

**Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police
Executive Board Meeting
Winter Training Conference
Jekyll Island, Georgia
February 9, 2020**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President, Chief Wesley Walker.

Invocation

President Walker asked Buford Public Safety Director, Dan Branch, to give the invocation.

President Walker read the roll call.

Roll Call

President, Chief Wesley Walker

1st VP, Chief Bruce Hedley

2nd VP, Chief Janet Moon

3rd VP, Chief Alan Rowe

4th VP, Chief Mark Scott

Immediate Past President, Chief Joseph Wirthman

Chairman of District Reps., Chief Bruce Carlisle

Executive Director, Butch Ayers

General Counsel, Michael A. Caldwell

***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: Asst. Executive Director Dwayne Orrick, GACP; Chief Lou Dekmar, LaGrange PD; Director Billy Mixon, Command College; Chief Michael Mansour, Villa Rica PD; Deputy Chief (ret) Glen Mowry; Commander Taras Holloman, Atlanta Public Schools PD; Chief Woodrow Blue, Donalsonville PD; Chief James Callaway, Morrow PD; Spec. Asst. Didi Nelson, U.S. Attorney's Office; Chief Billy Grogan, Dunwoody PD; Chief Gary Yandura, Brookhaven PD; Chief Mark Welsh, Elberton PD; Director Daniel Branch, Buford Dept. of Public Safety; Chief Michael S. Jones, Suwanee PD; Chief Denise Downer-McKinney, Rome PD; Asst. Chief Debbie Burnett, Rome PD; Chief Bill Westenberger, Kennesaw PD; Chief Wayne Dennard, Acworth PD; Chief Michael Carswell, Holly Springs PD; Chief Tim Wallis, Lawrenceville PD; Chief Michael Baxter, Blairsville PD; Asst. Chief Shawn Dyer, Blairsville PD; Chief Billy Hancock, Ocilla PD; Chief (ret) Steve Land; LE Coordinator, Dan Greathouse, ROCIC; Chief Dan Flynn, Marietta PD.

Presentation of Previous Minutes

President Walker presented the minutes of the January 16, 2020 board meeting for review. **Motion made by Chief Bruce Carlisle and seconded by Chief Alan Rowe to accept the minutes of the January 16, 2020 Board Meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

Financial Report

Executive Director Ayers distributed to all board members a copy of GACP's financial report dated December 31, 2019 at least one week prior to GACP's Board Meeting as per policy. **Motion made by**

Chief Janet Moon and seconded by Chief Alan Rowe to accept the financial report dated December 31, 2019 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

- Critical Response Group Contract
 - Executive Director Ayers reported that at the January Board meeting, the Board authorized him to enter into a contractual agreement with the Critical Response Group (CRG). The contract as reviewed and approved by GACP General Counsel was signed by all parties on January 24, 2020. As part of this agreement, CRG will provide GACP \$25.00 for each graphic sold under this royalty agreement and \$100.00 royalty fee for each tabletop exercise each Georgia school contracts with CRG to conduct. In addition, CRG has agreed to include the royalty fee for each school they had previously entered into a contract with the Gwinnett County Schools.

- Financial Documents Update
 - Executive Director Ayers reported at the January Board meeting that the Board authorized him to remove Retired Executive Director Frank V. Rotondo as an Authorized Signature on all GACP financial documents and add A.A. "Butch" Ayers as Executive Director/CEO and W. Dwayne Orrick as Assistance Executive Director/CFO as Authorized Signatures. This was completed on February 7, 2020.

- Life Membership Updates
 - Executive Director Ayers reported at the January Board meeting, the Board voted and approved for three members, David Stan Bexley, Bryan Golden, and Craig Watson, be awarded life memberships. The boxes and identification cards provided to all Life Members were received on February 7, 2020 and will be mailed to each member within 10 business days.

- POST Council Survey
 - Executive Director Ayers reported at the January Board meeting, the Board voted and approved for the staff to email a survey to our members for POST Council Executive Director Mike Ayers. The purpose of the survey was to measure the use of and support for psychological assessments of new hires. This survey was sent to all 'heads of agencies' on February 4, 2020.

- Investment Firms Update
 - Executive Director Ayers reported at the January Board meeting, presentations were provided by two investment advisory firms, Fourth Street Performance Partners and Fiduciary Vest. Pursuant to these presentations, the Board directed he analyze both proposals and make recommendations to the Board based on the fees, projected returns, services provided and track record.

Fourth Street Performance Partners
211 Garrard Street
Covington, KY 41011

9.3 billion in assets
Average Experience: 25 years
Investment fee. .76%

Fiduciary Vest

115 Perimeter Center Place, N.E.
South Terraces, Suite 920
Atlanta, GA 30346

4.6 billion in assets
Average Experience: 22 Years
Investment Fee: .85% 1 – 3 Million
.75% 3 – 5 Million

GACP is currently paying Wells Fargo 1.25% management fee plus .21% Mutual Fund/ETF for a total of 1.46%.

A total of six references, three from each company, were interviewed. Each reference gave outstanding reviews of their experiences and returns on investment. Each noted the companies helped them craft an investment policy to match their needs and risk tolerance and worked within that policy once it was implemented. Both companies provide quarterly reports with graphics that compare their performance to established indices for the index, provide an annual in-person review with the board and are readily available for answer questions and offer advice.

With all things being close to equal, Executive Director Ayers recommended the GACP enter into an agreement with Atlanta-based Financial Vest. **Motion made by Chief Mark Scott and seconded by Chief Bruce Carlisle to enter into an agreement with Financial Vest to provide financial investment services. Motion passed unanimously.**

➤ Legislative Update

- Executive Director Ayers provided a review of several bills being discussed at the Capitol.
 - HB 440 proposes to raise the legal age to be charged as an adult from 17 to 18. Georgia is one of four states that make the legal age for being charged as an adult at 17. Proponents state the brain is not fully developed until 26 years of age. They do not want persons to have a permanent criminal record for bad judgment. However, the science also notes these persons do know the difference between right and wrong behavior. The Georgia Sheriffs and GACP both oppose increasing the legal age and gave joint testimony of their opposition on February 6, 2020. The sheriffs noted their concern regarding the cost associated with transporting 17-year old offenders to juvenile justice facilities only to have to pick them up and return to the DJJ facility the next day. Some of these transports are for more than 100 miles one way. The juvenile court judges and DJJ both held no position on the change. DJJ also

added they will have to modify and add to their current facilities to accommodate the increase in population.

- HB 488 provides for prosecuting persons who purchase illegal gift cards. The bill is not directed toward the regular shoplifter. Rather the bill is designed to address organized retail theft. It requires companies that purchase gift cards to fingerprint and photograph persons selling the cards and provide the information to law enforcement agencies within 24 hours. This is similar to the requirements for pawn shops and metal recyclers. When they should reasonably know the cards are stolen, the buyer can be charged with the offense and can be fined up to \$25,000.
- SB 35 would restrict sex offenders from residing near or moving within 2,000 feet of their victim or a relative of the victim. This bill is still in committee.
- HB 113 Hands-Free Bill proposes to remove the 1st offense exception and increase fines. The concern is the bill currently proposes sending this money to the trauma center. GMA and ACCG both voiced their opposition to fine money going to a state. In the most recent presentation, committee members voiced concern about increasing the fines and its relationship to reducing offenses.
- SB 317 Bill to Abolish Glynn County Police Department. Executive Director Ayers noted the County Commission Chair spoke before the committee for 30 – 45 minutes. It appears to be a personal difference between individuals in the county. The bill was voted out of committee along party lines with a 5/4 vote.
- SB 249 will increase Peace Officer Annuity and Benefit Fund (POAB) benefits. This bill proposes increasing dues from \$25 to \$30 a month as well as increasing the add-on fees. Benefits for current and future recipients will be increased from \$740 a month to \$900 a month for 30 years of service. GACP, Georgia Sheriffs, Peace Officer Association of Georgia (POAG), Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG), and Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) all support this proposal.
- SB 883 Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force does not include the GACP as a board member. Staff will be reaching out to the sponsor to request we be included.

Currently, the House and Senate have taken a week to work on the budget and will begin meetings next Tuesday, February 18, 2020. Particular concern has been voiced about reduction in funding for basic academy classes. Chief Bruce Carlisle reported some agencies are offering to pay the \$5,800 for the academy to host an academy class. They will have to make the donation to the Board of Public Safety and earmark it for the specific academy.

Elberton Police Chief Mark Welsh noted the GACP conducted a white paper in 2012 on the separation of funds received as a fine add-on. He noted agencies are being placed under greater pressure to provide more training in de-escalation techniques and interpersonal relations. He

asked GACP put greater push for funds from fine add-on be provided for local government. Chief Welsh suggested staff prepare an executive summary for the white paper so it can be used to explain to elected officials.

President's Report

- *President, Chief Wesley Walker*
 - No report at this meeting

Executive Board's Report

- *1st VP, Chief Bruce Hedley*
 - Chief Bruce Hedley asked for members to attend the Goals Conference on March 14, 2020. During this meeting, the group can offer suggestions for the association to focus on during the next year.
 - Chief Bruce Hedley also asked that Executive Director Butch Ayers and Assistant Executive Director conduct a survey of the membership regarding their preference for the location of the 2021 Winter Conference.
- *2nd VP, Chief Janet Moon*
 - No report at this meeting
- *3rd VP Chief Alan Rowe*
 - No report at this meeting
- *4th VP, Chief Mark Scott*
 - Chief Mark Scott provided an update on the Attrition and Retention Study. The research staff has already conducted the literature review. In addition, they recently received the database information requested from POST Council and are currently analyzing this data to determine demographic information of officers' work history to identify trends in officers' promotional history, changing agencies, or choosing to leave law enforcement.
- *Chairman of District Representatives, Chief Bruce Carlisle*
 - No report at this meeting
- *Immediate Past President, Chief Joseph Wirthman*
 - Chief Joseph Wirthman reported there are three persons who have announced they are running for 4th Vice President. They include Stoney Mathis, Jay Parrish, and Michael Persley. Other persons interested in announcing their candidacy must do so before the end of the Business Meeting on Monday.
- *General Counsel, Michael Caldwell*
 - General Counsel Michael Caldwell announced he would be available throughout the entire conference for anyone needing advice.

Old Business



New Business



Adjournment

Motion made by *Chief Joseph Wirthman* and seconded by *Chief Alan Rowe* to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.