commission member: Chief Deputy Steve Pezant, Natchitoches City Marshal's Office, Designee of the Louisiana City Marshals and Constables Association.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sheriff Ard and the Invocation was led by Mr. McConnell.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Dreher conducted the roll call. A membership quorum was present.

The following Commission members or their representatives were present: Sheriff Jason Ard, proxy for Judge Brian K. Abels; Sheriff Jason Ard; Assistant Chief Joe Salmon, proxy for Chief Darrell Basco; Ms. Lindsay Blouin; Sheriff Becket Breaux; Sheriff Kevin Cobb; Chief Keith Conley; Ms. Katie Lafleur, proxy for Mr. Michael Cormaci; Cpl. Farris Fife; Col. Carlos Stout, proxy for Sheriff Mark Garber; Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux, III; Mr. Jason R. May, proxy for Judge Gail Grover; Chief Randal Hermes; Col. Robert P. Hodges; Mr. Alfred Carter, proxy for Mr. Kenneth Loftin; Mr. William K. "Billy" McConnell; Capt. Brian Firmin, proxy for Chief Deputy Steve Pezant; Mr. Tod Ardoin, proxy for Chief Judge Elizabeth Pickett; Mr. Phillip Terrell, proxy for Mr. Chad Pitre; Sheriff Jayson Richardson; Sheriff Thomas S. Romero; Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux, III, proxy for Ms. Kristine Russell; Capt. Jeremy Couch, proxy for Sheriff Randall

Smith; Col. Carlos Stout; Ms. Monica Taylor; Mr. Phillip Terrell; Sheriff Mike Tubbs; Chief Keith Conley, proxy for Rep. Debbie Villio; Mr. John Swearingen, proxy for Mr. Doug Welborn; Secretary Gary Westcott; Sheriff Julian Whittington; and Mr. Hackley E. Willis, Jr.

The following District Directors or their representatives were present: Mr. Jeremy Edwards, District 1 – Northwest Law Enforcement Planning District Inc. and District 3 – Red River Delta Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc.; Chief Deputy David Rigdon, District 2 – North Delta Law Enforcement Planning District, Inc. Ms. Amanda Bourque, District 4 – Evangeline Law Enforcement Council, Inc.; Ms. Dawn Hawkins, District 5 – Capital District Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc.; Ms. Calli Peloquin, District 6 – Southwest District Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc.; Mr. Ronald Lampard, District 7 – Jefferson CJCC and Metropolitan District (METLEC); Chief Jim Craft, District 8 – State Level; and Ms. Lisa Brown and Ms. Kevinn Poree, District 9 – City of New Orleans, Office of Criminal Justice Coordination.

LCLE staff members present included: Ms. Martha Addison, Mr. Brayln Batiste, Ms. Autumn Blache, Mr. Jonathan Cazalot, Ms. Rutha Chatwood, Chief Jim Craft, Ms. Lisa Dreher, Ms. Fredia Dunn, Ms. LaShinna Gauthier, Ms. Linda Gautier, Ms. Shelita Henry, Ms. Erica Johnson, Mr. Demetrius Joubert, Mr. Marshall Menou, Ms. Tiffany Robichaux, Mr. Ingram Scott, Ms. LaShunda Sullivan, Ms. Rebekah Taylor-Hill, and Mr. Raymond Vincent.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to adopt the agenda. A motion was made by Ms. Taylor, seconded by Col. Stout, and the motion passed without opposition.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 20, 2025. A motion was made by Sheriff Cobb, seconded by Sheriff Ard, and the motion passed without opposition.

V. COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

A. Report of the Priorities Committee

Chief Craft reported that, on May 22, 2025, the Priorities Committee received all proposed allocations, applications, sole source for program requests, and grant increase requests via electronic mail.

On May 28, 2025, the Priorities Committee approved all items as presented and the following items will be considered for final approval at today's meeting:

- 193 allocations totaling $10,599,871
- 233 applications totaling $12,402, 141
- 14 grant increase requests totaling $71,892
- 1 sole source for program requests totaling $850,000

These items equal a grand total of $23,923,904 (including allocations) to be awarded to deserving agencies at today's meeting.

This concludes the report of the Priorities Committee.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Sheriff Breaux, seconded by Mr. Terrell, and the motion passed without opposition.

B. Report of the Victim Services Advisory Board

In the absence of Sheriff Gary "Stitch" Guillory, Board Chairman, Mr. Tim McDearmott reported that the Victim Services Advisory Committee met at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. A membership quorum was present.

The Board recommended approval of the following:

- 113 FY 2024 VOCA allocations totaling $6,251,263
- 151 FY 2024 VOCA applications totaling $7,948,816
- 8 FY 2023 VOCA increases totaling $47,520
- 56 FY 2024 STOP allocations totaling $1,762,557
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- 1 FY 2024 VOCA application TABLED in the amount of $59,717
  (Grant #8545 -CASA New Orleans, pg. 13 on ballot)

This concludes the report of the Victim Services Advisory Board.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Sheriff Richardson, seconded by Sheriff Tubbs, and the motion unanimously passed with no opposition.

C. Report of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Advisory Board

On behalf Ms. ViEve Martin-Kohrs, Board Chair, Mr. Tim McDearmott reported that the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. A membership quorum was present.

The Board recommended approval of the following:

- 10 JJDP allocations totaling $554,997
- 10 JJDP applications totaling $554,997
- 1 JJDP increase totaling $759

This concludes the report of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Board.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Sheriff Ard, and the motion passed.

D. Report of the Drug Control and Violent Crime Policy Board

Col. Carlos Stout, Board Chairman, reported that the Drug Control and Violent Crime Policy Board met at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. A membership quorum was present.

The Board recommended approval of the following:

- 1 FY 2023 application totaling $45,000
- 3 FY 2022 increases $13,190
- Grant staff requests the approval of all waiver requests and sole source requests (reviewed by LCLE staff)

All of this activity is listed in the eGrants system.

This concludes the Drug Control and Violent Crime Policy Board Report.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Sheriff Romero, seconded by Sheriff Breaux, and the motion passed.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Call for Other Old Business

Chairman Gautreaux called for Other Old Business, and there was none to discuss.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Byrne-JAG Discretionary Funding

Chief Craft, LCLE Executive Director, requested the Commission's approval of the Local Law Enforcement Assistance and Equipment Modernization Program allocations and pre-approval of applications to utilize LCLE administrative funds. The 11 recipient agencies and grant amounts are listed in a letter dated May 20, 2025, from Chief Craft to Chairman Gautreaux. A copy of this letter was provided to the Commission members on May 29, 2025.

Sheriff Gautreaux called for a motion to approve. A motion was made by Sheriff Ard, seconded by Sheriff Breaux, and the motion passed.

B. Presentation of Grant District Applications

Chairman Gautreaux called for a presentation of the District grant applications. A motion was made by Mr. Terrell to approve all of the District grant applications *in globo*. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Tubbs, and the motion carried without opposition.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Fabian Blache, Executive Director, Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, reported that a total of $1.2 million is needed to fund POST on-line certification, and he made an appeal to the Commission to lobby the legislature for funding assistance.

A motion was made by Ms. Taylor to authorize the Commission to write a letter to the Legislature in support of this funding. Chief Conley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Chairman Gautreaux called for Other Business, and there was none to discuss.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Next Commission Meeting Date

The next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. The advisory boards will meet on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at the same venue.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Sheriff Tubbs, and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.