

**Lancaster County Sheriff's Office**  
**Merit Commission Meeting Minutes**  
February 16, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 0823 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 Hawk to approve the minutes from December 22, 2020. Seconded by Thew. Motion carried, 3-0.

Discussion about electing the chairperson of the Merit Commission, which has historically been the FOP member. Thew motioned for Peterson to be continue as Chair. Seconded by Hawk. Motion carried, 3-0.

Peterson said that since he was new to the Board, it was brought to his attention that the Merit Commission Rules and Regulations may need to be ratified to include the current list of members and dates of changes. The county attorney was consulted prior to the meeting and she advised that changes could be made via amendments unless it was a complete overhaul of operations of the board. It was determined a link that a lists current members could be posted on the public web page, along with maintaining an updated copy of the Rules and Regulations with the language "current as of" the date of the most recent changes. Moved by Hawk to approve the proposed language and member posting. Seconded by Thew. Motion carried, 3-0.

Sergeant Bolzer presented the 2021 deputy eligibility list for certification. Bolzer explained the how the ranking was impacted by scores on the written and physical testing, oral interviews, and factoring in veteran's status and disabled veteran's considerations. Thew motioned to approve the list as presented. Seconded by Hawk. Motion carried, 3-0.

Sheriff Wagner gave staffing updates. Deputy Hoggins is at the academy. A conditional offer of employment has been extended to a candidate from the previous eligibility list who is on active duty, pending her return. We currently have 3 spots to fill in addition to those two. Ryley LaVene is now off FTO and working in Patrol.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 25, 2021.

Moved by Hawk to adjourn. Seconded by Thew. Meeting adjourned at 0856 hours.