

Lancaster County Sheriff's Office
Merit Commission Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 0815 hours. Peterson pointed out the Open Meetings Act, which was posted by the door of the meeting room.

Members present: Deputy Jason Peterson, Mike Thew and Troy Hawk. Also present were Sheriff Terry Wagner, Chief Deputy Ben Houchin, Captain John Vik, and Sergeant Drew Bolzer.

Motioned by Thew to approve the minutes from August 3, 2021. Seconded by Hawk. Motion carried, 3-0.

Sergeant Bolzer presented the 2021 deputy eligibility list for certification. Bolzer explained that this was the first time administering the TABE test at the beginning of the process instead of at the end. There were very few passing scores on the written exam but all who took the physical tests passed. Scoring of the oral, physical, and written tests are consistent with the Merit Commission Rule and Regulations. Moved by Hawk to approve the list as presented. Seconded by Thew. Motion carried, 3-0.

Sheriff Wagner gave staffing updates. Three employees have given notice of retirement: Captain Brookhouser and Deputies Scofield and Blythe. Kyle Hoggins resigned at the end of his FTO training and one of the four recruits that were in Grand Island at the academy did not pass his one of his re-take exams, so he was terminated. Discussion about the effects of LB 51, passed earlier this year, has had on hiring/training new recruits. Discussion of potential options on future hiring practices.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 4, 2021.

Motioned by Hawk to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 0840 hours.