

MEETING MINUTES

AUTOMOBILE THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY (ATPA) BOARD MEETING

February 21, 2024

Michigan State Police Headquarters

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Daniel Pfannes, Chair
Lt. Col. Chris Kelenske
Ms. Nicole Quisenberry
Dir. Steve Cooper
Dr. Christopher Melde
Mr. Christopher Helmick
Mr. Bill Patterson

ATPA STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Christopher Baldwin, Executive Director
Mr. Tim Bailor, Program Coordinator
Ms. Sandy Long, Financial Specialist
Ms. Kelcie Bower, ATPA Analyst

VISITORS PRESENT:

Commander Timothy McHale, Dearborn Police Department

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting of the ATPA Board of Directors was called to order by Mr. Pfannes at 11 a.m.

2. READING OF THE ANTI-TRUST STATEMENT

Mr. Pfannes read the anti-trust statement.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Pfannes inquired if anyone had additions to the agenda. There were no additions to the agenda at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 24, 2023, Board Meeting

After confirming there were no comments regarding the August 24, 2023, minutes, Mr. Pfannes requested a motion to accept the minutes. Lt. Colonel Kelenske moved to approve the minutes and Dr. Melde seconded the motion. Mr. Pfannes called for a vote and the minutes were unanimously approved.

5. ATPA BUDGET UPDATE

Ms. Long gave the budget update on fiscal year (FY) 2023. The final revenue for FY 2023 was \$12,865,198.92. Total expenditures for FY 2023 were \$6,248,978.15. This creates a carry forward into FY 2024 of \$6,616,220.77. Ms. Long explained the projected revenue and expenditures for FY 2024, which began on October 1, 2023. She explained that the annual ATPA conference budget for FY 2024 would be used to support the North Central Regional Chapter (NCRC) of the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators (IAATI) Conference,

being held in Grand Rapids in April 2024. It was stated that the ATPA would not have a standalone conference this year. Lt. Colonel Kelenske inquired about the notification of current grantees regarding the NCRC conference. The grantees have been advised and the ATPA staff is hoping for large attendance numbers from grantees due to the conference being held in Michigan.

After confirming there were no comments or questions regarding the ATPA budget, Mr. Pfannes requested a motion to accept the budget report. Dr. Melde moved to accept the budget report and Lt. Colonel Kelenske seconded the motion. Mr. Pfannes called for a vote and the budget was unanimously approved.

6. OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pfannes advised the board that a vice-chairperson had not been voted upon when Chief Curtis Caid retired in 2022. Mr. Pfannes advised the board that they will need to vote on a new vice-chairperson and asked if any members would like to discuss or make a motion to fill the position.

Director Cooper advanced a motion to nominate Lt. Colonel Kelenske to fill the position of vice-chairperson. Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. Mr. Pfannes asked if there was any discussion about the motion to appoint Lt. Colonel Kelenske as vice-chairperson of the ATPA Board. There was none. Mr. Pfannes called for a vote and the appointment was approved unanimously.

Mr. Pfannes introduced the next agenda item to send a letter of support for House Bill 5182 and 5183, that would add a ProPad style device to the list of burglar's tools under the statute. Auto theft teams have seen an increase in the use of this tool and other electronic means to access and steal vehicles. The bill also decreases the penalty to align with similar crimes. Mr. Pfannes advised of other organizations supporting this and that the ATPA Board had supported a similar measure in September 2022 with a letter of support. Mr. Pfannes explained some operational features of the ProPad and its use in an auto theft case of which he had been advised.

Mr. Pfannes requested a motion to draft a letter of support on behalf of the ATPA Board. Ms. Quisenberry made a motion to approve the draft letter in support of the bills. Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. Mr. Pfannes called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Pfannes then invited Comdr. Timothy McHale of the Dearborn Police Department to speak to the activity of the newly expanded Dearborn multijurisdictional team. Commander McHale spoke on some of the investigations and success the team is having, along with goals the team will be focusing on moving forward.

Mr. Baldwin asked if the board would like to see changes to the structure of board meetings moving forward. He suggested that grantees could come and present updates on success stories, current investigations being worked on, how their grant funds are being used, and if there is anything the grantees need moving forward. Mr. Baldwin advised this could bring more value to all board meetings and foster better communication between grantees and members of the board. Mr. Pfannes stated that he believes this would present the grantees greater involvement

with the board and engage the interest of the board in the activities of the grantees year-round and not just during grant hearings. This would also reduce the number of grantees required to present at the grant hearings. The board agreed they would like to see this. Lt. Colonel Kelenske advised that he would like to see structure to this going forward so the presenters have guidance and can speak to topic areas. This did not require a board vote, but going forward the board will have grantee presenters at every meeting.

Mr. Baldwin asked the board to approve making a challenge coin with the ATPA logo to hand out at the upcoming NCRC IAATI Conference. The board was presented with a design for both the front and back of a coin. Mr. Pfannes advised that he did not agree that this would be an appropriate use of ATPA funds in that it would not prevent auto theft and Mr. Helmick agreed. Ms. Quisenberry then stated that she liked the idea and many officers have displays of these. She spoke of the popularity of challenge coins among law enforcement officers.

Ms. Quisenberry made a motion to support the creation of an ATPA challenge coin. Director Cooper seconded the motion. Mr. Pfannes called for a vote and the motion was approved, 5 - 2 with Mr. Pfannes and Mr. Helmick dissenting.

There was discussion on what to have on the opposite side of the coin that did not have the ATPA logo. Lt. Colonel Kelenske endorsed the Great Seal of the State of Michigan design. Lt. Colonel Kelenske made a motion to use the Great Seal on the opposing side of the coin from the ATPA logo. Ms. Quisenberry seconded the motion. Mr. Pfannes called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

9. NEXT MEETING


May 22, 2024, 10 a.m.
Michigan State Police Headquarters - Centennial Room
7150 Harris Dr.
Dimondale, Michigan 48821

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pfannes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Cooper moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. Mr. Pfannes called for a vote and the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Mr. Pfannes adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

APPROVED: _____

 5-22-2024
Mr. Christopher Baldwin, ATPA Executive Director