

COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS ANAD TRAINING

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

JULY 9, 2024

ARKANSAS STATE POLICE HEADQUARTERS

9:00 A. M. meeting called to order.

Commissioners present:

Chairman Doc Holladay
Vice Chair Barry Phillips
Sheriff Phillip Miller
Sheriff Lafayette Woods
Dr. James Golden
Chief Heath Helton
Chief Mike Reynolds
Mr. Tom Marsh
Major Stacie Rhoads
Mr. Richard Wingard

Other present:

Chris Chapmond, ADLEST Director
Eric Wacaster, ADLEST Deputy Director
Jason Lawrence, ADLEST Deputy Director
Taylor Reavis, ADLEST Attorney
Barbara Varnell, ADLEST Education Coordinator
Kreasha Williams, ADLEST Legal Services Specialist,
Sue Albritton, ADLEST Administrative Assistant
Coby Copeland, Court Reporter
Shawn Higginbotham, Lake Hamilton School District
Wayne Wesson, Bradley County Sheriff's Office
Chase Cox, Bradley County Sheriff's Office
Tia Marsh, Ft. Smith
Courtney Hunter, Lake Hamilton School District
Jeff Britt, Lake Hamilton School District
C. Daniel Getchell, Wynne Police Department
Darrell Turner, Des Arc Police Department
Russell Wood, Wood Law Firm
Clint Gattis, Harrisburg Police Department
Mark Lewis, Miller County Sheriff's Office
Wade Gilliam, Saline County Sheriff's Office

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Christie Griffin, Saline County Sheriff's Office	Floyd Parnell, Tuckerman
Mike Welsh, Conway Police Department	Chris Fisher, Des Arc
Chris Harris, Conway Police Department	Peter Beck, Conway
Kad Snyder, Greene County Sheriff's Office	Randall Murphy, ASP
Shannon Anthony, Greene County Sheriff's Office	Justin Jackson
Dewayne Mayhew, Des Arc Police Department	Adam Childers, Childers Law Firm
Eric Moore, Harrisburg Police Department	Kayci Childers, DPS
Garrett Woods, Poinsett County Sheriff's Office	Jacob Shook, Johnson County Sheriff's Office
Ryan Price, Poinsett County Sheriff's Office	Marcus Daniels, ASP
Janica L. Willis, Dardanelle Police Department	Grant Lancaster, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
Brian B., Dardanelle Police Department	Col. Mike Hagar, DPS
Chris Madden, Marked Tree Police Department	Dean Pitchford, ASP
David Richardson, Sen. Tom Cotton's Office	Christiana McKibben, ASP
Austin Coleman, Sen. Tom Cotton's Office	Hudson Humphries, DPS Intern
Jennifer Anthony, Green County Sheriff's Office	Charles Moulton, Hearing Officer
James Moody, Tuckerman Police Department	

A motion to accept the minutes of the May 9, 2024, meeting was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item I: Item one was a presentation by Director Chapmond to retiring Commissioner Dr. James Golden.

Item II: Item two was a presentation of the DPS Employee of the Year to Supervisor Juan Reyes by DPS Secretary Mike Hagar.

Item III: Item three was a request from the Tuckerman Police Department for additional Part-Time Officers under A.C.A 12-9-124. A motion to table until the September meeting, when additional information is available, was made by Commissioner Rhoads, and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried.

Item IV: Item four was a request from the Lake Hamilton School District to establish its own police department under Act 629 of 2019. Having met all requirements, a motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item V: Item five was a request from the Bradley County Sheriff's Office for an extension for under CLEST Rule 1002, for Deputy Michael Cox. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

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Item VI: Item six was a request from the Saline County Sheriff's Office for an extension under CLEST Rule 1002, for Deputy Mollie Blain. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item VII: Item seven was a request from the Saline County Sheriff's Office for an extension under CLEST Rule 1002, for Deputy Jamie Jordan. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item VII: Item eight was a request from the Miller County Sheriff's Office for an extension under CLEST Rule 1002, for Deputy Darrell Klink. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item IX: Item nine was a request from the Johnson County Sheriff's Office to withdraw the decertification request for former Deputy Michael Johnson. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion Carried.

Item X: Item ten was a request from Torey Pulliam for recertification under CLEST Rule 1034. Mr. Pulliam was not in attendance. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item XI: Item eleven was withdrawn from the agenda.

Item XII: Item twelve was a request from Chris Fisher for recertification under CLEST Rule 1034. A motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item XIII: Item thirteen was a request from the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office for the decertification of former Deputy Dominic Bruner. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XIV: Item fourteen was a request from the Texarkana Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Tuan Bui. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item XV: Item fifteen was a request from the Jonesboro Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Alexis Burns. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried.

Item XVI: Item sixteen was a request from the Blytheville Police Department for the decertification of former Officer David Cross. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Helton and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried.

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Item VII: Item seventeen was a request from the Little Rock Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Traylin Hall. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried. Commissioner Helton recusing.

Item XVIII: Item eighteen was a request from the Little Rock Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Jakari Lott-Henderson. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried. Commissioner Helton recusing.

Item XIX: Item nineteen was a request from the Marked Tree Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Deontra Moore. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried.

Item XX: Item twenty was a request from the Perryville Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Clifford Morrow. A motion to table the matter until further information can be obtained was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried.

Item XXI: Item twenty-one was a request from the Poinsett County Sheriff's Office for the decertification of former Deputy Gaylon Payton. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item XXII: Item twenty-two was a request from the Hot Springs Village Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Daniel Newton. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Motion carried.

Item XXIII: Item twenty-three was a request from the Kensett Police Department for the decertification of former Officer John Pollard. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XXIV: Item twenty-four was a request from the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office for the decertification of former Deputy Brady Powell. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried.

Item XXV: Item twenty-five was a request from the Arkansas State Parks for the decertification of former Park Ranger Aaron Runyon. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item XXVI: Item twenty-six was a request from the Pleasant Plains Police Department for the decertification of former Officer Aaron Wilson. A motion to proceed to a decertification hearing was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Decertification hearings were held. Three (3) Consent Agreements were presented for final vote on behalf of **Raymond Jeffers, Levi White and Zachary King**. A motion to accept and decertify these individuals was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. Fourteen (14) uncontested hearings were conducted for **Clifford Rushing, Roy Mitchell, Shaquita McFadden, Darlisha Batchelor, Samuel Sparks, Brodie Lovelace, Brianna Cole, Tequlia McJunkins, Desidario Pullie, Mark Blackerby, Seth Wilson, Demarion Shepard, Jonathan Self, and Dakota Davis**. A motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify these individuals was made by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Motion carried. A contested hearing was held for **Jesse Willey**. After hearing all evidence and testimony presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Helton. Motion carried. A contested hearing was held for **Jeffrey Wolfenbarger**. After hearing all evidence and testimony presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify was made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. A contested hearing was held for **Clint Gattis**. After hearing all evidence and testimony presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Commissioner Miller recusing. Motion carried. A contested hearing was held for **Peter Beck**. After hearing all evidence and testimony presented, a motion that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law had been met and to decertify was made by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried. All hearings were presided over by Hearing Officer Charles Moulton and recorded by Court Report Colby Copeland. A total of **twenty-one (21)** officers were decertified.

Director's Report

Director Chapmond reported the construction projects' final phase design is near completion and anticipate moving to bid process within the next 30 days. Still below budget and on schedule. That the Academy classes will be adjusted based on the construction timelines. The CALETA class will move to 70 students to offset the reduction of students in ALETA. NWALETA will remain the same as the construction will not reduce class space. He also reported that Fall classes at all campuses will be moving from 530 hours to 648 hours plus 40 hours of electives. This is still being conducted within the 13-week period. That he is continuing to work on several grant opportunities to increase our capabilities and should have confirmation on progress in September or October. The 40-hour Crisis Intervention training is ongoing, and we now have students leaving the academy certified and moving to regional classes across the state. Physical agility course has been accepted and built in over twenty agencies.

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That we are fully staffed at this point and on July 1st we added two new positions in East Camden. Two security positions that had been taken over the years, this will allow security for inmates to be conducted without using maintenance or sworn staff. This shortage created unnecessary work for our staff. That the Standards office has conducted 21 site audits this year with a goal of at least one per week. We are asking for additional staff with at least one additional officer to be added to a full-time audit team. Also, that the Standards office has been highly praised across the state during visits with agencies. Class approval is less than a week turnaround versus several months, new hire packets are now turned around in several days versus several weeks and the staff is being praised for their customer service. We continue to build strong relationships with our partners across the state. We are working closely with Black River and teaching in the Fort Smith Academy. Upcoming graduations will be July 25th at NWALETA, and August 2nd at ALETA. The keynote speakers will be Sheriff Cantrell Washington County and Chief Denise Richardson from Pine Bluff Police Department.