

**MINUTES
STATE POLICE COMMISSION**

Date: July 14, 2016 Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: State Police Commission
Office of Management Finance & OMV Building
7979 Independence Boulevard, Suite 208
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

Present: Calvin W. Braxton, Sr. Cathy Derbonne, Executive Director
Donald Breaux M. Lenore Feeney, Referee
Thomas "T.J." Doss T. Taylor Townsend, Referee
W. Lloyd Grafton
Jared Caruso-Riecke
Eulis Simien, Jr.

Absent: 0 Vacancies: 1

Scribe: Cathy Derbonne, Executive Director

AGENDA

1. Call to Order: W. Lloyd Grafton, Interim Chairman
2. Roll Call of the Members - Cathy Derbonne, Director
Pledge of Allegiance
3. Opportunity to Address the Commission by Employees or Others (*None Scheduled*)

STATE POLICE COMMISSION BUSINESS

4. Election of Chairman
5. Consideration of April 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes
6. Appeals
 - a. In the Matter of Appeal of Phillip Tagliarino Docket Nos. 16-223-S & 16-225-S
 - b. In the Matter of Appeal of Andrew Leonards, Docket No. 16-224-S
7. Proposed Rule Changes
 - a. Rescind General Circular No. 180 Revision of SPC Chapter 6: Uniform Pay and Classification Plan; Transmittal Sheet #58
 - b. General Circular No. 181 Revision of SPC Chapter 6: Pay Plan
8. Investigations
 - a. In the Matter of SPC Investigation Docket No: 16-226 I - SPC Rule 14.3 (g)
 - b. In the Matter of SPC Investigation Docket No: 16-121 I - SPC Rule 14.2 (a) (1),(4),&(8)

Adjournment

2. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by W. Lloyd Grafton, Interim Chairman.
3. **Roll Call.** Ms. Derbonne called the roll. All members were present, which constitute a quorum.
Pledge of Allegiance. W. Lloyd Grafton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Opportunity to Address the Commission:** None scheduled.

5. **Election of Chairman.** Mr. Calvin Braxton moved to nominate Mr. W. Lloyd Grafton and Mr. Donald Breaux moved to nominate Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss for the position of Chairman. Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss was elected as the new Chairman by majority vote. Results of roll-call vote are as follows:

Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss	W. Lloyd Grafton	Abstained
Jared Caruso-Riecke	Calvin Braxton, Sr.	Eulis Siemen
Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss		
W. Lloyd Grafton		
Donald Breaux		

5. **Minutes from the April 14, 2016 meeting.** Mr. Donald Breaux moved to approve the minutes from April 14, 2016 meeting, which motion was seconded by Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss, and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Members present.

6. **Appeals.**

a.) In the Matter of Appeal of Phillip Tagliarino Docket Nos. 16-223-S & 16-225-S, Mr. Calvin Braxton moved to approve the settlement agreement, which motion was seconded by Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss, and passed with no opposition.

b.) In the Matter of Appeal of Andrew Leonards, Docket No. 16-224-S, Mr. Calvin Braxton moved to approve the settlement agreement, which motion was seconded by Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss, and passed with no opposition.

7. **Proposed Rule Changes.**

a. Rescind General Circular No. 180 Revision of SPC Chapter 6: Uniform Pay and Classification Plan; Transmittal Sheet #58. Mr. Rodney Hyatt, Operational Development of Office of State Police requested an additional thirty days to seek approval by the Governor for the longevity pay. Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss moved to continue the matter until the next scheduled board meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Donald Breaux, and passed with no opposition.

b. General Circular No. 181 Revision of SPC Chapter 6: Pay Plan. Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss moved to continue the matter until the next scheduled board meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Jared Caruso-Riecke, and passed with no opposition.

8. **Investigations.** Mr. W. Lloyd Grafton moved to hold an executive session regarding the investigations, beginning 9:10 a.m. upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of its constituent members present, which motion was seconded by Mr. Donald Breaux and Trooper Thomas “T.J.” Doss. The meeting resumed at 10:30 a.m.

a. In the matter of SPC Investigation Docket No: 16-121 I - SPC Rule 14.2 (a) (1),(4), & (8): Mr. Taylor Townsend was charged with the preliminary investigation of prohibited political activity involving classified members of the State Police Service. Mr. Townsend reports that the Troopers Association (LSTA) is a legal entity

separate and apart from its members. The Trooper Association rules and by-laws do not expressly prohibit the endorsement of a candidate.

In this particular case, based on the facts and evidence that were reviewed there were two things that occurred. First, there was an endorsement made by the Trooper's Association made. Secondly, there were contributions made by David Young and reimbursements were made from the association for the contributions. He reports this commission does not have jurisdiction of Mr. Young, nor over the Louisiana State Troopers Association. The constitution and SPC Rules do prohibit a classified member of the state police service (state trooper) from engaging in political activity, however, there is no such law that expressly prohibits an association from engaging in political activity. In addition, there are no First Circuit or Louisiana Supreme Court cases that would give us guidance in this particular case. Townsend reports the troopers relied on the advice of their counsel and he believes they acted in good faith. Mr. Simien moved to take no further action by this Commission relative of this investigation based on the facts, which motion was seconded by Mr. Breaux, and passed with no opposition, the matter is closed.

b. In the matter of SPC Investigation Docket No: 16-221 I - SPC Rule 14.3 (g); Mr. Townsend requests additional time to complete the investigation, Mr. Grafton moved to approve the extension for an additional thirty days, which motion was seconded by Mr. Braxton, and passed with no opposition.

Next meeting: The next regularly regular business meeting of the State Police Commission will be held on August 11, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., at Office of Management Finance & OMV Building, 7979 Independence Blvd., Suite 208, Baton Rouge, La. 70806.

Adjournment. At the conclusion of the Commission's agenda, Braxton moved to adjourn the meeting, which motion was seconded by Thomas "T.J." Doss, and passed with no opposition. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

-END-

Respectfully Submitted by:



Trooper Thomas "T.J." Doss



Cathy Derbonne, Director