MINUTES OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
December 9, 2011

The Arkansas State Police Commission met on Friday, December 9, 2011 at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission Chairman Allison called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Commissioner John Allison, Chairman  
Commissioner Jane Christenson, Secretary  
Commissioner Woody Futrell  
Commissioner Wallace Fowler  
Commissioner Frank Guinn  
Commissioner Dr. Lewis Shepherd

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Commissioner Steve Smith, Vice-Chairman

STATE POLICE PERSONNEL ATTENDING:
Colonel JR Howard  
Emma French  
Lieutenant Ron Stayton  
Lieutenant Mark Blankenship  
Sergeant John Carter  
Corporal Ben Cross  
Captain Steve Coleman  
Captain Dale Saffold  
TFC Greg Smith  
Corporal Jim Linkous  
Captain Myron Hall  
Corporal Paulette Ward  
Corporal Brigham Jones  
Gary Glisson  
Lieutenant Bill Beach  
TFC Jason Martin  
Lieutenant Cora Gentry  
Sergeant Tim Carter  
Corporal Jerl Hefner  
Major J.R. Hankins  
Lieutenant Steve Coppinger  
Lieutenant Glenn Sligh  
Captain Keith Eremea  
Lieutenant Shawn Garner  
Captain Stan Witt  
Captain Henry LaMar  
TFC Brad Lann  
Corporal Chad Hipp  
Corporal Stewart Condley  
Sergeant Mark Hollingsworth  
Sergeant Morstine Willoughby  
Captain Jeff Jester  
Captain Mike Foster  
Sergeant Barry Roy  
Corporal Philip Hydron  
Karen Perry  
Bridget White

OTHERS PRESENT:
Jennifer Hefner  
Steve Cook, ASP Foundation  
Cindy Lann  
Joe Thielke, ASP Foundation  
Larry Robinson, Governor’s Office  
Bob Burns, ASP Foundation  
George Wheatley, ASP Foundation  
Steve Edwards, ASP Foundation  
Randy Lann, ASP Foundation  
Deborah Linkous

OPENING AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
Donna Humphries led the pledge of allegiance.

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA:
The media was notified of this meeting on November 30, 2011.

MINUTES:
Commissioner Futrell made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2011 Arkansas State Police Commission meeting and Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed.
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OFFICIAL COMMENDATIONS:

Lieutenant Mark Blankenship gave an overview of the details for which Special Agent Philip Hydron was nominated for an Official Commendation. He stated Special Agent Philip Hydron was the case agent and a major part of a large scale undercover investigation regarding large drug distribution operations and corruption by local law enforcement in Eastern Arkansas area. This investigation has been ongoing for many months and included various Federal law enforcement agencies and the Eastern District US Attorney’s Office. This investigation endured many long hours of behind the scenes investigative undercover work. Weekly strategy sessions were held and detailed operational procedures were followed in order for this investigation to succeed. Special Agent Hydron spent many hours in various investigative capacities in order for this to be a success. Numerous pounds of illegal controlled substances including cocaine, crack cocaine and marijuana along with various weapons were taken off the streets and out of the hands of the criminal element because of this operation. At the time of this report, seven different federal indictments on seventy-one suspects were obtained. Seventy of these suspects have been arrested and appeared before a federal magistrate. Five of these suspects under indictment were current law enforcement officers in the eastern Arkansas area at the time of their arrest. The investigation is continuing and more indictments are anticipated as interviews are conducted and additional evidence is obtained. This operation was deemed the name “Operation Delta Blues” by the federal government.

This investigative effort alone would warrant this nomination, but the logistical planning and execution of these arrest warrants and subpoenas were extremely demanding. Months of planning and operational detailing came to fruition on October 11, 2011. In the early morning hours on this date nearly eight hundred federal and state law enforcement officers converged on the Helena/West Helena and Lee County area near Marianna. This operation included the use of numerous SWAT teams from around the country and included our own team from the State Police. Ten air support units were utilized including the FBI, Arkansas National Guard, and Arkansas State Police. When we left that morning we gathered about midnight the night before. When we rolled out in our convoy about 3:00 that morning there were 169 vehicles in line that rolled from Mississippi over into Helena, and we had 75 just north of the Lee County area, and not a single accident occurred. That was to be commended in itself. The coordinated effort and culmination of investigative information was a large part of the success. This operation has been a success due to the cooperation of many agencies. Special Agent Philip Hydron was a key element representing the Arkansas State Police during this large scale investigative effort and the planning and execution of the arrest teams. The success of this operation was in part a direct result of Special Agent Hydron’s work ethic and investigative efforts. That is why I am recommending Special Agent Philip Hydron for an Official Commendation.

Colonel Howard mentioned that Special Agent Hydron also had a group of women who he trained within the area in which he lives. Colonel Howard said this was an exceptional way to represent the Arkansas State Police. He then presented Special Agent Philip Hydron with an Official Commendation.

Lieutenant Steve Coppinger gave an overview of the details for which Corporal Chad Hipps was nominated for an Official Commendation. He stated that Corporal Hipps investigated a recent hate crime incident of national significance. After witnessing the extraordinary efforts Corporal Hipps put into this investigation, which ultimately resulted in the absorption of this case with state jurisdiction and federal jurisdiction, I nominated him to receive an Official Commendation. I am pleased to report the Arkansas State Police Honors Board recently approved that nomination.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation’s annual hate crime statistics report released just last month reported that 66.6% of victims of ethnically motivated hate crimes in 2010 were targeted because of anti-Hispanic bias, the highest percentage of such victims in the past decade. Although ethnically motivated hate crimes have fallen in general from their peak in 2007. In percentage, such crimes committed against Latinos in 2010 have increased.
Unfortunately the hate crime incident that Corporal Hipps investigated which originated in extreme eastern Carroll County near the rural community of Alpena is a part of that 2010 report. The genesis of this case began around 1:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 10, 2010 when five Hispanic men stopped for gas and snacks at the Red-X Express gasoline station at Alpena. While at the station a group of young men, all from Green Forest area, noticed the Hispanics in their Buick LeSabre and began yelling at them calling them “wet backs” and other derogatory terms. The Hispanics, ignoring the taunts, left the gas station for the last leg of their journey home to Fayetteville and Springdale. After leaving the Red-X Express, the LeSabre was overtaken by a Ford F250 4-door pickup jacked up so high that all the driver of the LeSabre could see out the driver’s window was the truck’s wheels and tires.

After the LeSabre was overtaken, the driver of the pickup used his truck to ram the rear of the LeSabre three times before dropping back and ramming it the fourth time on the left corner causing it to spin out of control. The car rolled down a steep hill and exploded in a ball of fire. All three backseat passengers in the LeSabre were ejected as the vehicle overturned. One of the passengers in critical condition had to be airlifted to a hospital in Springfield, Missouri.

Corporal Hipps was asked by the Carroll County Sheriff’s Office to assist them in their investigation of this incident, not as a motor vehicle accident but as a first degree battery complaint. Upon reviewing the facts of the case Corporal Hipps recognized that this incident was an attack upon the Hispanics based solely upon the perceived national origin of the victims.

While Corporal Hipps assisted the Carroll County Sheriff’s Office with their battery investigation, he also contacted the FBI in Fayetteville to alert them of the incident and to notify them that based upon the facts of the investigation the incident was most likely a federal hate crime. Once the FBI became involved, they also brought with them the resources of the US Attorney for the Western District of Arkansas and the Civil Rights Division of the US Department of Justice to assist in the investigation and the subsequent prosecution. However the US Attorney and the US Department of Justice will quickly tell you that had Corporal Hipps not spent the time and effort he had interviewing all the witnesses and gathering all the available evidence, it would not have been a federal prosecution for that crime.

Corporal Hipps spent countless hours during his normal working hours and after his normal working hours alongside Special Agents of the FBI assisting US Attorneys for the Western District and assisting US Attorneys from the Civil Rights Division, tracking down and interviewing witnesses, collecting and packaging evidence, submitting evidence to the FBI lab in Washington. Testifying before the federal Grand Jury, serving federal trial subpoenas and actually testifying himself. As a result of all the work Corporal Hipps put into this case, 2 of these young men were indicted both by a federal Grand Jury on April 5, 2011 and charged with 5 counts of violating the Matthew Shepherd and James Byrd, Jr. hate crimes prevention act of 2009. This federal act prohibits attacks on persons because of perceived race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability or national origin. According to a spokesman for the US Department of Justice in Washington the indictment of these gentlemen was the second time in our nation’s history that someone had been charged with a federal hate crime under that act. In May 2011 one of the suspects pled guilty in the US District Court in Harrison to 2 charges under the act. During his plea he admitted that he had been involved in using a pickup to ram a car carrying these 5 Hispanic men, forcing it off US Highway 412 near Alpena where it overturned and caught fire. With this plea, he became the first person in the nation convicted under this federal act. Rather than negotiate a plea, the other suspect demanded a trial by jury. On Thursday, May 19, 2011 US District Court Jury in Harrison, after a 2-day trial, and after deliberating for only 59 minutes, found this suspect guilty of five counts of violating the federal act and one count of conspiring to violate the act. With this jury verdict, the suspect became the first person in the nation convicted by a jury for violating that particular act.
In September of this year, US District Court Judge Jim L. Hendren sentenced one of the suspects to 4 years in prison, fined him $5,000 and ordered him to pay $5,000 in restitution. The other suspect was sentenced to 11 years and 3 months in prison, fined $10,000 and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of $5,000.

In summary, it is a sad thing that two of Arkansas’ native sons thrust our great state, whose motto once was the land of opportunity, into the national spotlight as a place where hatred and bigotry because of a person’s actual or perceived race, national origin, or ethnicity still exists today. However, it is a good thing that a special agent of the Arkansas State Police recognizes his duty in such a case and carries out his duty in such an exemplary manner that a Federal trial jury convened in Harrison could stand and publicly announce to the nation that such hatred will not be tolerated here in the natural state.

Colonel Howard presented an Official Commendation to Corporal Chad Hipps.

Sergeant Mark Hollingsworth gave an overview of the undercover and arrest operation planned and carried out by Special Agent James Linkous and Special Agent Jerl Hefner and for which they have been nominated for Official Commendations.

Sergeant Hollingsworth stated in April 2011, he and Special Agent Jim Linkous discussed putting together and working on a dedicated undercover operation targeting methamphetamine dealers living in and around Newton County. He advised Special Agent Linkous several attempts had been made over the years targeting dealers in Newton County, but law enforcement had never been able to make any significant gains against the dealers. He explained most of the dealers knew everyone in the county, making it difficult to use or introduce informants into their circles and because of the terrain, electronic equipment would work. After talking about all the reasons not to conduct an undercover operation in Newton County, Special Agent Linkous advised me that he was going to “run over to Newton County and talk with the Sheriff.” This was his way of saying he was going to meet with the sheriff, and they were going to find a way to do this and put some people in jail.

Special Agent Linkous’ plan was pretty simple. He would use an informant for an initial introduction to the targets and then he would make the deals himself, making “hand to hand” buys from the suspects. He solved the problems associated with using informants by cutting them out of the equation. Special Agent Linkous was introduced to the first targets on April 14, 2011 and made 2 undercover buys the same day. In the next 90 days he would make 13 individual hand to hand buys; 11 of those involving methamphetamines and 2 buys for marijuana. Special Agent Linkous stayed engaged in contact with the targets, scheduled the meetings and conducted several hand to hand buys while other the officers monitored his position from the Sheriff’s Office using a vehicle tracking device. Although his location was being monitored, he was by himself and many times conducted the buys in the suspect’s residence. He documented his work with a hidden audio/video recorder he carried during these investigations.

Special Agent Linkous gave me regular updates on the investigation and stated the drive from Mountain View to Jasper was just wearing him out, but the operation was going well. On more than one occasion he told me he was doing this for the Sheriff, deputies, and people of Newton County. In addition to the updates, he made me aware that his identity had been questioned and told me of an incident where a suspect flashed a handgun during one of the transactions. Special Agent Linkous kept his cool and did what he does best, and that is talk. In mid to late July after a couple more of close calls, the decision was made to shut the operation down and start planning the arrest operation.

Throughout the operation, Special Agent Jerl Hefner was involved in a support role and assisted Special Agent Linkous and the Newton County Sheriff’s Office in tracking Special Agent Linkous and his activity.
On August 26, 2011 Special Agent Hefner met with officers from the 14th Judicial Drug Task Force and the Newton County Sheriff’s Office to begin planning the arrest operation. In the days and weeks following the initial meeting, Special Agent Hefner met with several other local, state and federal agencies and planned and organized the arrest operation. This required him to complete the required operation plans for each search warrant site, schedule and coordinate air support and the use of a mobile command center from the Arkansas Army National Guard Counter Drug Unit, complete arrest packets, organize and brief arrest teams, organize post-arrest activity and coordinate operations on the day of the arrest operation.

On September 9, 2011, seventy-five local, state and federal law enforcement personnel representing 14 different law enforcement agencies, from the Arkansas Army National Guard Counter Drug Center, Federal Drug Enforcement Administration, Arkansas State Police, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and several other local agencies met to serve these warrants. During this time they served 15 narcotics related arrest warrants and executed several search warrants in and around Newton County. In the days following this September 9th operation, 3 additional suspects were arrested and another search warrant was executed.

As a result of Special Agent Linkous’ work during the undercover operation and Special Agent Hefner’s planning and organizing of the arrest operation, a total of 8 search warrants were executed and 14 subjects were arrested on the initial day, with another two following the day after the initial incident. A total of 16 subjects were arrested on 39 felony drug charges. The work of these agents led to the purchase or seizing of 33 grams of methamphetamine, 40 grams of processed marijuana, 5 marijuana plants, 18 grams of hashish, ½ gram of black tar heroin, 24 firearms, over 2,000 rounds of ammunition, several thousand dollars in U. S. Currency, 3 vehicles, a residence and approximately 40 acres of real property.

This undercover operation was significant in that the Arkansas State Police and the Newton County Sheriff’s Office targeted and pursued known drug traffickers, executed several search warrants and arrested several suspects without incident or injury to anyone involved in the operation. Because of the exemplary manner in which Special Agents Jim Linkous and Jerl Hefner performed their duties in this undercover operation, through diligence and perseverance beyond the call of duty, they are deserving of an Official Commendation.

Colonel Howard presented Special Agents Jim Linkous and Jerl Hefner with Official Commendations.

Captain Keith Eremea gave an overview of the event for which Trooper First Class Brad Lann was nominated for an Official Commendation. He stated the night of May 12, 2011 there was an Amber Alert issued in Tennessee for a Willis Hinnard, after he beat up his ex-wife and abducted her 8-month-old daughter and 2-year-old son. The mother gave a description of the suspect, her ex-husband, and the vehicle he was driving. He also made threats that he would never be taken alive by the police and if the police approached him, he would harm both of the children and would never give them back.

Trooper First Class Lann who was stationed in Pulaski County on the midnight shift, decided with the information given that the suspect’s phone was “pinged” in West Memphis and we all know there are numerous highways, city streets, and county roads you can take out of West Memphis, but he showed the initiative and decided to start that way in case the suspect decided to take I-40. He went into Lonoke County which is the farthest county in Troop A, and he filled up with gas then set up in the median watching the westbound lanes. He was told by communications that the phone was “pinged” again and the suspect was now on I-530 at Dixon Road which is approximately 15-20 miles further west of where Trooper First Class Lann was set up. Trooper First Class Lann knowing there are no other troopers in service after midnight, decided to start toward I-530 and Dixon Road. Trooper Lann told the Dispatch Center to notify all departments along I-530 including the Pine Bluff Police Department.
He activated his lights and siren and proceeded to the location of I-530 and Dixon Road while traveling down the interstate he kept looking at off ramps and shoulders for the vehicle. As Trooper Lann started getting close to the possible location of the suspect vehicle, he turned off his emergency equipment and found the vehicle traveling southbound around the 35-38 mm. He notified radio and asked them to have Pine Bluff Police Department come to his location so he would not have to initiate the traffic stop by himself. Once the Pine Bluff units were even with Trooper First Class Lann, they activated their emergency equipment and attempted a traffic stop and the suspect vehicle took off with both children inside. Two attempts to deploy spike strips failed as the suspect vehicle exited the freeway and started taking numerous city streets and county roads. The vehicle almost lost control several times and finally did so when attempting to get back on I-530 northbound coming back toward Little Rock. The vehicle was off in the grass on the right side of the roadway and Trooper First Class Lann and others blocked the vehicle, drew their weapons and ordered the suspect to come out, but he refused. When the suspect finally exited the vehicle several officers including Deputy Holcomb and Trooper First Class Lann grabbed the suspect and forced him to the ground as other deputies grabbed the children. The children were treated by medical personnel and released to Department of Human Services.

Trooper First Class Lann because of his willingness to do whatever had to be done to keep the children safe and take the suspect into custody is deserving of an Official Commendation.

Colonel Howard presented an Official Commendation to Trooper First Class Brad Lann.

Captain Dale Saffold gave a brief description of the incident for which Corporal Frederick Williams was nominated for an Official Commendation. He stated on Monday, August 15, 2011 at approximately 4:02 p.m., the Liberty Bank located in Pottsville was robbed by two suspects. The suspects were last seen traveling east out of Pottsville and away from Russellville. Information regarding the robbery and the vehicle description were given out by the Pope County Dispatch Center, and that information was relayed to our units by Corporal Freddie Williams. The suspect vehicle was later spotted traveling west on I-40 going outside of Russellville. The suspect vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed and entered into Johnson County. Several miles into Johnson County the suspects crossed the median and began travelling east back towards Russellville. As a result of this Corporal Williams took up a position near the Pope/Johnson county lines. As the suspects fled east they began throwing money and clothes that they wore during the robbery out of the window of the truck. These items were secured by other ASP units. As the vehicle approached the county line, Corporal Williams pulled out in front of the suspect vehicle and would not allow it to go past. As a result of this blocking action, the suspects pulled to the shoulder of the road and surrendered to Corporal Williams and other authorities at the scene. Corporal Williams’ quick action and planning resulted in the capture of two bank robbery suspects less than 20 minutes after the robbery occurred. For his quick thinking and actions Corporal Williams is deserving of an Official Commendation.

Colonel Howard presented an Official Commendation to Corporal Frederick Williams.

Captain Dale Saffold gave a brief description of the incident for which Corporal Brigham Jones was nominated for an Official Commendation. He stated on July 19, 2011 at approximately 5:05 p.m., two subjects attempted to rob the McDonald’s in Atkins. This was just off Interstate 40 east of Russellville. A description of the vehicle was broadcasted, and there was no direction of travel known. Corporal Brigham Jones set up a position on the interstate near Morrilton watching for the vehicle. He observed a vehicle that somewhat matched the description and contained two subjects which were also similar to the description that had been given about the suspects. Corporal Jones relying on his intuition followed the vehicle which quickly pulled into the Love’s Truck Stop just off exit 107 in Morrilton. The passenger jumped from the vehicle and ran into the truck stop. Corporal Jones immediately took the driver into custody and secured him. Other units arrived shortly thereafter and all officers entered the truck stop.
The suspect had changed shirts, but because of Corporal Jones recall of the suspect, he was spotted out past the rear of the truck stop and taken into custody. As a result of Corporal Jones’ intuition and good police work, two robbery suspects were taken into custody without incident within 20 minutes of the robbery. For this he is deserving of an Official Commendation.

Colonel Howard presented Corporal Brigham Jones with an Official Commendation.

Captain Dale Saffold gave a brief description of the incident for which Corporal Stewart Condley was nominated for an Official Commendation. He related how on Saturday, August 20, 2011 a bicyclist was struck and killed in Pottsville. Corporal Condley assisted local authorities with their hit-and-run investigation. There were no witnesses to the crash, but as a result of the investigation a broken headlamp was recovered and Corporal Condley located some paint chips at the scene from the suspect vehicle. Based on this information, he was able to develop a list of approximately 80 vehicles registered in Pope County which matched the color and approximate make and model of the suspect vehicle.

The next day, Corporal Condley along with TFC Brenda Stephenson were preparing to continue the investigation, by going out and individually checking each of the 80 vehicles to see if they could determine if one was the suspect vehicle.

Before they began, Corporal Condley spotted a vehicle which matched the color and make of the suspect vehicle and after it was stopped, he noted windshield damage and after talking to the driver and further inspecting the vehicle, Corporal Condley was able to develop probable cause to warrant further investigation.

It would have been much less trouble for Corporal Condley to assist at the crash scene and leave it in the hands of the Pottsville Police Department. It was after all their investigation. Rather than take the easy way out, Corporal Condley continued to assist and worked to find the guilty party. The vehicle he located was actually in another part of the county, far away from where the fatality had occurred.

As a result of Corporal Condley’s alertness and good police work, the driver and vehicle involved in the fatal hit-and-run crash were taken into custody and the driver has now confessed to the crime. For his actions in this investigation, he is deserving of an Official Commendation.

Colonel Howard presented Corporal Stewart Condley with an Official Commendation.

Commission Chairman Allison welcomed guests attending today; Larry Robinson from the Governor’s Office, Steve Edwards, Joe Thielke, Steve Cook, Randy Lann, Brooks Jackson, and Bob Burns from the Foundation are with us today.

Commission Chairman Allison advised he had a memo left for him that came from a fellow commissioner wanting to give special thanks to Dick Cisne, Charisse Childers, Brooks Jackson, Joe Thielke, Steve Cook, Randy Lann, and Bob Burns for the effort that they put out and the hours they put into the Foundation to be able to raise money and help us where we can help the State Police. Also a special thanks to Wallace Fowler who has provided lots of advice to Frank Guinn. Also, I would like to say a special thanks to Frank Guinn who is taking initiative here to step up and help lead the Foundation. Anyway a special thanks to you guys.

DIVISION REPORTS:

Fiscal Report – Emma French

Ms. French presented an oral summary of the written report distributed to the Commission. She advised things are right where they should be. We did go to PEER to get additional appropriation for overtime projects that we have. She said that’s really all there is going on.
Commission Chairman Allison stated he has a great CFO at his company, and he sleeps well at night knowing that his leadership counts the money, and he feels good about Emma here. She is the CFO here who counts the money. He thanked her for her service.

Administrative Services – Major Kathy Sparks

Major Sparks presented an oral summary of the written report for November which has been distributed to the Commission. The personnel transactions for November consists of 3 civilian new hires and 1 civilian rehire for a total of 4, but we had 2 civilian resignations, so we’re not making very good progress as far as getting all of our civilian positions filled. We had 1 trooper resignation, 2 troopers returned from military active duty and 1 trooper who died in service. So far in December the transactions which have already been completed with effective dates sometime this month we have 17 TFC’s who will be promoted to the rank of Corporal, we have 1 civilian retirement and we will have 2 commissioned retirements with one of them being me.

In the Training Section for the month of November, we conducted field training meetings in all 12 troop headquarters locations. During those meetings we discussed very briefly some changes or reminders for the Health Plan. We talked extensively about our new Physical Fitness Program that will start after the first of the year and our Wellness Program. We also discussed the new overtime and timekeeping changes, vehicle use policy, taser implementation and some other training issues. During the month of November we continued the security holster transition training, and I am pleased to say that all active Highway Patrol sergeants and below have completed this training.

In recruiting and the hiring process in anticipation of the recruit school that will begin at the end of February, we began our applicant processing, and this number is pretty amazing to me, and I really have no explanation for it but we sent out 3,317 letters inviting people to come test for Trooper positions. That seems awfully high, but the more shocking number is the number of those applicants who actually showed up, and that was a total of 232 applicants so far out of 3,300. Through yesterday out of that 232 who have shown up so far, we’ve only tested 183. We continue testing today, and we have one day next week that we will test. We have several who are supposed to be here on the 14th or 15th. We may have a very small pool of applicants because we got our first day’s test results from the first day we tested in November, and we had about a 50% pass rate on it. I am not anticipating having a very large pool of applicants to choose from for the 35 positions we will be hiring plus maybe 10 or 15 alternates. One day it snowed we actually had several that did show up, and Captain Witt and I discussed that we should put a star by their name because they came and actually ran in the snow and on the wet pavement and completed their PAT.

You will see a change in your minority class percentage report. Mr. Eddy has added to that report prior to today’s meeting we have just reported on commissioned personnel, but now he has added the noncommissioned personnel percentages as well. Our percentage for commissioned has remained the same from last month at 14.7% African-American.

Reporting on the Health Plan, our claims were up a little bit this month compared to last month about $103,000 higher than last month. We don’t have any aggregate claims yet, that report has not come to us from UMR as of today. Our fund balance is lower but only by $40,000, so percentage wise that is not very much. Our claims are down for the month of November compared to a year ago by $393,000. Our fund balance, however, compared to November of 2010 is higher by 2.2 million dollars.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commission Chairman Allison advised under new business, the Colonel made a transfer of a trooper and there has been a motion to stay that transfer. It was improperly delivered. It should have been delivered to the Executive Secretary and so as far as we are concerned it hasn’t been delivered yet, and we will look at it another day.
Commission Chairman Allison asked Colonel Howard if he had anything to discuss, and the Colonel advised he saw Sergeant Barry Roy in the audience and said he was glad to see him here.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Arkansas State Police Commission will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Futrell made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Christenson. The motion passed and with no other business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Commission Chairman

Commission Secretary