

June 26st, 2024
Board of Directors Meeting
P.B.A. - Headquarters
Albany, New York

The following minutes were recorded at the June Board of Directors Meeting. Also attending was NYSTPBA General Counsel and Assistant General Counsel from Lippes Mathias LLP and Retiree Liaison Fred Scheidt.

PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS (MURPHY)

- Discussion with Superintendent James and NYSP’S role in patrolling NY State Parks.
- The Division still wants to bring back the Mounted Unit. They are working on policy.
- NYSTPBA board expressed concerns over the body worn camera policy at a recent labor management meeting. Division acknowledged there needs to be some improvements to the policy and is creating a committee for same. NYSTPBA is working on providing examples of policy issues and potential improvement. President Murphy requested board members acquire BWC policies from other agencies to review by July 15th.
- Members of the Executive Board met with new Superintendent Steven James. Many topics discussed including tattoo policy and outer vest carriers. It was a positive meeting and the NYSTPBA looks forward to working with the Superintendent for the betterment of NYSTPBA members.
- Discussion held with GOER over lag pay for new hires and the recruits receiving the money up front instead. The board believes there is no reason to change it at this time.
- Long term disability premiums are scheduled to double in price in the next few weeks. This is due to the previous Insurance broker, Epic Risk Solutions, providing MetLife with lower salaries than the membership receives.
- Tpr. Chris Baldner’s trial is going to start in the fall.

NRA Presentation – Retired Sr/Inv Christopher Latham

Discussed NRA membership which provided members with \$35,000 in death benefit. QR code being provided to NYSTPBA members.

Secretary (Brody)

- Discussed ongoing issue with retirees having to wait numerous months for their Division Retiree ID.
- **MOTION** *Secretary (Brody) – Provide all new retirees with an NYSTPBA ID upon request along with their other retirement items.*
2nd *Troop NYC (Kaye)*
 Carried
- **MOTION** *Secretary (Brody) Waive the reading of the March board meeting minutes and enter them as record.*

2nd **1st VP (Davis)**
Carried

Presentation – Liz Benjamin (Marathon Strategies)

Marathon Strategies is a firm that can help NYSTPBA be more proactive with all things related to public relations. Marathon can help improve public communication and internal communication with its members. Highlighting all our members great work to the public while they await a new collective bargaining agreement.

MOTION **President (Murphy) – Engage in discussion with contracting Marathon Strategies services.**

2nd **2nd VP (Sheridan)**
Carried

MOTION **President (Murphy) – Enter Executive Session**

2nd **Secretary (Brody)**
Carried

MOTION **President (Murphy) – Exit Executive session**

2nd **Secretary (Brody)**
Carried

MOTION **Troop A (Catanzaro) – Deny Daniel De Federicis’s requests reimbursement of legal fees incurred from participating in a legal proceeding.**

2nd **2nd VP (Sheridan)**
Carried

MOTION **Troop F (Johnstone) – Purchase 1,000 Ka-bar knives for gifts to graduating recruits.**

2nd **Troop B (Scott)**
Carried

1st VP Report (Davis)

- **MOTION** **1st VP (Davis) – Enter Executive Session**
2nd **2nd VP (Sheridan)**
Carried

- **MOTION** **1st VP (Davis) – Exit Executive Session**
2nd **2nd VP (Sheridan)**
Carried

- Unable to locate a contractor that’s willing to fix the sewage line that broke 8 feet down underground.
- Continue to look at different options for new parking gate.

- Air conditioning unit recently shut down. Andy Davis was able to fix same by removing a large amount of pollen on the unit.

2nd VP REPORT (SHERIDAN)

- Legislative session has concluded with NYSTPBA having one of the most productive sessions in recent history.
- NYSTPBA drafted FOIL bill requires public employees to notify the employee if their record were released via FOIL. Public Employee Conference drafted another FOIL bill that resembled NYSTPBA's FOIL bill and attempted to derail ours. NYSTPBA's passed overwhelmingly while PEC's failed.
- Discussion held on two endorsement requests for Patrick Chludzinski and Marc Priore.
- **MOTION** **2nd VP (Sheridan) Enter executive session.**
2nd **President (Murphy)**
Carried
- **MOTION** **2nd VP (Sheridan) Exit executive session.**
President (Murphy)
Carried
- **MOTION** **2nd VP (Sheridan) Endorse the following candidates.**
Vincent Locovozzi Herkimer County Coroner
Kara Buscaglia Family Court
Matt Slater Assembly
2nd **Troop D (Lodge)**
Carried
- **Motion** **2nd VP (Sheridan) Endorse Monica Wallace NY Assembly.**
2nd **Troop D (Lodge)**
Carried
- Discussed issue with NYSTPBA being billed by Signal 30 for invitee that was supposed to be a free guest.

NYSTPBA Store – Virginia Kolner

- Provided two options for this year's NYSTPBA Christmas ornament.
- Store on second floor has been cleaned out and ready for potential rent.
- Audits being done quarterly.

Surgeons Group – Virginia Konner

- Assisting Little Falls police officer that suffered serious injuries from a motorcycle accident.
- Detailed Surgeon's Group intakes by Troop.
- Upcoming heart screenings are being scheduled across the state.
- Dermatology screenings increasing in the upcoming months

MOTION **President (Murphy) Waive the reading of the Treasurer's report due to Treasurer Marty McClellan on excused absence.**

2nd

*Secretary (Brody)
Carried*

LEGAL REPORT – GENERAL COUNSEL LIPPES MATHIAS LLP

- Detailed legal report provided to the Board.
- Update on Contract – Filed for impasse with PERB on May 28th, mediator William Connelly assigned. Mediation is scheduled for July 24th. Detailed recent contract ratification of PBA of NYS which represents Parks, Encon, and University Police. Ratified by 90% of their membership, however their duties do not reflect those of the NYSTPBA membership.
- Update on lawsuit NYSTPBA filed against Attorney General’s Office investigating members involved in an off-duty capacity death even though no police action was taken. This stemmed from an off-duty member involved in a fatal motor vehicle accident where the AG’s office responded and investigated the member. Member was cleared of any wrongdoing. The suit was unsuccessful, and discussion held on possible appeal.
- Contract grievance was filed over member’s exhaustion of leave. Grievance denied at step one and two.
- Received financial and tax documents from Signal 30 as requested.

National Troopers Coalition

- NTC is scheduled for October 15th and the Picnic will be held on September 5th.

North East Regional Troopers Coalition (NERTC)

- Next meeting will be held on October 8th in Delaware.

Election Committee – Brody

- Troop F Delegate Steve Johnstone is retiring and will be stepping down from the NYSTPBA Board effective July 24th, 2024. An election pending dates will be setup in the near future.
- NCO West election is tentatively scheduled for December 2024.

MOTION *1st VP (Davis) Provide membership with QR code offering \$35,000 in death insurance for members.*

2nd Troop B (Scott)

Carried

Gun committee

- Continued discussion over Division leaning towards replacing the 45 with a 9mm. Both sides of the arguments have valid points.

State Fair – Andy Lodge

- Discussion over last year’s issues with large altercations in the midway and what to expect this upcoming State Fair.

Retiree Liaison – Fred Scheidt

- Discussed numerous issues effecting retirees including dental insurance and workman's compensation claims lengthy timeline.

NYSTPBA Magazine

- Sending out email providing option to members if they want a digital copy versus hard copy.

Variable Supplemental Fund

- Final rabbi trust legal documents are almost completed and will be delivered to the NYSTPBA in the near future.

Troop A (Catanzaro)

- The Troopers Unit was previously briefed on all ongoing personnel complaints, adjudications and other incidents within Troop A.

Troop B (Scott)

- Allegations against a member violating a family court order.
- Discussion over members on 8-hour schedule being mandated and not being offered voluntary overtime.
- The Troopers Unit was previously briefed on all ongoing complaints, adjudications and other incidents within Troop B.

Troop D (Lodge)

- Discussion over ongoing TIM's grievance. Recent TIM's manual update had no change to the policy of TIM's members taking their vehicles home at the discretion of the Major. This solidifies the basis of our argument in the grievance.
- The Troopers Unit was previously briefed on all other complaints, adjudications and other incidents with Troop D.

Troop E (Cunningham)

- Excused absence.

Troop F (Johnstone)

- The Troopers Unit was previous briefed on all ongoing complaints, adjudications and other incidents within Troop F.

Troop G \ H (Kuchark)

- The Troopers Unit was previously briefed on all ongoing personnel complaints, adjudications, and other incidents within Troop G\H.

Troop K (Brody)

- The Troopers Unit was previously briefed on all ongoing personnel complaints, adjudications, and other incidents within Troop K.

Troop L (Nunziata)

- Discussed new directive to switch member's schedules in lieu of paying overtime.
- The Troopers Unit was previously briefed on all ongoing personnel complaints, adjudications and other incidents within Troop L.

Troop NYC (Kaye)

- Requested update on NYSTPBA's request to Division for increase in Geographic pay. Division advises it is in support of an increase with discussions ongoing.
- Requested update on EZ-pass with new information.
- Highlighted expanded duties – Cannabis detail, subway bag checks, state parks, ghost cars and NYS Troopers pulled for Governor's detail.

Troop T (Nigro)

- Discussed issue with K9 member being denied a transfer due to 4-year commitment to the unit.

NCO East (Taylor)

- Expressed same issue as NYC delegate over EZ-pass and geographic pay increase.

NCO West (Conboy)

- Nothing new to report.

Commissioned Officers – (Hollands)

- Returned previously discussed issue of alternate delegates not being compensated for their role with the NYSTPBA
- ***Motion Officers (Hollands) Exempt NYSTPBA alternate delegates union dues by request to be made every 6 months.***

2nd Troop B (Scott)

Carried

Motion 2nd VP (Davis) Motion to adjourn meeting.

2nd Troop K (Brody)

Carried