State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor
Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement
and Administration of Criminal Justice

JEFF LANDRY
GOVERNOR

JIM CRAFT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

APPROVED
6-11-26

Commission Meeting
MINUTES

West Baton Rouge Conference Center
2750 North Westport Drive
Port Allen, Louisiana 70767

March 19, 2026
10:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quarterly meeting of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice was held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux, III, Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sheriff Brett Stassi, and the Invocation was led by Mr. Billy McConnell.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Lisa Dreher conducted the roll call. A membership quorum was present.

The following Commission members or their representatives were present: Sheriff Jason Ard, proxy for Judge Brian K. Abels; Sheriff Jason Ard; Assistant Chief Joe Salmon, proxy for Chief Darrell Basco; Judge Sandra Jenkins, proxy for Chief Judge Roland Belsome; Mayor Ray Bourque; Sheriff Becket Breaux; Mr. Bradley R. Burget; Mr. Daniel Jackson, proxy for Mr. Kevin Cobb; Mr. Salvador M. Lejarza, proxy for Chief Keith Conley; Ms. Katie Lafleur, proxy for Mr. Michael Cormaci; Cpl. Farris Fife; Sheriff Mark Garber; Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux, III; Judge Gail Grover; Chief Randal Hermes; Col. Robert P. Hodges; Mr. William K. "Billy" McConnell; Ms. Courtney Myers; Chief Vance Olivier; Chief Deputy Steve Pezant; Mr. Tod Ardoin, proxy for Chief Judge Elizabeth Pickett; Judge Sandra Jenkins, proxy for Chief Judge Frances Pitman; Mr. Chad Pitre; Sheriff Jason Ard, proxy for Sheriff Jayson Richardson; Capt. John Babin, proxy for Sheriff Thomas S. Romero; Ms. Kristine Russell; Ms. Jennifer B. Settoon; Sheriff Brett Stassi; Mr. Phillip Terrell; Sheriff Mike Tubbs; Mr. Doug Welborn; Secretary Gary Westcott; Sheriff Julian Whittington, and Mr. Hackley Willis.

The following District Directors or their representatives were present: Mr. Jeremy Edwards, District 1 – Northwest Law Enforcement Planning District Inc. and District 3 – Red River Delta Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc.; Chief Deputy David Rigdon, District 2 – North Delta Law Enforcement Planning District, Inc. Ms. Amanda Bourque, District 4 - Evangeline Law Enforcement Council, Inc.; Ms. Amanda Bourque, representing District 5 - Capital District Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc. and District 6 – Southwest District Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc.; Mr. Ronald Lampard, District 7 – Jefferson CJCC and Metropolitan District (METLEC); Chief Jim Craft, District 8 – State Level, and Ms. Lisa Brown and Ms. Kevinn Poree, District 9 – City of New Orleans, Office of Criminal Justice Coordination.

LCLE staff members present included: Ms. Martha Addison, Mr. Grant Arbour; Ms. Autumn Blache, Ms. Rutha Chatwood, Chief Jim Craft, Ms. Lisa Dreher, Ms. Fredia Dunn, Ms. LaShinna Gauthier, Ms. Shelita Henry, Ms. Shineisha Jackson, Mr. Demetrius Joubert, Mr. Marshall Menou, Ms. Brittany Onezine; Ms. Brandy Payne, and Mr. Ingram Scott.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to adopt the agenda. A motion was made by Sheriff Stassi, seconded by Chief Deputy Pezant, and the motion passed without opposition.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 4, 2025. A motion was made by Chief Hermes, seconded by Chief Deputy Pezant, and the motion passed without opposition.

V. COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

A. Report of the Priorities Committee

Chief Craft reported that, on March 5, 2026, the Priorities Committee received all proposed allocations, applications, sole source for program requests, waiver requests, and grant increase requests via electronic mail.

On March 11, 2026, the Priorities Committee approved all items as presented and the following items will be considered for final approval at today's meeting:

- 101 allocations totaling $4,562,202
- 98 applications totaling $4,579,931
- 2 match waiver requests totaling $36,796
- 1 waiver request for equipment totaling $14,406
- 19 grant increase requests totaling $766,406

These items total $9,959,741 which will be awarded at today's meeting.

This concludes the report of the Priorities Committee.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Sheriff Tubbs and seconded by Sheriff Breaux. The motion passed without opposition.

B. Report of the Victim Services Advisory Board

In the absence of Sheriff Gary "Stitch" Guillory, Board Chair, Mr. Julio Galan reported that the Victim Services Advisory Committee met at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. A membership quorum was present.

The Board recommended approval of the following:

- 10 FY 2023 VOCA increases totaling $157,632
- 1 FY 2023 VOCA waiver totaling $14,406
- 2 FY 2024 VOCA waivers totaling $36,976
- 30 FY 2025 VOCA allocations totaling $2,695,987
- 29 FY 2025 VOCA applications totaling $2,678,037
- 21 FY 2025 STOP allocations totaling $752,496
- 21 FY 2025 STOP applications totaling $752,496

This concludes the report of the Victim Services Advisory Board.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Sheriff Stassi, seconded by Chief Deputy Pezant, and the motion passed with no opposition.

C. Report of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Advisory Board

Ms. Marcella Elliott, Board Chair, reported that the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. A membership quorum was present.

The Board recommended approval of the following:

- 3 JJDP allocations totaling $158,108
- 2 JJDP applications totaling $116,110
- 1 JJDP increase totaling $23

This concludes the report of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Board.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Sheriff Stassi and seconded by Sheriff Breaux. The motion passed without opposition.

D. Report of the Drug Control and Violent Crime Policy Board

In the absence of Col. Carlos Stout, Board Chair, Sheriff Mike Tubbs reported that the Drug Control and Violent Crime Policy Board met at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center. A membership quorum was present.

The Board recommended approval of the following:

- 50 FY 2024 allocations totaling $1,139,647
- 46 FY 2024 applications totaling $1,033,298
- 1 FY 2023 increase totaling $200,134
- All future FY 2023 residual funds will be given to District 8, Project #8461 Criminal Records Improvement
- Grant staff requests the approval of all waiver requests and sole source requests (reviewed by LCLE staff)

All of this activity is listed in the eGrants system.

This concludes the Drug Control and Violent Crime Policy Board Report.

Chairman Gautreaux called for a motion to accept the report. A motion was made by Sheriff Whittington, seconded by Mr. Pitre, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Planning Districts Request: Increase Fringe Benefits to 40% of Salary Costs *(Final Vote)*

Chief Craft stated that this item has been deferred from the March meeting. Further, he stated that the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE) staff recommends an increase in fringe benefits to 40% of salary costs for the Planning Districts.

After some discussion, Mr. Terrell made a motion to approve a 45% increase. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burget, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Consideration of PMT Penalty *(Final Vote)*

Chief Craft stated that this item has been deferred from the previous meeting to allow for additional clarification from staff. He further stated that, in an effort to reduce the frequency of delinquent quarterly federal Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) reporting by LCLE subrecipients, LCLE is proposing to implement a new award special condition to increase the penalty to 25%. This penalty will apply to subrecipients that are delinquent in PMT reporting for a minimum of two consecutive reporting cycles. The funds will be forfeited and reallocated in accordance with the respective planning district board guidelines.

A motion was made by Mr. Terrell, seconded by Mr. Pitre, and the motion passed without opposition.

C. Call for Other Old Business

Chairman Gautreaux called for Other Old Business, and there was none to discuss.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. POST Training Reimbursement Policy

Chief Craft reported that the Commission voted to suspend the training reimbursement policy two years ago. Since that time, collection monies have been used to pay priority items with no funds left for training reimbursement. This is a Commission policy that has been in place since the 1980s. Chief Craft stated that LCLE staff recommends rescinding the policy retroactive to July 1, 2025.

After discussion, a motion was made by Sheriff Garber to rescind the policy from July 1, 2025 to present. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pitre, and the motion passed without opposition.

B. GOHSEP, Louisiana Center for Safe Schools, Being Placed Under the Authority of LCLE

Chief Craft announced that legislation is currently pending to transfer the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), Louisiana Center for Safe Schools, to the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement upon Governor Landry signing the bill. Funding and staff will transfer with the program. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

C. Presentation of Grant District Applications

Chairman Gautreaux called for a presentation of the District grant applications. A motion was made by Sheriff Tubbs to approve all of the District grant applications *in globo.* The motion was seconded by Chief Deputy Pezant, and the motion passed without opposition.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Gautreaux called for Other Business.

Chief Craft announced staff changes and congratulated the following:

- Brittany Onezine has been selected as the replacement for Linda Gautier, Federal Program Manager (Byrne/JAG Program).
- Upcoming retirement of Rutha Chatwood, LCLE Federal Grants Program Manager. Rutha will retire at the end of March with thirty years of dedicated service to the State of Louisiana.
- Demetrius Joubert has been selected to replace Rutha Chatwood.

There was no further Other Business.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Over $9,000,000 was awarded to deserving agencies at today's meeting.

The next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at this location. The advisory boards will meet on Wednesday, June 10, 2026.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Sheriff Tubbs, seconded by Col. Hodges, and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.