

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Police Merit Commission
October 20, 2025
George Keller Public Assembly Room- Lawrence Government Center
Regular Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ronald Christensen, Gail Gartin, Karen Horth-Powers, Charles Wheeler

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Hendrickson

ALSO PRESENT: Renea Rafala, Lisa Harvey

STAFF PRESENT: Lieutenant Scott Evans

STAFF PRESENT BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

Commission President Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Christensen moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on September 8, 2025. The motion was seconded by Ms. Horth-Powers. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

New Business:

Lt. Evans requested approval of 17 candidates proceed to the review of Oral Interview with minimum passing standard. Mrs. Gartin moved to deem the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Horth-Powers. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Lt. Evans requested approval of 13 candidates proceed to the background phase and the remaining 4 candidates be removed due to an unacceptable score. Mr. Christensen moved to deem the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Lt. Evans requested 0.5 points be given in determining selection criteria determining eligibility for war veterans honorably discharged from US armed forces, if the mother or father was a firefighter, municipal police officer, or county police officer and died in the line of duty, was a police officer, county fire fighter, full or part-time employee providing fire protection and emergency services who has been laid off, and a Tier 1 graduate from (ILEA) with basic LE certification and maintained in-services training hours. Ms. Horth-Powers moved to deem the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

COMMENTS OF THE POLICE CHIEF: Lt. Evan thanked everyone on behalf of Chief Bigsbee.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 by unanimous vote of the Board.

NEXT MTG: 11/10/25 6:00pm
12/08/25 6:00pm

Charles Wheeler, President

Lisa Harvey, Executive Assistant

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, except for the motions.