

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MAY 6, 2009
AUSTIN, TEXAS

The Public Safety Commission met in Austin, Texas on May 6, 2009. Attending the meeting were Chairman Allan Polunsky and Commissioners Tom Clowe, Carin Barth, Ada Brown and John Steen. DPS staff members and guests were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Polunsky at 5:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. It was confirmed that proper notice had been posted for an emergency meeting to be held.

Commissioner Clowe stated the following:

"Mr. Chairman, I believe it is important for the Commission to document the reason for this emergency meeting. The following information has been either provided to me or known to me and I believe it would be beneficial for the Commission to hear it in the form of a motion and then either confirm or deny the findings requested by the motion. I move that the Commission document that: Notice of this meeting was posted with the Secretary of State on May 4, 2009. The agenda identifies a subject matter of significant importance to public safety in the State of Texas; the Director of the Department chose to step down from his position with the Department on May 4, 2009 and is retiring; therefore it is incumbent upon the Public Safety Commission to discuss and take action regarding an interim director for the Department of Public Safety. We could not have reasonably foreseen this matter in order to address it at our last meeting. The matter cannot be postponed until a regularly called meeting can be scheduled. Immediate action is required in this matter. I have been advised by staff that the notice of emergency meeting has been communicated to the public. **I hereby move that the Commission consider my summary of what I believe to be the facts necessitating this meeting today, and if the Commission Members are in agreement that such facts appear to be true, that we proceed to adopt them as a finding to support the basis for this Emergency Meeting.**" Commission Steen seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.** Chairman Polunsky stated the Commission would go into Executive Session to receive legal advice concerning agenda items.

The meeting reconvened at 6:33 p.m. Roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present. **A motion was made by Commissioner Barth and seconded by Commissioner Brown to appoint Lamar Beckworth as interim Director of the Department of Public Safety. Motion carried unanimously.**

Interim Director Beckworth stated "I thank the Public Safety Commission for having the confidence in me to appoint me as interim director. I assure you that

you will not be disappointed in this appointment. I task all of our employees to support the mission of our management team. I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for all of us." Chairman Polunsky acknowledged and stated he knew interim Director Beckworth would do an exemplary job. Commissioner Steen noted the standing ovation Director Beckworth received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Clowe, seconded by Commissioner Barth and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Read and approved this 22 day of May, 2009.


Chairman

**** A digital recording of this entire meeting is available upon request.**