

DeKalb County Sheriff's Merit Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 22, 2017
5:00 p.m.

The Merit Commission met on Thursday, June 22, 2017. Commissioners present at the meeting were: Chairman Gene Lane, and Secretary Todd Walker and Commissioner Kim Green. Also present was Sheriff Roger Scott.

1. Call To Order

Commissioner Lane called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Todd, seconded by Kim to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

3. Approval of minutes

Motion by Gene, seconded by Kim to approve the prior minutes of 12/1/16. Motion passed.

4. Testing Review:

a. Scoring

The Commission and Sheriff discussed the entry level testing process and particularly the Section IV which is the report writing section. A motion was made by Gene and seconded by Kim to remove this section from future testing processes. Motion passed with all commissioners in favor.

b. NIPSTA card

Motion was made by Kim, seconded by Todd to remove eliminate the power test from future testing processes and replace it with the requirement that the applicants must provide proof of a valid NIPSTA card which was obtained within 12 months of the date of application deadline. Discussion occurred and motion passed with all commissioners in favor.

5. Request Elimination of Rule III-F Reapplication:

Motion was made by Gene, seconded by Kim to remove and eliminate Rule III-F Reapplication from the Commission Rules. Discussion occurred that this rule is no longer relevant to prevent applicants from retesting within a certain period of time. Vote occurred and passed with all commissioners in favor.

6. Personnel (executive session):

A motion by Gene and seconded by Kim to enter into executive session. Motion passed.

In executive session the Commission discussed:

a. Disciplinary Matter

b. Prior Law Enforcement Request

A motion by Kim, seconded by Gene to reconvene from executive session.

As it relates to item (a) Disciplinary Matter, the Sheriff notified the Commission of a current disciplinary issue and the Deputy has chosen to take the matter to Arbitration rather than through the Merit Commission.

As it relates to item (b) Prior Law Enforcement Request, the Commission considered the Sheriff's request to seek the Commission's approval to hire full time a current part time employee with "prior law enforcement" experience. A motion was made by Todd and seconded by Gene. A lengthy discussion occurred. The Commission voted and the motion failed.

7. Other Business

The Sheriff provided the Commission with a letter of concern from a current part time employee requesting that we consider a deviation from the testing process. Again, a lengthy conversation occurred. The Commission agreed that it would be inappropriate to alter a testing process after the fact. The Commission will provide the Sheriff a response to give to the employee.

8. New Business

No other business was needed.

9. Adjournment

Commissioner Lane called for a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Todd Walker. On a unanimous voice vote the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.