

**Lancaster County Sheriff's Office**  
**Merit Commission Meeting Minutes**  
December 22, 2020

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

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

Motioned by Hawk to approve the minutes from September 8, 2020. Seconded by Thew. Motion carried, 3-0.

Baird was filling in for Deputy Troy Bailey, who passed away September 11, 2020. He was recognized for all the work he did for the Merit Commission. He will be missed. There will be a new member appointed by the FOP by the next meeting.

The 2020 eligibility list for the sergeant promotions was presented for certification. The top four candidates on the list were: Casey Dahlke; Michael Hipps; Cameron Stroeh; Michael Hansen. The testing for these positions was implemented by Morrow & Associates. Motioned by Thew to approve the eligibility list. Seconded by Hawk. Motion carried, 3-0.

Staffing updates: With Troy Bailey's passing and Deputies John McGahan and Scott Rosploch's resignations, there are several openings currently to be filled. Ben Houchin was promoted to Chief Deputy to replace Todd Duncan, who resigned to take a position in the private sector, as well as Josh Clark who left in October. There are two openings for captains, which were filled with Tommy Trotter and Michael Peschong. Since the captain promotions have been made, two sergeants will now need to be made. A conditional offer of employment has been made from the current deputy eligibility list to a candidate who is currently deployed, to begin upon completion of her tour, and Kyle Hoggins is scheduled to start at the end of the month in time to attend the academy in January. The application process is currently open for new deputies and will close on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 16, 2021.

Moved by Thew to adjourn. Seconded by Hawk. Meeting adjourned at 0848 hours.