

Louisiana Association of Secretaries to Chiefs of Police

September 27, 2024, Greenwood, LA | Fall Conference Business Meeting Minutes

Board Members in Attendance

President Mary Walls, 2nd Vice President Tina Landry, Finance Officer Stephanie Bercegeay, Secretary Sandy Harbison, and Sgt. At Arms Ashley Borner.

Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer

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

Host Welcome

Host Ashley Borner welcomed everyone and thanked the members for attending and shared some of her sponsors that donated for the conference and shared that we should make a profit after the cost of the conference.

Introduction of New Members

New Member Ceremony was held after conference registration on Thursday, September 26. Our new members are Kristi Miller of Lake Charles PD; Robbie Vance of Bossier City PD; and Melissa Lewis of Central PD.

Minutes/Finance Report

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes from Spring Conference 2024 by Pam Simek and 2nd by Denise Champagne. All were in favor, motion passed.

Finance Reports

- Checking; Savings; CD Account; Flower/Retiree Fun

All these reports were emailed and posted to the password protected part of the LASCP website. President Walls asked if there are any questions, concerns or comments in reference to any of these reports. A motion was made by Laura Kent and 2nd by Nell Pepitone to accept as reported, all in favor and the motion passed.

Committee Reports

- **Ways and Means** – Chairwoman Kecia Hamilton was not present, although there was no Ways and Means report with nothing to new to bring up.
- **Membership** – Chairman Ashley Borner reported that she did speak to two secretaries that were planning to attend this conference, but something may have happened. Ashley will be able to give more attention to membership after this conference.
- **Scholarship** – President Mary Walls expressed that she will be aggressively seeking to find a criminal justice or business major in her area for scholarship. She is also speaking with the counselor to get the application in the hands of the students in her local high school. By March 1st if she does not have a recipient, she will then reach out to the Association.
- **Publicity/Historian Reports**
Chairman Sandy Harbison reported that on the *Forever* account there is an album that is made for each conference, and any member can add the photos that you take. Click the link and just upload your photos from your phone. everyone is welcome to share.
The brochure for conference was created and Harbison will continue to do this for each conference as we can. Tina Landry shared that the memorial table will be going digital as well, it will play during each conference.
- **Legislative**
Chairwoman Tina Landry attended the LACP conference and received a packet and if you need help researching

anything please reach out to her, she doesn't mind helping with the research on different bills etc. The website is Legis.la.gov

- **Retirement**

Chairwoman Beverly Stewart gave an update on four bills as the last meeting that were being considered in Legislature. Several retirement bills were signed by the Governor including ones that addressed retirees returning to work, employer contributions and extension of DROP from 36 to 60 months. 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

- **LASCP Printer/Laptop** – The old laptop is locked and can not be accessed. Harbison does not need the printer nor laptop, therefore after discussion a motion was made disposed of the old laptop and printer by Laura Kent and 2nd by Beverly Stewart and all were in favor, motion passed. Brigitte Culivan suggests maybe checking out Network attached storage as a possible solution for backing up all of LASCP business and documents. Sandy will research and report back. A 2nd motion was made by Laura Kent to purchase a portable printer to be brought to conferences, 2nd motion was made by Pam Simek and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- Sandy Harbison asked the membership if anyone knew why our LASCP logo is trimmed in red and not blue. Harbison shared that she rebuilt the logo to give it a clean and refreshed appearance but wanted to make sure that Charter member Linda Durr who originally created the logo didn't have any objections to this. This refreshed appearance will hopefully make the logo appealing to law enforcement. Harbison stated she just did not want to change colors if they were used for a specific reasons. Linda Durr said as far as she remembers that there is no reason and that she doesn't object to the update of the logo. All were in favor of the new updated and fresh logo to being used going forward. Sandy will send the new logo to Stephanie Bercegeay to check for the polos to have the new logo and see what it will entail to change the logo.

Floor Open for Discussion from Membership

- The floor was open for any other discussion and Sandy Harbison in representation of the Board members brought forth that each April at Spring Conference and each year these members are on committees and never really know how to move forward. The Board feels that each Board member will also be chairperson of a committee and they will along with the President and the Secretary send a welcome card to the new members and then at conference the Board member that is Chairman will work with members that she ask to help her in welcoming that new member when they arrive at conference. Sandy will update the LASCP policy manual and bring it before the membership in April for approval.
- Beverly Stewart asked if the Secretary of State has responded to our request to know the process for LASCP to update our charter. The charter can be looked over every few years to make sure that the basis of our organization is still in line with the charter. The policy manual is what needs to be updated each time we change or update anything.
- President Walls then announced her dates for the Spring Conference will be April 9 - 11, 2025 in Plaquemine. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Minutes taken and prepared by Sandy Harbison.