



City of
LAWRENCE
Indiana

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MERIT COMMISSION MINUTES

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March 03, 2022

The monthly meeting of the Merit Commission was held at the Lawrence Government Center, Lawrence, Indiana. Those in attendance were as follows:

Commissioners:	Amy Coats	President
	Randy Warman	Commissioner
	Tom Taylor	Commissioner
	Damonn Burns	Commissioner

CLFD:	Dino Batalis	CLFD Fire Chief
	Robert Wallace	CLFD Deputy Chief
	Kalie KD	CLFD Admin Assistant

Call to Order: President Coats called the meeting to order at 18:02 hours and led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Burns led prayer.

Commission Members Comments: President Coats solicited comments from the Commission members and no comments were offered at the time.

Fire Chief's Comments: Chief Batalis thanked everyone for being present. He is currently working on getting a fifth member for the Board.

Approval of Minutes: President Coats called for a motion to approve the January 06, 2021 meeting minutes. President Coats asked if members were ready to approve since it had been so long and the members replied that they were. She entertained a motion to approve as written. The motion to approve the meeting minutes was provided by Commissioner Warman and seconded by Commissioner Burns. The motion carried and was approved unanimously.

Old Business: Old business will be discussed once a new member is brought on.

New Business: Chief Batalis would like to slightly change the wording in the Captain promotion process packet. Under the Eligibility to Participate section of the packet, wording currently states '*...candidates must have a minimum of three (3) years as a Lieutenant with the City of Lawrence Fire...*' and the Chief would like to change the wording to reflect '*...candidates must be a current Lieutenant and have a minimum of three (3) continuous years as a Lieutenant with the City of Lawrence Fire...*'. The change will be made before the memo is sent out. Today's approval of the packet will include the change and there will not be an amendment.

Chief Batalis also explains how important the details of the packet are. Chief gives an example of the packet stating correct attire must be worn for written exam and if a candidate did not follow this detail, the candidate will be eliminated from the process. Once the packet is approved by the Merit Commission Board, candidates must go by the rules of the packet and not appeal to the Board. Chief explains that attention to detail is imperative for these positions. Chief Wallace points out that the example given by Chief Batalis is bolded, capitalized and highlighted in multiple sections of each packet so there should be no reason for this detail to be overlooked.

Chief Batalis reminds everyone that this list will be good for two (2) years.

President Coats solicited questions from the Commission members and no questions were asked.

President Coats solicited a motion to approve the Lieutenant Promotion Process packet. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve, seconded by Commissioner Warman. The motion carried and was unanimously approved.

President Coates solicited a motion to approve the Captain Promotion Process packet. Commissioner Burns motions to approve, seconded by Commissioner Warman. The motion was carried and was unanimously approved.

Good of the Order Comments: Chief Batalis mentions that last week was the first time since early 2020 that the Fire Department was not needed to conduct Covid testing. The department has administered over 700 tests since starting. It appears that we're hopefully on the mend.

Adjournment: President Coats solicited a motion to adjourn that was provided by Commissioner Warman, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 18:26 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Kalie Kearney-Dunkerson

Kalie Kearney-Dunkerson, Recording Secretary