

Merit Commission Meeting Minutes

May 31, 2022

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 Chief Deputy Ben Houchin, Captain John Vik, and Sergeant Drew Bolzer.

Motioned by Hawk to approve the minutes from March 31, 2022. Seconded by Thew. Motion carried, 3-0.

Sergeant Bolzer presented the general eligibility list. As per previous discussions, the lateral eligibility list approved at the March meeting was vacated. There were 53 applications, of which 19 showed up for testing. Of those, 10 candidates passed for interviews. Three were disqualified during the interview process, so the list presented for certification included 7 names. Moved by Thew to approve. Seconded by Hawk. Motion carried, 3-0.

Captain Vik presented staffing updates. Colby Dahlke has been promoted to Sergeant to replace Rob Soflin, who retired in April. Deputies Paige Uzzell and Jesse McManus are now off of probation. Deputy Taylor Muirhead Castaneda has graduated from the academy and is now on FTO. Two deputies have given tentative notice of plans to retire later in 2022. One investigative position (Crime Analyst) has been converted to a civilian position; applications are now open.

The next meeting has been tentatively scheduled for August 9, 2022.

Moved by Hawk to adjourn. Seconded by Thew. Meeting adjourned at 0830 hours.