

**Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police  
Executive Board Meeting  
Georgia Public Safety Training Center  
Atlanta, Georgia  
September 27, 2018**

---

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Chief Joseph Wirthman.

Chief Joseph Wirthman read the roll call.

**Roll Call**

President, Chief Joseph Wirthman

1<sup>st</sup> VP, Chief Wesley Walker

2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Chief Tony Tanner

3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Chief J. Frank Waits

4<sup>th</sup> VP, Chief Bruce Hedley

Immediate Past President, Warden Dennis Nelson

Chairman of District Reps., Chief Bruce Carlisle

\*\*Executive Director, Frank V. Rotondo – On Leave

\*\*General Counsel, Michael A. Caldwell – Absent due to IACP Business

\*\**Indicates Board Member not in attendance*

Under the GACP Constitution and By-Laws, a quorum of Executive Board Members was in attendance.

**Others in Attendance:** Chief Augustus Palmer, Waynesboro PD; Captain James Jermon, Vidalia PD

**Presentation of Previous Minutes**

President Wirthman presented the minutes of the July 21, 2018 board meeting for review. **Motion made by Chief J. Frank Waits and seconded by Warden Dennis Nelson to accept the minutes of the May 1, 2018 Board Meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Financial Report**

Assistant Executive Director Orrick distributed to all board members a copy of GACP's financial report dated August 31, 2018, as well as, a financial report for FY2018 one week prior to GACP's Board Meeting as per policy. **Motion made Chief Wesley Walker and seconded by Chief Tony Tanner to accept the financial report dated August 31, 2018 and FY2018 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Executive Director's Report** - Assistant Executive Director Dwayne Orrick will handle in the absence of Executive Director Frank V. Rotondo

- Life Membership
  - Marshal Frankie Peacock, Byron Marshal's Office

Assistant Executive Director Orrick indicated Marshal Frankie Peacock fulfills the requirement for Life Membership under the GACP Constitution. **Motion made by Chief J. Frank Waits**

**and seconded by Warden Dennis Nelson to grant Life Membership to Marshal Frankie Peacock. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Discussion of possible Benefits for family of Frank McClelland, Jr.

Assistant Executive Director Orrick presented for discussion the possibility of the GACP providing monetary benefits for the family of Frank McClelland. **Chief Walker made a motion for \$750 to be sent and was seconded by Chief Tony Tanner.** During the discussion of the motion, it was noted Chief McClelland held the title of chief and was feloniously killed in the line of duty. Chief Walker rescinded his motion. **Motion made by Chief Bruce Hedley and seconded by Chief Wesley Walker to approve \$5000 be given to the family of Chief Frank McClelland. Motion passed unanimously.**

Chief Wesley Walker agreed to take the lead in preparing a date and time for presentation of said funds.

- Lt. John White – First African American Law Enforcement Officer in Georgia

Assistant Executive Director Orrick talked about a request from Chatham County Chief Jeffrey Hadley regarding retired Savannah P.D. Lieutenant John White. Lt. White was in one of the first classes of African American Marines to graduate from basic training at Camp Montford Point, North Carolina in July 1943. After the war, White was one of the first 9 African American officers hired by the Savannah Police Department in 1947. After completion of his basic training, he was the first African American to be sworn-in as a police officer in the State of Georgia. He went on to serve the Savannah Police Department for 37 years.

The Board directed staff to provide an appropriate award and resolution for presentation to Lt. White honoring his service to our profession. Staff will coordinate the presentation with Savannah-Area law enforcement agencies and GACP Members.

- The Board also discussed the potential of providing a life insurance for active members and directed to staff to explore the alternatives.

### **President's Report**

- *President, Chief Joseph Wirthman*
  - No report at this time

### **Executive Board's Report**

- *1<sup>st</sup> VP, Chief Wesley Walker*
  - No report at this time
- *2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Chief Tony Tanner*
  - Chief Tanner noted a recent problem with officers leaving law enforcement agencies within the first 24-months of employment and joining a newly formed school police department. When the department asked for reimbursement, the school denied the request claiming the law did not apply to school systems. Several alternatives were

discussed including POST's position on this matter, strengthening employer/employee contracts and seeking a legislative change to the Title 35 section of the State Code.

- *3<sup>rd</sup> VP Chief J. Frank Waits*
  - No report at this meeting
- *4<sup>th</sup> VP, Chief Bruce Hedley*
  - No report at this meeting
- *Chairman of District Representatives, Chief Bruce Carlisle*
  - No report at this meeting
- *Immediate Past President, Warden Dennis Nelson*
  - No report at this meeting

### **Old Business**

- None

### **New Business**

- Assistant Executive Director Orrick gave a brief synopsis of legislative study committees:
  - Joint Study Commission on Low THC Medical Oil Access is exploring alternatives to provide persons who have been prescribed the oil under the State law legal access to the medicine.
  - Senate Study Committee on School Safety – The Committee has been very active in meeting around the State.
  - COPS Committee met earlier this month and talked about several issues but has halted meetings until after upcoming election.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion made by *Chief J. Frank Waits* and seconded by *Chief Tony Tanner* to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**