

**Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police  
Executive Board Meeting  
Westin Savannah Harbor Hotel  
Savannah, GA  
July 25, 2015**

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**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the First Vice President, Chief George Turner.

Vice President George Turner asked Executive Director Rotondo to read the roll.

**Roll Call**

\*President, Chief M. Keith Glass  
1<sup>st</sup> VP, Chief George N. Turner  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Chief Billy Grogan  
3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Warden Dennis S. Nelson  
4<sup>th</sup> VP, Chief Joseph W. Wirthman  
Immediate Past President, David L. Lyons  
Chairman of District Reps., Chief George Stagmeier  
Executive Director, Frank V. Rotondo  
General Counsel, Michael A. Caldwell  
*\*Indicates Board Member not in attendance*

In accordance with the GACP Constitution and Bylaws, it was noted that a quorum of Executive Board Members were in attendance.

**Others in Attendance:** Chief Lance Poss, Columbia County BOE Campus Police; Chief Tony Baily, West Point PD; Chief Wayne Dennard, Acworth PD; Chief Bill Westenberger, Kennesaw PD; Chief Steve Heaton, Griffin PD; Director Daniel Branch, Buford DPS; Chief Michael Jones, Suwanee PD; Chief Carol Martin, Gainesville PD; Chief Connie Sampson, GA State University PD; Chief Wesley Walker, Lyons PD; Captain Bill Wellmaker, Gwinnett County Schools PD; Director Vernon Keenan, GA Bureau of Investigations; Director Robbie Friedmann, GILEE

**Presentation of Previous Minutes**

Executive Director Rotondo presented the minutes of the previous board meeting for review. **Motion made by Chief Lyons, seconded by Chief Grogan to accept the minutes of the June 16, 2015 Board Meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Financial Report**

Executive Director Rotondo presented the financial reports dated May 31, 2015. **Motion made by Chief Lyons, seconded by Chief Stagmeier to accept the financial reports dated May 31, 2015 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Rotondo reintroduced Tim Bearden who is now employed by the Guardian Center in Perry, GA. Mr. Bearden spoke briefly about the Guardian Training Center and encouraged all in attendance to stop by the center for a tour.

Executive Director Rotondo asked GACP Training Director, June Killian, to give an overview of the training associated with the Summer Conference.

➤ **Request for Life Membership**

Executive Director Rotondo requested the Board to consider Chris Harvey, Director of Investigations for the Secretary of State's Office, for Life Membership. Executive Director Rotondo stated that Director Harvey met the criteria for Life Membership as outlined by the GACP's Constitutional Bylaws. **Motion made by Chief Grogan, seconded by Chief Lyons to approve the Life Membership status of Director Chris Harvey. Motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Director Rotondo asked the Board to consider Life Membership for Chief James Lewis (retired) of Hephzibah Police Department. Retired Chief Lewis had over 25 years law enforcement experience with 17 of those years spent as Chief of Hephzibah Police Department. **Motion made by Chief Grogan, seconded by Chief Stagmeier to approve the Life Membership status of Chief James Lewis. Motion passed unanimously.**

➤ **Endorsement of Chief Rick Smith, IACP Unopposed Vice President at Large**

Executive Director Rotondo requested that the Board consider the endorsement of Chief Rick Smith of Maine for an unopposed at large VP position for the IACP. **Motion made by Chief Lyons, seconded by Chief Wirthman to approve the endorsement of Chief Rick Smith for an unopposed at large VP position for the IACP. Motion passed unanimously.**

➤ **GA Legislative Black Caucus Meeting Invitation and Acceptance**

Executive Director Rotondo informed the Board of his acceptance of an invitation to speak at a conference for the GA Legislative Black Caucus members on St. Simon's Island during the weekend of August 21, 2015. The focus of the speech/panel discussion is "Racially Biased Police Tactics".

➤ **Possible Legislation Expanding Duties of Marshal's Offices**

Executive Director Rotondo spoke briefly about a possible piece of legislation that may be introduced in 2016. That legislation may lay the foundation of the expansion of duties associated with county marshals.

➤ **Unexpected Building Repair Expense**

Executive Director Rotondo alerted the board of an unexpected building repair expense of \$13,000 for air conditioning units.

➤ **Retirement of Chief Frank Strickland, Griffin Police Department**

Executive Director Rotondo recently received an email stating that Griffin Police Chief, Frank Strickland, was retiring after 13 years of service at Griffin PD. He has accepted a position as a law enforcement manager and instructor at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

**President's Report**

- President Glass was not available to attend this board meeting.

**Board Reports**

- First VP Turner spoke briefly about the findings of the President's Task Force on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, which include 6 pillars containing approximately 90 action items. Chief Turner also indicated that the report speaks briefly about repeat felony offenders, mental health challenges and gun laws that foster additional crimes. Chief Turner fears that police officers may be losing their performance drive. Additionally, Chief Turner spoke briefly about FirstNet First Responder Network Authority, which is responsible for the nationwide public safety broadband network.
- Chief Grogan spoke briefly about restructuring the Foundation Board. Additionally, Chief Grogan indicated he was contacted by the GA Appleseed Project and he met their Project Coordinator to discuss police procedures. Chief Grogan also indicated his department recently received State Certification and his political leaders were pleased by this accomplishment.
- Chief Wirthman had no report.
- Warden Nelson had no report.
- Chief Lyons thanked all members of the association for allowing him to be on the board and serve as their President last year.

**Old Business**

- None

**New Business**

- None

**Executive Session**

- **A motion was made by *Chief Grogan*, seconded by *Chief Lyons* to enter into executive session. Motion passed unanimously.**

- The focus of the executive session was a modification of Executive Director Rotondo's contract. The modifications were as follows:

The GACP will increase the employer's retirement amount of contribution into Executive Director Rotondo's 401(a) by 6 percent, retroactive to July 1, 2015 (as per the employment contract) and to increase the length of Executive Director Rotondo's contract, which was due to expire December 13, 2016 to December 31, 2018 with all other stipulations in the contract remaining the same.

- **Motion made by *Chief Grogan*, seconded by *Chief Stagmeier* to approve the modifications in Executive Director Rotondo's employment contract as noted. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Motion made by *Chief Wirthman* and seconded by *Chief Lyons* to exit the executive session and resume the open meeting.**

#### **Adjournment**

- **A motion was made by *Chief Grogan*, seconded by *Chief Stagmeier* to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**