



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

JAMES J. DONELON
COMMISSIONER



MEETING MINUTES

LOUISIANA AUTOMOBILE THEFT & INSURANCE FRAUD PREVENTION AUTHORITY

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

10:00 am

LDI Plaza Hearing Room

1702 North Third Street, Poydras Building
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Members present: Warren Byrd, Renée Free, Lt. Michael Wilkerson, Barry Milligan, Thomas Jeter, Natalie Brunson-Wheeler, Rep. Mike Huval, David Clements, David Marcantel

Members absent: Sen. Kirk Talbot

Staff present: Crystal Stutes, Kevin Smith
Special Agent Allen Applewhite (NICB)

Call to Order:

Chairman Warren Byrd called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Old Business:

Approval of October 14, 2021 Minutes: Rep. Mike Huval moved to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2021, meeting. Mr. Barry Milligan seconded the motion. After allowing for public comment, of which there was none, the minutes were approved without objection.

New Business:

Budget Report (attached): Ms. Crystal Stutes reviewed the LATIFPA Budget Plan for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year updated as of 02/07/22. Ms. Stutes stated that since the previous meeting, LATIFPA has spent \$16,175 on radio spots and \$14,000 on tv spots. (All approved previously at the July 2021 meeting). LATIFPA also spent \$10,390 for the East Baton Rouge Parish LPR. Finally, LATIFPA spent \$2,672 on East Baton Rouge Catalytic Converter Tags.

Ms. Stutes discussed the "Projected Expenditures" section as explained that the TBD amount of nearly \$30,000 under Advertising is being allocated to the EBRSO catalytic converter event.



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Once the paid and projected expenditures are complete, we will have spent \$201,719.45 out of our \$227,000 budget authority, which leaves us with \$25,280.55 carrying over into the next fiscal year. This would leave us with \$191,716.84 in the “cash carryover account” (\$393,436.29 in FY21/22 actual collections minus the \$201,710.45 expenditures) for the next fiscal year.

LATIFPA Grant Applications - LATIFPA received two grant requests for LPRs from Many Police Department and Lafourche Parish Sheriff’s Office to be presented at this meeting. Following a presentation by each, Rep. Mike Huval moved to approve the grant for the Many Police Department. Lt. Michael Wilkerson seconded the motion. With no opposition, the motion passed and the Many Police Department’s grant was approved. Mr. Thomas Jeter then moved to approve the Lafourche Parish Sheriff’s Office grant application. Mr. David Marcantel seconded the motion. With no opposition, the motion passed and the Lafourche Parish Sheriff’s Office grant was approved.

LPR Installations and Operation Updates - Mr. Kevin Smith discussed that installations of EBR Sheriffs Office, Baker Police Department, and Walker Police Department were still in process. Mr. Smith stated that he did reach out to LaTech who advised that the delay was due to equipment not arriving in a timely matter because of COVID. St. Bernard Parish Sheriff’s Office installations have been completed.

LPR Installations and Operation Updates - LPR Partner Letter: Chairman Byrd informed the members that the LPR Partner Letter was sent to the LPR grantees explaining to them that it was critical that they provide the requested data as part of the grant obligation.

Mr. Smith stated that several grantees advised him that their lack of reporting was due to server issues with LSP. Mr. Smith advised that he met with Lt. Wilkerson and the LSP IT staff to discuss these issues.

Lt. Wilkerson then gave an update regarding the efforts being made by LSP to resolve the issues. He stated that basically some agencies’ technology does not integrate well with LSP technology. LSP is currently in the process of re-assessing the LPR program and looking at new vendors. LATIFPA is looking at the same vendors with the intention of utilizing the same system.

It was concluded that at this time, new grantees should work with LaTech to determine if they will need to utilize the LSP server so that efforts can be made to assure proper integration.

LPR Installations and Operation Updates - Existing LPR Cameras, Server Applications & Installation Contractors: Mr. Smith gave an update on the three vendors that are being considered for the new LPR system.



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Mr. Allen Applewhite then gave the NICB report on the statistics submitted by the LPR grantees. After discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Smith would contact each agency by telephone as a follow-up to the LPR Partner Letter issued to grantees that had not submitted their data.

LPR Installations and Operation Updates - Issuance of New Cameras to Existing Grantees: After discussion, Mr. Jeter made a motion that existing applicants experiencing equipment problems may request to have the equipment repaired or replaced, pending available funds and board approval, without the necessity of re-applying. These requests will be reviewed by the board at each quarterly meeting. Ms. Free seconded the motion. With no opposition, the motion passed.

Marketing and External Affairs – School/Community Events Update: Mr. Smith provided an update on LATIFPA community events (see attached).

Marketing and External Affairs – Catalytic Converter Tags: Ms. Stutes gave an update on the meeting with EBRSO regarding the Catalytic Converter Tag event to distribute tags to consumers and have them installed on their cars. Discussions are being had to host an event before the end of the fiscal year.

Marketing and External Affairs – Hide Lock Take Project: Ms. Stutes gave an update on Hide Lock Take project which was an endeavor to place signs in a neighborhood that would help remind residents of car safety practices. LATIFPA is requesting a grant from State Farm Foundation for approximately \$2,000 to place 120 signs in the neighborhood. Ms. Stutes stated that LATIFPA's application was finally accepted by Front Door and we are still working with the IRS to complete the paperwork. Additionally, the New Orleans Police Department has a new Chief of Police and we will need to reach out to them to make sure they are on board with this project.

It was announced that the LDI Conference 2022 would be held March 7 and 8, 2022.

The next LATIFPA meeting will be announced later but is expected to be held in May.

There being no other business, Chairman Byrd moved to adjourn the meeting. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.