

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PEACE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA, INC.

The Executive Committee of the Peace Officers' Association of Georgia, Inc. held a meeting at 11 A. M. in the large courtroom of the Houston County Courthouse, Perry, Georgia on July 20, 2012. Committee members attending included President Stephen Adams, Vice President Kyle Sapp, Board Members Dennis Bell and Tommy Spires, Secretary-Treasurer John Edwards, Legislative Chairman Homer Bryson, Attorney Frank Childs and Executive Director Marion Conley. Chaplain Rick Lanford was unable to attend. Visitors included Dottie Harden, Lisa Bryson, and Anita Edwards.

President Adams called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Legislative Chairman Homer Bryson led us in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Adams.

Tommy Spires made a motion which was seconded by Kyle Sapp to approve the minutes and financial report from the June, 2012 meeting. The motion carried.

President Adams thanked Sheriff Talton, Board Member Tommy Spires, Dottie Harden and the rest of the Houston County Sheriff's Department for their wonderful hospitality in hosting this meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer John Edwards reported that registration is moving along very well. He also reported that there will be a sergeant-at-arms at all functions of the convention to guide, assist and monitor all events.

Tommy Spires made a motion which was seconded by Homer Bryson and passed to allow the registration workers, POAG hospitality room workers, sergeant-at-arms and the photographer to pay no convention registration fee. The Committee agreed these workers are actively participating in the work of the convention and are dedicated toward significant duties toward the business of the Convention.

The rooming list for the convention was reviewed and approved. Secretary Edwards was happy to report the budget forecast for the convention was completed except for the ladies auxiliary brunch for Tuesday the 21st and coffee for students who had paid training fees. Edwards reported the new line item expenses for sandwiches, finger foods and beverages for all members in the POAG hospitality room. Edwards thanked John Conley for his donation of hospitality room supplies that saved the Association funds. This year's convention budget was forecasted at \$20,544.00. This does not include the deduction of funds received from convention, training registration, raffle ticket sales and donations that will be subtracted from this budget figure when tabulated. This forecasted budget is within the range of past cost over the last several years.

Secretary Edwards asked for the Boards approval to invite the local Chiefs and

Sheriffs to attend the FBI Ndex presentation by Leslie Hoppey of FBI/CJIS in West Virginia. This productive program is an outreach to improve law enforcement operations nationwide through information and technology.

The proposed convention program was distributed to Board members for approval. Edwards briefed the Board regarding convention bags donated by Georgia Farm Bureau and discount coupons for many significant discounts on meals, tours, entertainment and shopping. Further, new badges and carriers will be used to present for major discounts at several restaurants at Tybee Island.

Edwards advised of the preparations of several constitutional amendments for the resolution committee regarding the inclusion of the Intelligence Analyst position as an active member and to publish our annual audit in the POAG magazine instead of inheriting printing cost. The question also came up regarding other possible amendments as a result of Bob Brown and Martin Moses forum that could be drafted by the Secretary-Treasurer and reviewed by the resolution committee. Attorney Frank Childs advised Edwards could write several different resolutions for committee passage and then vote on the one with the most support.

Secretary Edwards reported that all sergeant-at-arms will wear shirts with the POAG logo. This will enable all delegates to readily identify a sergeant-at-arms if they need assistance.

Secretary Edwards reminded everyone of the forum scheduled for Monday at 3 P.M. of the convention for the discussion of the Association's liabilities with the \$1,000 death benefit. Martin Moses and Bob Brown, both past POAG presidents will facilitate this forum to solicit ideas and solutions concerning future membership issues and its effect upon the POAG finances. All members are encouraged to attend this forum. The Board expressed special appreciation to Bob Brown and Martin Moses for their time they have dedicated toward this forum.

Secretary Edwards reported that the Peace Officers Association of Georgia Foundation is officially a 501©3 foundation. We have our tax identifying number for the Foundation but, we do not have our status letter from IRS at this time. Secretary Edwards advised that CPA Billy Hickman advised to wait before accepting donations until such time as the IRS was on file. However, donations would be deductible retroactive at this time. The Board recommended that the best practice would be to not accept donations until the IRS letter has arrived. CPA Billy Hickman advised Secretary Edwards there would be an \$850 filing fee to IRS. The Committee unanimously agreed to pay this fee. The motion to pay the fee was made by Homer Bryson and seconded by Tommy Spires. Secretary Edwards reminded the Committee

there would be only two employees at this time for the Foundation, an administrative accounts manager and Edwards as Executive Director but this could be amended at any time that it became necessary to do so. Secretary Edwards hoped to call a Foundation Board meeting soon to begin operations, goals and objectives. The Committee expressed a goal of \$50,000 for the first year's projected donations. CPA Hickman forecast we will have the letter from IRS by December. Edwards plans to devote much time to traveling the State and create collaborations to identify funding opportunities for the Foundation.

Secretary Edwards reported the new computers are installed at the office along with the new membership database. These hardware and software systems will be tested and used to begin the total transitions from analog and paper to digital. The process has begun to perfect the database to ensure the system supports and functions for the maximum benefit and utility. The new system will not be used at this convention unless testing proves to be seamless during transition. The old system of registration will be available in support of any new systems until the convention is complete.

CPA Billy Hickman has agreed to help Secretary Edwards with recommendations for writing policies and procedures for the office regarding divisions of responsibilities, financial procedures and protocols. This will enhance the operations and integrity of the office and enable cross training. Moreover, such will create the infrastructure to bifurcate the Foundation and Association revenue streams.

Secretary Edwards advised there needed to be criteria for the valor and meritorious service awards for the officer of the year. The Board approved and Edwards advised he would write several for the Boards review and approval. Edwards also discussed changing the deadline for these awards from June 30th each year to a much earlier deadline. This would definitely improve the time line for being able to accomplish all the details that accompany the awarding of these awards.

President Adams called for the selection of the "POAG Peace Officer of the Year for Valor and Meritorious Service". It was decided to choose the Meritorious Service award recipient first. Kyle Sapp made a motion which was seconded by Tommy Spires to award Dr. Archie Rainey the Officer of the Year for Meritorious Service. This motion passed. Secretary Treasurer Edwards abstained in his vote because he had nominated Dr. Rainey.

A brief discussion ensued on the valor award recipients. Finally Tommy Spires made a motion which was seconded by Dennis Bell to award the valor officer of the year award to Coweta County Sheriff's Deputy Jason Michael Ross. This motion also passed. Vice President Kyle Sapp made a suggestion that perhaps next year prior to voting an

investigative committee could talk with the supervisors of each nominee.

Next on the agenda was the awarding of scholarships. Marion Conley reported that we had \$1,250.00 from Planters Telephone that had been designated for scholarships. After a discussion it was decided to award a \$500 Jimmy Waters Scholarship to Heather Reynolds and three \$250.00 scholarships to Sarah Elizabeth Gibson, Ty Atkism and Thomas Waters.

A discussion began regarding life memberships. Watkinsville Police Chief Lee E. O'Dillon had previously been awarded a life membership. Upon a motion by Kyle Sapp the following individuals were awarded life memberships: Walton County Sheriff Joe Chapman, Dr. Archie Rainey, Director of Georgia's Law Enforcement Command College at Columbus State University and Lance LoRusso. An Associate life membership was given to Truett Cathy of Chick-Fil-A. Kyle's motion was seconded by Tommy Spires and passed.

Vice President Kyle Sapp asked the Committee's permission to waive late fees for all convention registration and training. The State has encountered time problems with budget cycle responsibilities making it impossible to get their paperwork and checks to the office by July 19th. Further, the movement of the convention date from September to August had become too short for the State agencies fiscal year budget closures. The Committee decided to waive all late fees for everyone this year.

Secretary Treasurer Edwards advised the Board that our CPA Billy Hickman has donated much time toward our new auditing efforts and transitions at POAG and with the preparation of documents for our Foundation. CPA Hickman's firm specializes in forensic audits in support of prosecutors and other State and Federal agencies while investigating embezzlements and frauds. As result Edwards asked for the Board's approval to post CPA Hickman's forensic resume on the POAG website. Such would enhance the POAG and Foundation's credibility with membership and future donors and assist law enforcement with acquiring a reputable and credible accounting firm for forensic financial investigations statewide. The Board approved Edwards's recommendation to place Dabb's, Hickman, Deal and Cannon CPA Firm resume on our website.

Kyle reported, with the Committee's approval, he would order a new supply of POAG golf type pullover shirts in the new "cooler" material from 5.11. The Committee approved.

President Adams adjourned the meeting.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John B. Edwards", with a stylized, cursive script.

JOHN B. EDWARDS
SECRETARY-TREASURER