



**CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
POLICE MERIT COMMISSION**
Email: ecmeritboard@gmail.com

Commission Members

Lora Kokot, Secretary
Richard Peterson, Member
Henry Rodriguez, President
Tammy Sloss, Vice President
Michael, Smith, Member

Enedina Rodriguez, Recording Secretary
Shana Levinson, Commission Attorney

Anthony Copeland, Mayor

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
February 18, 2020**

Call to Order: 503 p.m.

APPROVED

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Kokot, Peterson, Rodriguez, Sloss and Smith

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Commissioner Peterson . Second by Commissioner Smith. A voice vote was called by President Sloss. All in favor. None opposed.
Motion carries

Communications from ECPD: Two disciplinary action forms for Officer Cordova.

Attorney Levinson: First One was for a verbal reprimand. Second is for a 15 day suspension. Also on the agenda, officer Cordova through his counsel file a demand for hearing. The matter should be set within 30 days. Attorney Lyles asked to speak and stated that in the demand for hearing there were items one through six. Items 3 and 5 should not be included. That would cover 1, 2, 4 and 5. The Chief stated the other matters mentioned have not yet been presented to the Commission but are the subject of an internal investigation. Attorney Levinson stated that those matters are not before the commission; however the other items are the subject matter of the hearing. Attorney Lyles made a point of clarity the Chief has filed a verbal reprimand which is also not a part of the subject matter of the hearing demand.

(Attorney Levinson asked the Chief to make sure the front entrance was accessible in case Officer Cordova or his Attorney were present.)

A motion was made to set the hearing for March 17, 2020 from 1230PM to 4PM was made by Commissioner Smith. Second by Commissioner Kokot. A voice vote was called by President Sloss. All in favor. None opposed.

Motion Carries

Reminder that the agility and written exam will be held on February 22, 2020 starting at 8AM

FYI: It is not possible to expedite the hiring process because testing elements have to be done in a certain order and have to pass one in order to move on to the next one.

Communications from Commissioners: testing company for Lieutenant exam regarding the appeals process after the test. Willing to have Merit Commission Member and someone from the Police administration to review the appeal of any questions they may get wrong. A representation from both was suggested.

Committee reports: Rules and Regulations that were revised after the public hearing that was held on February 4, 2020. Attorney Lyles stated for the record reiterated changes he would like to see in the rules. Attorney Levinson stated it does not contradict the powers of the Chief. Attorney Levinson stated they are for clarification purpose.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the Rules and Regulations as Amended. Second from Commissioner Rodriguez. A voice vote was called by President Sloss. All were in favor. None opposed.

Motion Carries

A copy will be emailed to the police department for disbursement.

Old Business: New applicant testing February 22, 2020 at 8AM
Lt. Exam set for Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 930AM. Review will be at 430 central time on March 3, 2020.

New Business: None

Other Business and Communications:

Commissioner Sloss and Commissioner Rodriguez were reappointed to four year terms. The City Council accepted resumes for their appointment to the Merit Commission. They will tentatively make their appointment on February 24, 2020.

Appointment by the ECPD is currently accepting candidate forms for the Republican candidate. They can be picked up and turned into the East Chicago Law department.

Public Comment: Attorney Lyles would like to add a rule that each member of the Commission submit proof of residency every year by January 15. There was discussion as to what the statute states. Attorney Levinson will look into the statute. If the Commission is in agreement the rule can be added; it will be discussed at a further date.

Next Meeting: March 3, 2020 @ 5PM

Adjournment: 5:33

Minutes approved this 3rd day of March, 2020.

Police Merit Commission