

MINUTES OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
June 12, 2025

The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission Chairman Allison called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Commissioner John Allison, Chairman
- Commissioner Jim Hinkle, Vice Chairman
- Commissioner Ken Reeves, Secretary
- Commissioner Neff Basore
- Commissioner Mike Akin
- Commissioner Steve Edwards
- Commissioner Jeff Teague

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL PRESENT:

- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Colonel Mike Hagar      | Lt. Colonel Mike Kennedy    |
| Lt. Colonel Jason Aaron | Major Stacie Rhoads         |
| Major Ron Casey         | Major Mike Moyer            |
| Jenna Castleberry       | Susan Tedford               |
| Eric Wacaster           | Kalika Rogers               |
| Sherry Woods            | Captain Rick Neill          |
| Major Jeff Drew         | Karen Perry                 |
| Sergeant Zach Owens     | Captain Dustin Morgan       |
| Cindy Murphy            | Nick Genty                  |
| Captain Philip Hydron   | Captain Brady Gore          |
| Captain Jeff Sheeler    | Captain Jeffrey Plouch      |
| Captain Chris Goodman   | Phillip Warriner            |
| Captain Brad Lann       | Captain Craig Teague        |
| Sergeant Chuck Lewis    | Lieutenant Robert Middleton |
| Donna Cox               | Shelly Cantrell             |
| Scarlett Taylor         | Joan Shipley                |
| Donna Humphries         |                             |

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Sarah DeBusk, AG Office

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commission Chairman Allison led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:

The media was notified of this meeting on June 02, 2025.

MINUTES:

Commission Chairman Allison stated you have the minutes of the prior meeting. Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2025, regular monthly commission meeting. Commissioner Teague seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Allison stated we have a motion and second, any opposed, the motion carried.

Commission Chairman Allison stated we have Weapon Resolutions

WEAPON RESOLUTIONS:

Captain Brad Lann presented the following resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

R E S O L U T I O N

- |          |  |
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| WHEREAS: | Sergeant Shannon Shepherd efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-five years, four months, and twenty-five days; |
| WHEREAS: | Sergeant Shannon Shepherd retired from this department April 30, 2025;   |

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Sergeant Shannon Shepherd has made formal request that his service weapon be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, June 12, 2025, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003 awards him, his Glock Model 17, Serial Number BMSA602, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

Commissioner Hinkle made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Reeves seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Allison stated we have a motion and a second, any opposed, motion carried.

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS: Sergeant Shannon Shepherd efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of thirty-five years, four months, and twenty-five days;

WHEREAS: Sergeant Shannon Shepherd retired from this department April 30, 2025;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Sergeant Shannon Shepherd has made formal request that his shotgun be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, June 12, 2025, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003 determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number PC541706, that Sergeant Shannon Shepherd has carried be affixed at \$100.00, and that Sergeant Shannon Shepherd be permitted to purchase the shotgun for his personal use.

Commissioner Hinkle made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Reeves seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Allison stated we have a motion and a second, any opposed, motion carried.

Major Stacie Rhoads presented the following resolutions for consideration by the ASP Commission.

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS: Corporal Pete Penney efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of twenty years, ten months, and ten days;

WHEREAS: Corporal Pete Penney retired from this department April 30, 2025;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Corporal Pete Penney has made formal request that his service weapon be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, June 12, 2025, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003 awards him, his Glock Model 17, Serial

Number BMSA433, as a token of their esteem and appreciation for service devoted to the Arkansas State Police.

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Basore seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Allison stated we have a motion and a second, any opposed, motion carried.

### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS: Corporal Pete Penney efficiently and effectively served the Arkansas State Police for a period of twenty years, ten months, and ten days;

WHEREAS: Corporal Pete Penney retired from this department April 30, 2025;

WHEREAS: His departure creates a vacancy that will be most difficult to fill, which is recognized by each and every member of the Arkansas State Police Commission;

WHEREAS: Corporal Pete Penney has made formal request that his shotgun be retired with him and remain in his possession;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The Arkansas State Police Commission, in its regular meeting at Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, June 12, 2025, in accordance with Act 547 of 2003 determines the fair market value of the Remington shotgun, serial number D578651M, that Corporal Pete Penney has carried be affixed at \$100.00, and that Corporal Pete Penney be permitted to purchase the shotgun for his personal use.

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the above weapon resolution presented to the Commission. Commissioner Basore seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Allison stated we have a motion and a second, any opposed, motion carried.

Commission Chairman Allison stated next is division reports, Karen Perry, Fiscal Section.

Karen Perry stated good morning, Colonel, and Commissioners, you have the May report, we have one more month left in the Fiscal Year, and we are working on closing all of our purchases and collecting all of the revenue. Our FY23 audit went before the Audit Committee last week, we had no audit findings and there were no questions from the Audit Committee. We turned in our annual budget on May 23, our operations budget to start July 1 is \$125 million and that includes a 70 person Troop School.

Commissioner Teague asked was that one school and Commission Chairman Allison stated yes sir.

Commission Chairman Allison stated Administrative Services, Captain Craig Teague.

Captain Craig Teague stated Colonel Hagar, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Colonel good morning, for May the following personnel transactions were for Uniformed Noncommissioned, we had three new hires, two voluntary resignations, and one promotion. For the Commissioned transactions, we had one retirement, one disciplinary, and two lateral transfers. We currently have six military deployments.

Captain Teague stated we are preparing and going through the hiring process for the 2025A Troop School. Last month we finished up the application period and we had 430 total applications with that we had 236 prescreened certified officers continue in the process, we tested 196 of those officers with our PT test and written testing. We had 168 who passed, which was really good with an 85% pass rate. We sent 140 officers into the polygraph phase, where CID will be doing polygraphs.

Captain Teague stated the training section, the wellness section, and the recruiting section were real busy last month. The training section conducted three in-services, and we are still doing those right now and are also preparing for the 2025A Troop School. The recruiting section attended four events, they also helped with the ARPAT, written test and the polygraph screenings. The wellness section saw 39 individuals; they made seven follow-up visits, the

nurse practitioner assisted four patients, and the Baptist Health Nursing Outreach Program assisted 11 patients.

Captain Teague stated for the ASP Health Plan May paid claims were \$1,838,662.63, that is an increase of \$273,677.98 from last month and the fund balance is \$312,228.97 lower than last month for a total fund balance of \$13,317,936.72.

Commission Chairman Allison stated I think that is the largest month that I remember, has there been one larger. Captain Teague stated no sir, we have had two months this year at \$1.8 million, with the number of troopers that we brought on in the last two years, also with their spouses and dependents we have added close to 400 more lives on our insurance. We saw two \$1.8 million months; we are averaging about \$1.6 million. Just this month we had 9,000 claims.

Commission Chairman Allison stated thank you. I was at APERS yesterday talking about our retirement fund, and you all may remember in 2005 and 2006 at that time we went down about \$200 million, and it was a little scary. But we have come back up substantially, and this group is doing a really good job, the market has got hit a little bit in the last five or six months, but they have rallied back, and we are up. We are about \$430 million, when we get the insurance proceeds, a piece of that is about to come over for us, so all good there, all good signs there. One lady commented that Arkansas State Police was one of the only ones that didn't require contributions for the members. I didn't know where she was going with that comment, why she was commenting about that, and I explained to her that we were going to keep it that way. It was a good meeting overall.

Commission Chairman Allison stated Major Drew, Crimes Against Children.

Major Drew stated good morning, Colonel, Chair, Commissioners, the CACD Hotline received 5,665 calls in the month of May, with 2,508 of those accepted for investigation. Major Drew stated there were 26 child deaths reported, five of those were investigated, 19 assessed and two only documented. Major Drew stated the CACD investigations unit accepted 533 new cases, closed 469 cases, with 123 of those cases being found true, for a substantiation rate of 26%.

Commissioner Steve Edwards asked of the 26 child deaths, does that include car accidents and everything all together? Major Drew stated yes sir.

Commission Chairman Allison asked so did we participate recently in an operation to help Texas with a lot of children that were being molested, did I read that? Did we involve ourselves with a Texas campaign, the Troopers and the Crimes Against Children people, did we get involved in that? Major Drew stated unfortunately I cannot say what we were involved with because all of it is-. Commission Chairman Allison stated it looked like a joint effort of states, somehow, I got the idea that Arkansas was in it. Major Drew stated generally speaking, we would have.

Commission Chairman Allison stated Criminal Investigations, Major Stacie Rhoads.

Major Stacie Rhoads stated good morning for the month of May, CID initiated 132 investigations, 66 of those were primary, we had 58 assists to other agencies and that led to 8 secondary investigations. We initiated 15 death investigations, five of those were homicides, and we had one officer misconduct investigation. I guess the most telling number that I am going to tell you today is, we had five officer involved shootings, three of those involving Troopers, that is not including the one that we had yesterday. We made 126 felony arrests, we conducted 98 crime scene searches, 301 interviews, we wrote 79 search warrants, we had 19 court appearances, and we conducted 7 FARO scans.

Major Stacie Rhoads stated everything that happened yesterday, the shooting and also the pursuit in Bee Branch. One of the folks that was involved in the shooting just came out of this last Troop School and I really want to brag on our training section for how they have prepared our troopers to react to what they saw yesterday. Not just in the shooting but also in the pursuit and the TVI's that we have seen, it is just a real testament to what they are learning in Troop School. It is not just Troop School; it is all of the in-service training that we are currently going through with hand-to-hand combat and that kind of stuff that we are doing. It is a testament to the Administrative Services Division.

Major Stacie Rhoads stated the other people I want to brag about is our Fiscal Section, I leave out of here every day, and their cars are still in the parking lot in May and June. They really bust their butts this time of year to get all of the financial stuff closed so that we can begin again in July. So just wanted to say a huge thank you to Karen and Jenna and their folks in Fiscal. I know it seems like it is a thankless job, but they really do fantastic.

Commission Chairman Allison stated Highway Patrol, Captain Brad Lann.

Captain Brad Lann stated good morning again, this is the Highway Patrol report for the month of May, Troopers had 2,408 criminal arrests, with 1,578 actual persons arrested; made 370 DWI arrests and six DUI arrests. There were 7,143 hazardous arrests, with 531 physical arrests, they issued a total of 17,068 citations and assisted 3,052 motorists. In the month of May we had 29 pursuits which is down from the month of April, in April we had 42. We investigated 1,442 crashes, with 27 fatalities. We recovered stolen vehicles in the net worth of \$457,000.00, recovered \$735.00 worth of stolen property, and we drove a total of 959,752 miles. Captain Lann stated there were 10 aircraft missions. We gave 20,066 DL/CDL tests and dispatch received 28,754 calls for service. Our Interstate Criminal Patrol had a lot of significant seizures, seizing \$116,487.00 in cash, they confiscated 2,075 pounds of marijuana, 1.43 pounds of methamphetamine, 77 pounds of cocaine, and 324 pills including Xanax, Alprazolam, Hydrocodone, Lorazepam, Oxycodone, and ecstasy and 34.4 pounds of other drugs that included THC wax, mushrooms, THC vape pens, kratom, and THC syrup. Captain Lann stated it was a busy month.

Commission Chairman Allison stated Regulatory and Building Operations, Major Mike Moyer.

Major Mike Moyer stated Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, and Colonel Hagar good morning. During the month of May, the Identification Bureau and AFIS Section processed 24,785 civil background checks and 9,781 fingerprint submissions. The Used Motor Vehicle Dealer Section processed 239 dealer applications. The PI Security Section processed 660 license applications during the month of May. The Bomb Squad handled six separate explosives calls. It was kind of an odd month of May because we did not have any fire investigations, but we are making up for that this month.

Major Moyer stated on the barracks project, they have the single story building completely roofed and it is almost in the dry. The second story building, they have already poured the foundation, and they are framing it up and about to get the bottom story done and then they will be moving to the second story. On the lodge building, the concrete should be poured in the next couple of weeks, so they are moving pretty fast on this project, and they still have an end date of May to June 2026.

Commission Chairman Allison stated I have a nephew that is a prosecutor and I just want to pass the Colonel and Commissioners a message, that it is taking hold, the chases in the past didn't get prosecuted but my nephew sent me a note that stated he got his third chase case this month and he sent him to jail too. It is taking hold and at some point, in time, it is going to get across, I believe, that Arkansas is not going to stop chasing, we are going to get you, and we are going to prosecute you. I heard you say that the chases were down a little so hopefully we are beginning to win that battle, it takes a long time to turn a big ship but maybe we can.

Commissioner Reeves asked, have we actually got felony convictions on these, is that what you are talking about, felony convictions? Commission Chairman Allison stated yes.

Commission Chairman Allison stated any new business, or anybody have any comments for the commissioners; I think we have some business. Colonel Hagar stated yes sir, I would ask that we move to Executive Session to consider personnel matters.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Reeves stated Mr. Chairman I would move that we retire into Executive Session to consider personnel matters. Commissioner Hinkle seconded, and the motion passed. Commission Chairman Allison asked anyone opposed and stated we will return. The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:20 a.m. Commission Chairman Allison stated I probably will not be here when we come back out.

Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle stated as previously stated the Chairman had to leave early. At 11:26 a.m. Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle stated I will call the meeting back to order; Colonel Hagar, I believe you have some recommendations? Colonel Hagar stated yes Sir Mr. Vice Chairman, promotions and lateral transfers.

Colonel Hagar stated we will start with the lateral transfers first, for the Sergeant position in the Highway Patrol Division, Interstate Criminal Patrol, the lateral move is going to be Sergeant Tim Callison and there is no promotion necessary on that one.

Colonel Hagar stated for the Sergeant position in the Criminal Investigation Division, Special Investigations Unit, will also be a lateral move and that will be Sergeant Stephen Briggs.

Colonel Hagar stated the Sergeant position in Troop G, Highway Patrol Division, the recommendation to the Commission will be Corporal Kyle Peek. Commissioner Reeves made a motion that Corporal Kyle Peek be promoted to Sergeant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop G. Commissioner Basore seconded the motion. Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle stated we have a motion, have a second. We have a motion and a second, any discussion, all in favor say aye, the motion carries.

Colonel Hagar stated the Sergeant position in Highway Patrol Division, Troop F the recommendation to the Commission will be Corporal Matthew Schanzlin. Commissioner Akin made a motion that Corporal Matthew Schanzlin be promoted to Sergeant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop F. Commissioner Reeves seconded the motion. Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle stated we have a motion and a second, any discussion, all in favor say aye, all those opposed, so ordered.

Colonel Hagar stated the last Sergeant position is in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop A, the recommendation to the Commission will be Trooper First Class Keri Permenter. Commissioner Teague made a motion that Trooper First Class Keri Permenter be promoted to Sergeant in the Highway Patrol Division, Troop A. Commissioner Akin seconded the motion. Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle stated we have a motion and a second, any discussion, all in favor say aye, all those opposed, and the motion carries.

#### NEXT MEETING:

Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle stated the next commission meeting will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in Little Rock, Arkansas, and stated immediately following the adjournment of the July 10 meeting, we will go into the Darren Henley Appeal Hearing.

Commissioner Basore stated he will not be here next month but that was a known fact when we set this.

Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle asked if there were any other discussion or items to bring before the commission today before we adjourn. Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle stated I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Teague seconded. With no further business, Commission Vice Chairman Hinkle adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

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Commission Chairman

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Commission Secretary