

MEETING MINUTES

AUTOMOBILE THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY (ATPA) GRANT HEARINGS/BOARD MEETING

August 29, 2019

Michigan State Police (MSP) Headquarters
7150 Harris Drive
Dimondale, Michigan 48821

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Shawn Sible, Chair
Chief Curtis Caid, Vice Chair
Undersheriff Daniel Pfannes
Ms. Lori Davis
Mr. Mike Thompson
Mr. Gene Adamczyk
Mr. Bill Patterson

ATPA STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Tim Bailor, Program Coordinator
Ms. Sandy Long, Financial Specialist
Mr. Matt Helmkamp, Intelligence Analyst

VISITORS PRESENT:

Insp. Mike Johnson, MSP, Grants and Community Services Division
Ms. Nancy Becker Bennett, MSP, Grants and Community Services Division
Captain Thomas Fabus, Lansing Police Department (LPD)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting of the ATPA Board of Directors was called to order by Mr. Sible at 9:18 a.m.

2. READING OF THE ANTI-TRUST STATEMENT

Mr. Sible began the meeting by reading the anti-trust statement.

3. GRANT PRESENTATIONS

Grant presentations were given by the following individuals on behalf of their teams:

Sgt. Keith Hefner, Grand Rapids Police Department, Combined Auto Theft Team (CATT)
Lt. Ray Collins, Michigan State Police, South East Auto Theft Team (SEATT)
Mr. Dennis Doherty, Wayne County Prosecutor's Office
Chief Patrick McNulty, Detroit Fire Department, Combating Vehicle Arson Fraud
Sgt. Nicole Quisenberry, Oakland County Sheriff's Office, Oakland County Auto Theft (OCAT)
Sgt. Daniel Green, Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety, Arresting Car Thieves in Our Neighborhoods
(ACTION)
Lt. Jeff Garrison, Dearborn Police Department, Dearborn Auto Theft Team
Ms. Caroline Valentine, Bethune Community Council
Ms. Ida Ridgeway, Michigan Department of State, ATPA Microfilm Library Lookup

Each presenter was allotted 15 minutes to present to the board a brief overview of their auto theft efforts via a standardized PowerPoint presentation.

4. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Sible inquired if anyone had additions to the agenda. Mr. Sible then requested that the LPD, represented by Captain Thomas Fabus, come before the board to state its case for a late grant application that was initially denied for funding for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 grant year. Mr. Sible further requested this be added to the agenda after approval of minutes.

Mr. Sible requested a motion to add an update to New Business. Chief Caid moved to approve the addition to the agenda as presented and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote on the addition to the agenda as presented and it was unanimously approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 30, 2019, Board Meetings

After confirming there were no comments regarding the May 30, 2019, minutes, Mr. Sible requested a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Mike Thompson moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Adamczyk seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and the minutes were unanimously approved.

6. LANSING POLICE DEPARTMENT GRANT APPEAL

Captain Fabus gave a brief explanation as to why the LPD's FY 2020 grant application was late and, therefore, initially denied by the ATPA staff. Captain Fabus stated, there were internal issues as well as miscommunication between LPD and the city of Lansing which led to missing the grant deadline. LPD contacted the ATPA staff, turned in the grant application a few weeks after the deadline, and requested to attend the grant hearings to appeal consideration for approval. The ATPA staff attested that there have been no issues with LPD in the past.

Chief Caid requested a motion to accept the LPD's grant submission. Chief Caid moved to approve the grant application as presented and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote on the acceptance of the LPD's grant as presented and it was unanimously approved.

7. ATPA BUDGET UPDATE

Ms. Long gave an update on the current ATPA FY 2019 budget, as well as the proposed ATPA FY 2020 budget. The first section detailed the current fiscal year revenue and expenditures; the second portion gave a projection of the next fiscal year budget, including carry-forward into FY 2021.

The board discussed the impact of keeping the funding match percentage of 60/40 to help the auto theft teams continue to grow, as well as to help cut down the current carry-forward balance.

After a short discussion, Mr. Adamczyk asked for a motion to accept the current budget as presented. Mr. Adamczyk moved to approve the budget as presented and Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and the current budget was unanimously approved.

8. PUBLIC RELATIONS/TRAINING

There was a great deal of discussion among board members regarding how to disseminate different techniques and strategies to the public to help remind them to lock their cars, take their keys with them, take their valuables out of their car, etc. The ATPA staff has been tasked with checking with Michigan State University about the possibility of providing free public announcements to help with messaging. Staff will investigate several options and inform the board of all viable outcomes.

The board would like to support the training of prosecutors with the most current auto theft trends. This would include working with the Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan to coordinate trainings for all prosecutors within the state of Michigan.

After a short discussion, Mr. Sible asked for a motion to preapprove a budget amount of \$20,000 to carry out prosecutor training. Mr. Sible moved to approve the budget of \$20,000 for prosecutor training and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and the budget for prosecutor training was unanimously approved.

9. GRANT DELIBERATIONS

The ATPA staff presented the board with a list of current grantees that detailed past performance as well as current grant requests. The board reviewed the information and the ATPA staff were able to clarify questions and requests made by the board.

Board members discussed all grant applications. The board feels that Bethune and West Grand Neighborhood Organization need to change their focus from prioritizing VIN etching. VIN etching is believed to no longer be a theft deterrent. The board would like these associations to be advised that they would have to change their mission and auto theft prevention efforts.

Chief Caid made a motion to reduce Bethune and West Grand's award to 50 percent of the requested amount. If grant requirements are met, they will be eligible for the balance of their requested award. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and the request was unanimously approved.

Mr. Adamczyk made a motion to accept the ATPA FY 2020 grant applications as presented. Undersheriff Pfannes seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and the ATPA FY 2020 grant awards were unanimously approved.

10. OLD BUSINESS

Inspector Johnson updated the members on results of the survey evaluation issued following the 2019 ATPA Training Conference. The results from the survey showed 4.5 out of 5 for overall satisfaction.

Mr. Bailor informed the board of the past ATPA conference locations and provided possible future locations. Previously, the board has approved a \$20,000 budget for this event, and it is felt this budget would cover the cost of the conference regardless of location. Based on conference evaluations the central location in Lansing seemed to be the most popular.

After a short discussion, Undersheriff Pfannes requested a motion to have the ATPA annual conference at Eagle Eye Golf and Banquet Center in Bath, Michigan, in 2020. Chief Caid seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Bailor asked the board if they would approve a \$10,000 budget for promotional items to be provided to non-profit organizations and law enforcement teams to hand out when they are in contact with the public.

After a short discussion, Mr. Thompson requested a motion to approve a \$10,000 budget for the purchase of promotional products. Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and the budget for promotional products was unanimously approved.

Mr. Helmkamp made a request to the board for bringing Microdot Technology to Michigan. It was explained that this could be accomplished by partnering with an insurance company to keep the costs for the ATPA down. The board felt this was currently not a good use of ATPA funds, but the board would like to revisit this concept at a later date.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Inspector Johnson updated the board on the progress of hiring a new ATPA Executive Director. After discussion, the board agreed the position should be filled with a civilian employee at a Departmental Manager 14 level. Civil Service rules state the position be at the 14-level due to the internal structure already in place within the Grants and Community Services Division. There was a lengthy discussion reference the administrative and operational authority over the Executive Director. The board members also discussed the Executive Director position and the individual being an MSP employee.

Chief Caid requested a motion to fill the ATPA Executive Director position as a civilian employee. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote for the position to be filled as a civilian employee which was unanimously approved.

After a lengthy discussion, Undersheriff Pfannes requested a motion to table this discussion and request legal assistance to pursue the Attorney General's opinion on clarification of the ATPA Board's authority. Chief Caid seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote and the motion was unanimously approved.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next ATPA Board Meeting will be October 1, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the Michigan State Police Headquarters, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, Michigan 48821.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sible requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Adamczyk moved to adjourn and Undersheriff Pfannes seconded the motion. Mr. Sible called for a vote. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

APPROVED:



Insp. Mike Johnson, ATPA Executive Director (Acting)