

**MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
April 27, 2017
AUSTIN, TX**

The Public Safety Commission met in Austin, Texas on April 27, 2017. Attending the meeting were Chairman Steven Mach, Commissioners Manny Flores, Cynthia Leon and Randy Watson. A quorum was present at the meeting. DPS staff members and guests were also present.

CALL TO ORDER (0:00:04)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mach at 9:00 a.m. Proper notice had been posted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (0:00:29)

A motion was made by Commissioner Leon, seconded by Commissioner Flores, approving the minutes from the February 22nd and 23rd, 2017 meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS (0:00:47)

A motion was made by Commissioner Flores, seconded by Commissioner Watson, naming Cynthia Leon as Chairman Emeritus in recognition of her service to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Service Awards

Scot E. Houghton – 30 years
Eloy Vasquez – 35 years
Joyce Pitts- 35 years
Claudia Ann Crislip – 40 years
Stephen K. Robertson – 40 years

Lifesaving Award

Staff Sergeant Earl “Dub” Gillum
Major Bryan Rippee
Tactical Flight Officer Saben Emery
Agent Pilot Kristopher Edgmon
Trooper Joe Salas

Javier Arana Top Trooper Award 2017

Female – Trooper Jamie Liles

Male – Trooper Roggan Stanzel

Purple Heart Award

Trooper Chad Blackburn

Unit Citation Award

Crime Lab – Controlled Substance Section

(0:40:30) Break 9:40 – 9:56 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT (0:40:45)

Tommy J. Carter – protesting that his Special Texas Ranger commission was revoked for an incident that occurred on February 14, 2017, in Calhoun County.

DIRECTORS REPORT (0:48:30)

B. Harris County Crime Reduction Operation (0:48:45)

Update provided by Regional Commander Duane Steen:

- Operation initiated due to increase in violent robberies by armed gang members in Harris County
- Coordination of agencies: Harris County Sheriff's Office, DPS, FBI, DEA, Houston Police Department, ATF
- DPS patrol units, Texas Rangers, and aviation assets are decreasing reaction time
- 13.7% increase in violent crime
- Large rise in Assaults and Rape
- Violent Offenders 52,995 (Jan 2013 – Mar 2017)
- Number of Violent Charges 62,069 (Jan 2013 – Mar 2017)
- Repeat Violent Offenders 5,027 (Jan 2013 – Mar 2017)
- Number of Violent Charges 11,651 (Jan 2013 – Mar 2017)
- 20% Concentration of Felon Gang Members in Harris County
- 13,469 Illegal Aliens arrested for criminal offenses having been previously deported from U.S. – Harris County (Jun 2011 – Mar 2017)
- USBP Apprehensions & Turnbacks dropped 84.1%

A. Case Update (1:06:43)

Update provided by Major Floyd Goodwin:

- Lewis/Moore Human Trafficking Organization – September 2015, 4 month case
- 14 year old female absconded from facility in Austin, TX
- Recovered in Flint, Michigan during a traffic stop and returned to TX
- Upon return to TX, female made outcry of being trafficked for sex by Starisha Moore and DeQwon Lewis
- Investigation initiated – victims were recruited by Lewis and Moore and advertised on backpage.com in Houston, Oklahoma City, and Michigan and participated in commercial sex acts
- Collaboration: Michigan State Police, Austin PD Missing Persons, Lubbock PD, Lubbock County Probation, DPS CID Lubbock, DPS CID Houston, DPS Crime Analysts, THP, Ohio Bureau of Investigation, Austin United States Attorney's Office, Non-Governmental Organizations
- Lewis and Moore were indicted in the Western District of Texas on 12/1/15 for Minor Sex Trafficking and Interstate Transport of a Minor to Engage in Prostitution
- Both arrested at a hotel in Houston on 12/2/15, where an additional 16 year old juvenile from Michigan was recovered
- Lewis and Moore were found guilty on 5/27/16; Lewis received 26 years and Moore received 19.5 years in federal prison and duty to register as sex offenders

NEW BUSINESS (1:16:43)

A. Report and update on Leader Development Program (1:16:59)

Update provided by Deputy Assistant Director Orlando Salinas:

- Command College – for executive leaders (applications selected by assistant directors)
- Leadership College – for leaders at the mid-management “operational & organizational” level (no application, selected by assistant directors and regional commanders)
 - *Intensive 4 week course to prepare mid-level supervisors and experienced professionals with current, evidence-based information to develop business skills
 - *Graduates receive the following certifications: Contract Monitoring, Six Sigma Training, and Resiliency Training Assistant
- Leadership School – for current or aspiring level leaders (selected by deputy assistant directors)

B. Report, discussion, and possible action on cancellation of a Driver License lease in Cedar Hill (1:33:15)

Update provided by Assistant Directors Amanda Arriaga and Skylor Hearn:

- Driver License will lose 108 vacant positions due to 4% General Revenue reduction in the 2018-19 Biennium and reduce facility locations to reduce operational costs
- Cedar Hill site is underutilized and is 5.6 miles from the Dallas South Mega Center

- Staff from Cedar Hill site will be transferred to the Dallas South Mega Center
- Legislators have been briefed of the upcoming change
- Administrative Code allows an agency to break leases for two reasons: (1) idle capacity or idle facility, and (2) lack of funding; DPS qualifies under both cases
- Requesting authority from the Commission to contact the Texas Facilities Commission (TFC) to contact the lessor to cancel the Cedar Hill lease

A motion was made by Commissioner Watson, seconded by Commissioner Flores, to approve termination of the Cedar Hill lease. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Report, discussion, and possible action on the following rule proposals for publication to receive public comment:

1. Amendments to 37 TAC Section 1.261, concerning Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) (1:38:43)

A motion was made by Commissioner Leon, seconded by Commissioner Flores, to approve New Business, Item C1, to receive public comment. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Intelligence Threat Briefing (Clearance Required – Executive Session Expected)

ONGOING BUSINESS (1:40:23)

A. Update report, discussion and possible action regarding recruitment (1:40:35)

Update provided by Assistant Director Woodall:

- A-2017 School currently has 128 recruits, graduation scheduled 6/16/17 – 2 recruits are having difficulty with firearms and driving qualifications
- B-2017 School currently has 89 recruits, graduation scheduled 8/18/17
- C-2017 School currently has 1,341 applicants, 70 selected, school begins 5/21/17, graduation scheduled 8/4/17 (modified school)

B. Report, discussion, and possible action regarding the appointment, promotion, ratification, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a member of the Department or Commission management team (1:42:43)

Director McCraw is seeking advice and consent to promote Sonia Garcia to Assistant Director Education, Training & Research.

A motion was made by Commissioner Leon, seconded by Commissioner Flores, approving advice and consent to promote Sonia Garcia to Assistant Director Education, Training & Research. Motion passed unanimously.

Director McCraw is also seeking advice and consent for the following:

Mike Miller – Deputy Assistant Director, TDEM Field Response
Shannon Wallace – Deputy Assistant Director, Innovation and Application Services for Information Technology Division
Angie Kendall – Deputy Assistant Director, Crime Records Service for Law Enforcement Support Division
Kevin Meade – Deputy Assistant Director, Dispute Resolution Office

A motion was made by Commissioner Leon, seconded by Commissioner Watson, approving advice and consent for the Deputy Assistant Director promotions of Mike Miller, Shannon Wallace, Angie Kendall and Kevin Meade. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Report, discussion, and possible action regarding ongoing criminal investigations pursuant to Government Code § 411.0041 (Executive Session anticipated)
To be discussed during Executive Session.

REPORTS (1:45:44)

- A. Commission member reports and discussion - none
- B. Finance Report - none
- C. Chief Auditors Office - none
- D. Division status reports on activities and action - none

CONSENT ITEMS (1:45:56)

- A. Advice and consent regarding director's determination that certain probationary employees were found unsuitable for work during February 2017
- B. Discussion and possible action on appointments of Special Rangers and Special Texas Rangers pursuant to Government Code Chapter 411, Secs. 411.023 & 411.024; Special Rangers: Gary D. Briley, Jimmy G. Cardenas, Gregory W. Evans, Joe C. Frias, Kevin A. Gillam, Michael E. Gullledge, Gregory F. Guillory, Johnny J. Hirst, Wesley L. Hord, Roger D. Penny, John W. Ramsey, Jimmy C. Towe, Raul Vargas, Lee C. Vaughan, James C. Warren and Birt F. Wilkerson; Special Texas Rangers: Calvin D. Cox and Jesse J. Mack

C. Donations:

1. Use of Pate Ranch – Ranger Company "A"
2. Additional donation items, as needed

A motion was made by Commissioner Watson, seconded by Commissioner Flores, approving Consent Items. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA (1:46:39)

None at this time.

DATE FOR FUTURE MEETING (1:46:48)

The regular Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2017; no discharge hearing is scheduled for June.

ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission adjourned into Executive Session to discuss security issues, to consult with legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation or settlement offers or to receive legal advice on items posted on this agenda; deliberation regarding real estate matters; consideration of any other items authorized by law, including personnel matters, the Director's action of discharging employees as identified in this agenda; ongoing criminal investigations. Executive Session began at 11:03 a.m.

(1:47:56) The Public Safety Commission reconvened in open session at 2:51 p.m. Commissioners present were Chairman Steven Mach, Commissioners Manny Flores, Cynthia Leon and Randy Watson.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Commissioner Flores, seconded by Commissioner Watson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Read and approved this 15th day of June, 2017.



Chairman

SPECIAL RANGER/SPECIAL TEXAS RANGER APPLICANTS
April 27, 2017



Special Ranger Applicants:

Name	Division	Service/Station	Retire Date	Years of Service	Approved
Briley, Gary D.	THP	Palestine	08/31/2003	28	
Cardenas, Jimmy G.	THP	Beeville	08/31/2008	29	
Evans, Gregory W.	THP	Woodville	03/31/2017	27	
Frias, Joe C.	THP	Raymondville	05/31/2003	23	
Gillam, Kevin A.	THP	Beaumont	02/28/2017	32	
Gulledge, Michael E.	CID	Kerrville	08/31/2002	29	
Guillory, Gregory F.	THP	Houston	10/31/2000	20	
Hirst, Johnny J.	THP	San Angelo	11/30/2004	24	
Hord, Wesley L.	Aviation	Austin	08/31/1998	31	
Penny, Roger D.	THP	Mt. Pleasant	08/31/2016	26	
Ramsey, John W.	THP	Georgetown	12/31/2010	20	
Towe, Jimmy C.	CLE	Hurst	08/31/2003	20	
Vargas, Raul	THP	Austin	12/31/2016	30	
Vaughan, Lee C.	CID	Houston	02/28/2017	30	
Warren, James C.	CID	Lubbock	08/31/2007	29	
Wilkerson, Birt F.	THP	Granbury	08/01/1995	34	

Special Texas Ranger Applicants:

Name	Division	Service/Station	Retire Date	Years of Service	Approved
Cox, Calvin D.	Texas Ranger	Abilene	08/31/2007	29	
Mack, Jesse J.	Texas Ranger	Houston	12/31/2000	24	

Approved by the Public Safety Commission on: _____

[Handwritten Signature]

Date: 4/27/17