

Meeting Minutes
IDAHO LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIREFIGHTING AND EMS
MEDAL OF HONOR COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 2, 2022
10:30 A.M. MST

Office of the Idaho Attorney General
Statehouse, Room C210
700 West Jefferson Street
Boise, Idaho

Attorney General Lawrence Wasden, chairing the meeting, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Item 1a – The Commission Secretary called roll.

The following Commissioners were present:

Lawrence Wasden, Attorney General, Office of the Idaho Attorney General
Kirk Carpenter, Chief, Idaho Fire Chiefs Association
Jason Davis, Sheriff, Idaho Sheriffs Association
Wayne Denny, Chief, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services & Preparedness
Louis Hougaard, Office of the Governor
Brad Johnson, Division Administrator, Police Officer Standards & Training Council
Bryan Taylor, Prosecuting Attorney, Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association

The following Commissioner was absent:

Tim Miller, Captain, Idaho Peace Officers Association

The Chair announced a quorum was present.

Others present:

Chief Ryan Lee, Boise Police Department
Brian Holland, Boise Police Department
Monica Walker, Idaho County Sheriff's Office – via telephone conference
Chief Joe Huff, Nampa Police Department
Lt. Chad Shepard, Nampa City Police Department
Chief Frank Wyant, Caldwell Police Department
Sgt. Adam Matthews, Caldwell Police Department
Lt. Doug Winfield, Caldwell Police Department
Officer Joey Hoadley, Caldwell Police Department
Sgt. Adam Matthews, Caldwell Police Department
Scott Graf, Public Information Officer (OAG)

Kimi White, Commission Secretary (OAG)

Item 1b – The agenda was reviewed; no amendments were made. Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden called for discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 2 – Chairman Wasden asked if there were any changes to the proposed August 18, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Carpenter moved to approve the August 18, 2021, minutes. Commissioner Hougaard seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden called for discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 3 – Qualifications – Chairman Wasden reviewed the rules for awarding the Idaho Law Enforcement, Firefighter and EMS Medal of Honor. The Chairman called for comments and/or questions. There were none.

Item 4 – Consideration of the Nominees

Item 4A – Nomination of Steve Bonas, Patrol Officer for the Boise Police Department. Chief Ryan Lee was in attendance to provide the summary of the incident and to be available for questions. Chairman Wasden asked Chief Lee to describe the incident to the Commission. The Commission members discussed their understanding of the incident and the nomination at length to determine if the qualifications were met. Commissioner Taylor asked Chief Lee if he knew why Officer Bonas was not nominated before this year, since the incident took place in 2013. Chief Lee informed the Commission that he does not know why it was overlooked, but as the new Chief, he wanted to make sure this officer was nominated. Commissioner Taylor then inquired as to what makes Officer Bonas's actions in this incident stand out over other situations. Chief Lee stated that in situations like these, officers would generally stay behind cover, but Officer Bonas exposed himself to danger. Commissioner Hougaard asked if officers react differently when they arrive at the scene where there is a suicidal suspect. Chief Lee stated that each event requires different actions and suicidal individuals tend to become homicidal. Commissioner Taylor stated that based on the background and additional information provided by Chief Lee, he felt Officer Bonas' actions rose to the threshold of the Medal of Honor qualifications for awarding. Commissioner Denny agreed. Commissioner Hougaard also agreed with Commissioner Taylor because the suspect still engaged after he was injured. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing no further comments, he called for a motion. Commissioner Denny moved to award the Idaho Medal of Honor to Officer Bonas. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 4B – Item 4C – Chairman Wasden clarified that Item 4B, the nomination of Sergeant Chris Davis, and Item 4C, the nomination of Sergeant Kevin Holtry, are the nominations of officers who participated in the same incident. Chairman Wasden asked Detective Holland to describe the incident to the Commission. Detective Brian Holland and Chief

Ryan Lee were in attendance to provide the summary of the incident and to be available for questions. The Chair then opened the floor for questions by the Commissioners. The Commission members discussed their understanding of the incident and the nominations at length to determine if the qualifications were met. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Commissioner Denny appreciated the great risk Sgts. Davis and Holtry placed themselves in to protect the public. Commissioner Hougaard stated that he appreciated the testimony provided by Det. Holland and Chief Lee, and that it was unfortunate that K9 Jardo could not be nominated for his heroism. Hearing no further comments, Chairman Wasden called for a motion. Commissioner Taylor moved to award the Idaho Medal of Honor to Sergeant Davis and Sergeant Holtry. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 4D – Nomination of Camron Killmar, Patrol Deputy for the Idaho County Sheriff's Office. Monica Walker with the Idaho County Sheriff's Office attended via conference call to provide the summary of the incident and to be available for questions. Chairman Wasden asked Ms. Walker to describe the incident to the Commission. The Commission members discussed their understanding of the incident and the nomination at length to determine if the qualifications were met. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing no further comments, he called for a motion. Commissioner Taylor moved to award the Idaho Medal of Honor to Patrol Deputy Killmar. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 4E – Nomination of Samuel Lang, Patrol Officer for the Nampa Police Department. Chief Joe Huff and Lieutenant Chad Shepard were in attendance to provide a summary of the incident and to be available for questions. Chairman Wasden asked Chief Huff to describe the incident to the Commission. The Commission members discussed their understanding of the incident and the nomination at length to determine if the qualifications were met. Chairman Wasden stated that he was grateful for the in-person summary of the incident as it helped him make a more informed decision. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing no further comments, he called for a motion. Commissioner Davis moved to award the Idaho Medal of Honor to Patrol Officer Lang. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 4F – Nomination of Matthew W. Rapattoni, Patrol Officer for the Caldwell Police Department. Chief Frank Wyant, Sergeant Adam Matthews, and Lieutenant Doug Winfield were in attendance to provide the summary of the incident and to be available for questions. Lt. Winfield described the incident to the Commission. The Commission members discussed their understanding of the incident and the nomination. The Chair then opened up the floor for questions by the Commission members. Chairman Wasden asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing no further comments, he called for a motion. Commissioner Carpenter moved to award the Idaho Medal of Honor to Patrol Officer Rapattoni. Commissioner Denny seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden asked

if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Wasden commented that unfortunately the reputation of those in public service has been sullied, based on the times we live in. It is chilling to see what law enforcement goes through. He thanked all present for their service.

Item 5 – 2022 Ceremony. The Commissioners discussed possible dates to hold the ceremony. Chairman Wasden suggested the Commission provide the Chair with the authority to make the ceremony plans. Commissioner Taylor moved to allow the Chair the authority to plan the ceremony during the week of August 15th, to be held in the Lincoln Auditorium. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 7 – Chairman Wasden called for a motion to adjourn. Commission Johnson moved to adjourn. Commissioner Hougaard seconded the motion. Chairman Wasden called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.