

**ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD
MINUTES
4th QUARTER BOARD MEETING – October 18, 2023**

Present were Illinois State Police Merit Board Chairman Tim Touhy, Member Michelle Carrera, Member Dr. Raymond Garcia, Member Dr. Michelle Hoy-Watkins, Member Honorable William Stiehl, and Executive Director Emily Fox.

Assistant Deputy Director Isaiah Vega, Illinois State Police Division of Internal Investigation; Captain Sean Brannon, Illinois State Police Command Council; Mr. Bruce Bialorucki, Illinois Troopers Lodge; Ms. Elizabeth Lepic, Illinois State Police Legal; and Mr. Nick Dale attended the meeting.

The meeting was held at the Michael A. Bilandic Building, Chicago. Chairman Touhy opened the meeting at 10:30 AM.

Chairman Touhy recognized a former Board Member, Mr. James Riley, who recently resigned from the Board after serving on the Merit Board for over thirteen years. Mr. Jim Riley, of Chicago, was appointed to the State Police Merit Board by Governor Quinn in April 2010, re-appointed in 2012, and re-appointed in 2018 with a term ending in March 2024. Mr. Riley served as Secretary of the Merit Board from 2016 until July 2023. Mr. Riley was the President of Riley & Friends, and previously served as a political consultant for Mayor Bilandic. Riley is the Chairman Emeritus of 100 Club of Illinois, former Chairman of Lake Geneva County Club, and Navy Pier. Mr. Riley also sat on the Board for Regents of Loyola University, the Board of Directors for Ceasefire, the Irish Fellowship Club, and the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority. We are grateful for Mr. Riley's years of service and dedication to the State Police Merit Board, and plan to provide him with a plaque of recognition.

Chairman Touhy asked the Board Members to introduce themselves.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the 3rd Quarter Board Meeting minutes held on July 19, 2023.

Executive Director Emily Fox updated the Board on the Applicant Process. Cadet Class #144 began on June 4, 2023. Out of the 30 candidates certified to Cadet Class #144, 21 cadets began for Cadet Class #144, and 18 remain. Cadet Class #145-Chicago Lateral, and Cadet Class #146-Traditional began early October 2023. A total of 7 candidates were certified to Cadet Class #145, 2 remain. A total of 17 candidates were certified to Cadet Class #146, 10 remain.

The deadline to apply for Cadet Class #147-Fast Track, and #148-Traditional was September 15, 2023. Testing was held on August 5, and September 30, in Frankfort, and on August 26, and October 14, in Springfield. A total of 1138 applicants completed the online Pre-Employment Application Form and were invited to complete the Physical Fitness Test and Recruitment Exam on the date of their choice. There were 241 PFIT passes, 92 PFIT fails, 68 withdraws, and 737 no-shows. Out of the 241 applicants who successfully completed the PFIT, 186 passed the recruitment exam, and 55 failed the recruitment exam. Backgrounds are currently being initiated.

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Executive Director Emily Fox updated the Board on the 2023 Promotional Process. The 2023 target Lieutenant and Captain Promotional testing was held the week of September 18-22. A total of 100 candidates tested to Lieutenant and 48 candidates tested to Captain. The 2023 Promotional Lists are scheduled to be Certified to the Director of the State Police on December 1.

Executive Director Emily Fox provided an update on the status of the proposed Administrative Rule Amendments. The proposed rule was up for consideration at the September 12, 2023, Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) meeting. Merit Board staff engaged in discussions with JCAR staff and Governor's Office staff prior to the JCAR meeting. JCAR staff raised concerns that the statutory language in the State Police Act states specifically that "three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business." JCAR staff and Merit Board staff agreed it was likely an oversight on the part of the legislature to not adjust the number of members required for a quorum when the number of Board members was expanded on January 1, 2022. JCAR staff indicated the Joint Committee may object to the proposed rules if these concerns are not addressed by the Merit Board. We agreed the proposed rule would not be adopted until legislative changes have been adopted to address these concerns. JCAR did not object to the rulemaking at its September 12 meeting. Under the administrative rules governing rulemaking, no more than one year may elapse from the date the proposed rule appeared in the Illinois Register until the date the rule is adopted. The Merit Board proposed rule was first published on June 2, 2023, making the deadline to adopt June 3, 2024. Director Fox will continue working with Governor's Office staff and the legislature to address the statutory language prior to adopting the proposed rule.

The Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

Chairman Tim Touhy, Member Michelle Carrera, Member Dr. Raymond Garcia, Member Dr. Michelle Hoy-Watkins, Member Honorable William Stiehl, and Executive Director Emily Fox attended the closed session portion of the meeting.

The Board discussed the Motion to Dismiss in the Trooper Richard "Chase" Wiggs matter 22-04.

The Board discussed personnel matters.

Executive Director Emily Fox updated the Board on the Discipline Report.

Executive Director Emily Fox provided the Board with an Administrative Review update.

The Board discussed keeping the July 19, 2023, closed meeting minutes confidential.

The Board voted unanimously to go out of closed session and return to open session.

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The Board voted unanimously to accept the deny the Motion to dismiss in the Trooper Richard “Chase” Wiggs matter 22-04.

The Board voted unanimously to keep the July 19, 2023, closed meeting minutes confidential.

The Board voted unanimously to elect Michelle Carrera as Secretary of the Board.

The Board voted unanimously to re-elect Tim Touhy the Board Chairman.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Carrera". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michelle Carrera, Secretary