



Actions/Minutes
AGENDA

LOUISIANA STATE POLICE COMMISSION
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018
1:00 P.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*

Executive Session will be held in the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium. Upon the acceptance of a motion to enter into Executive Session, members of the general public shall exit the auditorium to the building atrium until notice is given that the commission is ready to be called back into regular session.

I. Call to Order

The State Police Commission convened its monthly general business meeting at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 11, 2018. Six members were present and there was a quorum. Present were Jared Caruso-Riecke, Brian A. Crawford, Sgt. Jeffrey Foss, Dr. Michael W. Neustrom, Harold Pierite, Sr., and Eulis Simien, Jr. Additionally, Commission Referee Lenore Feeney and Executive Director Jason Hannaman were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Eulis Simien, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Opportunity to Address the Commission by Employees or Others

Mr. Leon "Bucky" Millet appeared before the Commission to convey his belief that the Commission should provide a summary about the T. Taylor Townsend investigation. He also informed the Commission about the pending suit filed against the Commission from the previous Executive Director. Mr. Millet advised that his concerns have been filed with the Attorney General, Inspector General, Governor's office, and local D.A. and his assertion that since not one of them have had the courtesy of replying with a letter of receipt it appears to show that Louisiana politics are not allowing for an open government; he asks that the Commission review the complaint and take action.

Mr. Robert Burns appeared before the Commission to reiterate his strong desire to have Commission meetings recorded by video. The Executive Director advised that he is continuing conversations with the facility landlord to explore the planned audio upgrades to the meeting room which would include video capture technology.

IV. Business

1. Election of Officers – per SPC Rule 2.0 (b):

Chairman: Eulis Simien, Jr. was nominated and elected without opposition.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Jared Caruso-Riecke, Brian Crawford, Jeffrey Foss, Dr. Michael W. Neustrom, Harold Pierite, Sr.;

Abstained: Eulis Simien, Jr.

Opposed: None

Vice-Chairman: Dr. Michael W. Neustrom was nominated and elected without opposition.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Jared Caruso-Riecke, Brian Crawford, Jeffrey Foss, Eulis Simien, Jr, Harold Pierite, Sr.;

Abstained: Dr. Michael W. Neustrom

Opposed: None

2. Consideration of the December 14, 2017 minutes

On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2017 meeting.

3. In the matter of Investigation of LSTA Political Contributions, Docket No. 16-221-I

a. Executive Session to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct

On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to go into Executive Session.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Chairman Simien, Vice-Chairman Neustrom, Jared Caruso-Riecke, Brian Crawford, Jeffrey Foss, and Harold Pierite, Sr

Opposed: None

Chairman Simien called the meeting back to order at 2:20 P.M.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: Chairman Simien, Vice-Chairman Neustrom, Jared Caruso-Riecke, Brian Crawford, Jeffrey Foss, and Harold Pierite, Sr

Opposed: None

Chairman Simien advised that the Commission is working on a resolution to the matter; however, new members on the Commission need time to get caught up on the issues. The hope is to have members caught up on the issues between this meeting and the February meeting. Additionally, the Commission plans to promulgate a new rule that can be discussed at the February meeting which would address the issue of prohibited political activity as raised in this investigation.

4. Other Commission Business

None.

V. Director's Report

- **Construction/Facility Upgrade** – construction is set to begin on new office space; we continue to review feasibility of video capture upgrade options in the current meeting auditorium.
- **FY 18/19** - no planned reductions following DOA and OPB review of our budget.
- **La College nominee** – A revised letter was received on January 4th containing 3 names from the 2nd Congressional District; that list was forwarded and received by Governor's Director of Boards and Commissions. Per the Constitution, the governor has thirty days after receipt of a list of nominees to select a name from the list or the first name on the list automatically becomes a member of the Commission.

- **2018 Promotional Testing** - Test question issues raised following the 2017 test were brought to the attention of the test administrator and the LSP subject matter experts working on the 2018 exam. Notable changes for the upcoming test were made:
 - The format of most DA Handbook questions were revised and shifted from memorization to a higher level testing of application and analytical skills.
 - A page by page evaluation of Policy & Procedure eliminated sections and duplicated material found in other testing elements.
 - A standardized comment/appeal procedure will be rolled out in 2018 to ensure future issues are received by State Police Commission staff.
 - The afternoon regular test start time will be pushed back one hour to provide additional consideration for troopers working a night shift.

The tentative dates and times for the promotional exam are: Monday, May 21st at 9 A.M. and 2 P.M. in Baton Rouge, Alexandria, and Shreveport; a makeup exam will be scheduled for Baton Rouge only at 9 A.M. on Friday, May 25th.

VI. Opportunity to Address the Commission by employees or others concerning items discussed but not previously listed on the agenda and for which prior comment was not received.

Mr. Bucky Millet inquired about the status of enforcement of the T. Taylor Townsend contract; Chairman Simien advised that his concern will be addressed with the other items relating to the investigation.

Mr. Robert Burns inquired about the status of the seventh Commission member and whether or not the LSTA investigation materials could be brought up to speed to avoid a further delay; Chairman Simien advised that every effort would be provided to the new commissioner if he/she is appointed and advised that it is not the Commission's intent to have further delays on this issue.

VII. Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed; the Commission voted to adjourn at 2:29 P.M. on Thursday, January 11, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jason Hannaman, Executive Director


Eulis Simien, Jr., Chairman