

**DeKalb County Sheriff's Merit Commission
Minutes
February 3, 2010
5:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. Those present were: Commissioners Gene Lane, Bennetta Stearnes and Todd Walker. Also present: Sheriff Roger Scott and Chief Deputy Kevin Hickey

Sheriff Scott passed out an agenda and a copy of a review by Stanard and Associates regarding Oral Boards and Assessment Panels for promotional testing. Sheriff Scott indicated that there will be a need for a promotional examination process for the position of Sergeant in the Patrol Division due to the anticipated retirement of Sgt. Todd Merritt.

Chairman Lane called for a motion to approve the agenda: Bennetta Stearnes moved that the agenda be approved, Todd Walker seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Lane called for a motion to approve the minutes of January 6, 2010. Todd Walker made the motion, seconded by Bennetta Stearnes. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Discussion of Item I on the agenda:

The discussion centered on several issues: Shall we establish a minimum score on the written examination which must be achieved in order for a candidate to be included in further testing for a current promotional cycle?

Should a candidate's written score be considered as a part of the final score for that promotional?

Should the written examination be considered on a simple pass/fail basis with no consideration added for the achieved score to reach a final score for the candidate on the overall examination?

Pursuant to this discussion, Todd Walker made the following motion:

"A minimum score of 70 or better must be achieved on written examinations by any candidate testing for promotion in order to continue in the testing process for that cycle." The motion was seconded by Gene Lane. Chairman Lane called for questions. Hearing none he called for a vote. On a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

It was the consensus of the Board that the wording in this motion be adopted and incorporated in the Merit Commissions Rules and Regulations under Article IV at the next printing of adopted amendments.

The Board then reviewed the Assessment Options outlined by Stanard and Associates:

Pursuant to discussion of the options, the costs, liability implications, and other relevant considerations the following motion was made by Todd Walker: “For the upcoming promotional examination for Sergeant in the Patrol Division the Merit Commission authorizes the Sheriff to engage Stanard & Associates to provide the written examination and the oral board exercises as deemed appropriate by the Merit Board.” The motion was seconded by Bennetta Stearnes. The chairman called for questions. Hearing none he called for a vote. On a unanimous voice vote the motion passed.

Discussion of Item II on the agenda: Update of Merit Rules

The Rules and Regulations of the Merit Commission were last amended in March of 2005. It was the consensus of the commissioners that a special meeting should be called to consider any necessary amendments. Prior to that meeting each commissioner will review the current document noting any changes they wish to have considered at the meeting. After a final review by the Merit Commission, the document will be reviewed by the Attorney for the Board prior to printing. No date for the meeting was set and will be determined based on earliest availability of the three commissioners.

The chairman called for a motion to adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Bennetta Stearnes, seconded by Todd Walker. On a unanimous voice vote the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Recorded and Submitted by *Bennetta Stearnes, Secretary*