

Louisiana Association of Secretaries to Chiefs of Police

September 29, 2023, Ruston, LA | Fall Conference Business Meeting Minutes

Board Members in Attendance

President Danielle Mitchel, 1st Vice President Mary Walls, 2nd Vice President Kecia Hamilton Financial Officer Stephanie Bercegeay, Secretary Sandy Harbison, and Sgt. At Arms Tina Landry.

Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt. At Arms Tina Landry, then 2nd Vice President Kecia Hamilton offered prayer.

Host Welcome

Host Laura Kent welcomed everyone and thanked the members for attending and shared some of her sponsors that donated for the conference and shared that we should have a profit after all cost of conference.

Introduction of New Members

There were no new members to be introduced.

Minutes/Finance Report

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes from Spring Conference 2023 by Nell Pepitone and 2nd by Beverly Stewart. All were in favor, motion passed.

Finance Reports for both the checking and savings accounts were emailed prior to the conference. President Mitchel asked if there were any questions, comments, or concerns with the reports. Treasurer Harbison made a note that member Diane Reynolds did donate yesterday to the fundraising fund and the plant/retiree fund that will be included in next report. A motion was made by Laura Kent and a 2nd made by Lorrie Johnson to accept the finance reports. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Committee Reports

- **Ways and Means** – Chairwoman Mary Walls – Mary reported the fifty-fifty fundraiser final balance and final profit. Those amounts are listed in the report along with the cost of the fundraiser. Chairman Walls expressed that we would like to continue to sell it together. Discussion on the floor for ways to get tickets to Becky, and the winner will be given a check at conference if the winner is there, if not then it will be mailed to the winner. A motion was made by Sandy Harbison to have tickets ready in April to hand out and then sell till the end of June and then have tickets mailed to have drawing. 2nd was made by Becky Hayes, and all were in favor and motion passed. President Mitchel brought up the sale of the t-shirts which was previously approved at Spring Conference. The shirts will be ordered and paid for prior to order, we can do an order for 50 so that the secretaries can have a sample of the shirt. We will have the shirt on our Facebook and our website for sale, we will have a flyer on the website. Linda Durr asked that the outline of the state be bolder and then leaving off our LASCOP and take the period off LA. Dannielle will follow thru with the sales of the shirt.
- **Membership** – Chairman Tina Landry – Tina reported that the membership is at 93 dues paying members at this time. She shared that she has been reaching out and touching base with some and would like the memberships approval to speak with the Chiefs if there is not secretary listed. Some Chiefs may not know that dispatchers and other office personnel can join as associate members. All members voiced their approval.
- **Scholarship** – President Danielle Mitchel expressed that she will be contacting Brusly High School and speaking with the counselor to get the application in the hands of the students. By March 1st if she does not have a recipient, she will then reach out to the organization.

- **Publicity/Historian Reports** – Chairwoman Sandy Harbison
Harbison reported that on the website now that links to all the reports needed for the conference will be posted in the member’s only area of the website. The reports will stay up and available anytime to be viewed or printed. Sandy asked that if any mistakes are noticed to please let her know by texting her or sending an email. President Mitchel gave the floor to Tina Landry to share what she had done to bring the memorial table up to date and the board approved purchase of tablecloths, frames, and candles. Tina is in the process of placing names on the photos and updating the photos.
- **Legislative** – Chairwoman Tina Landry
Chairman had nothing to report at this time.
- **Retirement** – Chairwoman Beverly Stewart
Stewart reported news from a letter dated in March from MPERS that the rate for July 1, 2023, thru June 30, 2024 they are rising it to 34 to 35% this would be the rate for both hazard and non-hazardous. There will be no change in the employee rates. There was no other business to report, as always any of the retirement news and information can be obtained through this website.
[Home Page | MPERS Municipal Police Employees Retirement System \(lampers.org\)](#) this is also posted in our Facebook page.

Old Business

- **CD Rates** – Treasurer Sandy report that she obtained CD information obtained from Chase Bank 4% for 6 to 8 months. Business accounts will lose some principle if pulled before the maturity date. Information received from First Horizon Bank Baton Rouge 5.1% for 11 Months penalty if removed early. Must have a checking account there of any amount also. Discussion on doing the CDS until April, a motion was made by Laura Kent to take \$40,000 from Checking and \$10,000 from savings and place it in a CD, 2nd by Sandra Perrin, all in favor and motion passed.
- The secretary needed 2 items cleared up from the Spring Conference. First, on the lodging for retirees. It was not clear if the LASCPC will cover the cost of the lodging for the Fall Conference as well? The final decision is that LASCPC will pay for a room for one night for Spring and the retirees that split a room will share the cost of one night. Fall conference will be retirees that share a room will share the cost of that one night and no registration fees will be paid for retirees. If any retiree has a room alone the retiree will pay half and LASCPC will pay half and the retiree does not pay registration fees. This will be added to the policy manual.
- The second question was making sure that door prizes will continue and then the discussion was brought forward to suggest there be an average amount of \$25 and a motion was made by Linda Durr and second by Denise Champagne. All were in favor, motion passed.

New Business

- Sandy Harbison brought up to the membership that she will be posting a survey for non-active members to try to reach out and get an idea of why or what could help members come to conference and the conference survey will be up for everyone to fill out for this conference as well.

Floor Open for Discussion from Membership

- President Mitchell then announced her dates for the Spring Conference will be April 24 – 26, 2024 in Baton Rouge area.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Minutes taken and prepared by Sandy Harbison.