

July 29, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:35 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Richard C. Cox, Chair
Kathryn A. Hein
Sarah W. Morgan

ABSENT: Commissioner: Paoi X. Lor (Excused)
Carolina M. Stark (Excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Rohlfing, Chief, Milwaukee Fire Department; and Edward Flynn, Chief, Milwaukee Police Department.

The Director administered the oath of office to Sarah Morgan for her reappointment as Commissioner to the Board.

The Chair reconvened the Board in Regular Session, having previously met in Executive Session from 3:37 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) Wis. Stats. to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over whom the Board has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: promotion of Fire Captain to Battalion Chief, Fire, and to conduct a quarterly review of Chief of Police Edward Flynn.

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 1, 2010. He noted at that meeting Joel Plant was appointed to Chief of Staff in the Police Department, and the Fire and Police Commission 125th Anniversary Report was presented. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) The following promotion, as presented by Chief Mark Rohlfing, was approved by the Board:

TO BATTALION CHIEF, FIRE, from Fire Captain, effective August 8, 2010:

TERRY W. LINTONEN.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Director reported that pursuant to the Rules of the Board, the Commission is required to have an election of officers for the ensuing year for the positions of Chairman and Vice-Chair. The Director called for nominations for the position of Chair. Commissioner Hein nominated Commissioner Cox. Commissioner Morgan seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed. Commissioner Cox was elected Chair on a 3-0 roll call vote.

The Director called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair. Commissioner Morgan nominated Commissioner Stark. Commissioner Hein seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed. Commissioner Stark was elected Vice-Chair on a 3-0 roll call vote.

The Chair assigned Commissioners Hein and Morgan to the Committee on Testing and Recruiting, with Commissioner Hein as Chair. He assigned himself and Commissioner Morgan to the Committee on Policies and Standards, with Commissioner Morgan as Chair. His assignment to the Committee is pending the appointment of Michael O'Hear to the Board, who will take his place on the Committee. Then he assigned Commissioner Stark and Lor to the Committee on Complaints and Disciplines, with Commissioner Stark as Chair.

b) The Director presented to the Board for adoption the Fire and Police Commission 2010 Mid-Year Report. Kristin Kappelman, Research and Policy Analyst, authored the report. She stated the Fire and Police Commission is proud to be celebrating 125 years of service to the City of Milwaukee in 2010. Highlights from the first six months of 2010 include: The Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security became a division of the FPC; Mark Rohlfing was appointed as the new Fire Chief; the Police Department amended its vehicle pursuit policy; and the FPC received 146 citizen complaints, of which only 12 were still under investigation. The FPC's 2010 Mid-Year Brochure gives additional details on those citizen complaints, along with select public safety statistics from both the Fire and Police Departments. The report will be available in hard copy and on the Commission's web site (<http://www.milwaukee.gov/fpc>). Commissioner Hein moved approval of the report, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Director presented to the Board a report on Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) Vehicle Pursuits, entitled An Analysis of Vehicle Pursuits in the Milwaukee Police Department, 2002 to 2009. Kristin Kappelman, Research and Policy Analyst, authored the report. She stated this report is a review of all vehicle pursuits performed by MPD from 2002 to 2009, which will serve as a baseline to determine the frequency and circumstances surrounding vehicle pursuits. This report does not address the impact of specific policies or procedures followed by MPD, but the data captured here will be utilized to conduct future reviews of MPD policy, procedures, and training. During the reporting period, there were 1,688 vehicle pursuits. In 2002, 271 vehicle pursuits occurred, while 165 vehicle pursuits occurred in 2009. This represents a 39.1% decrease. The average pursuit reached a maximum speed of 50 miles per hour, traveled a distance of 1.7 miles from start to finish, lasted four minutes, involved a marked squad, and was initiated because of a traffic violation.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Commissioner Cox gave an oral report of the Committee on Testing and Recruiting. The Committee met on July 9th. Over 4,000 applications for the position of Police Officer were received. The Police Officer written exam will be held July 27th, 28th and 29th and August 2nd, 3rd and 5th at Serb Hall. Approximately 600 applicants will be tested per day. The League of Martin held practice sessions for the written exam on July 17th and 24th. A City Attorney's opinion is being sought on the use of polygraphs as part of the testing process. The Physical Ability Test has not been scheduled yet. A recruitment plan for the position of Police Aide to target females and minorities was also discussed.

4. EXAMINATIONS:

a) The Director presented for approval an examination announcement bulletin for the position of Police Buildings and Fleet Manager in the Police Department. Val Williams, Personnel Administrator, stated the recruitment will begin with the current salary grade, and will be increased if necessary to attract more qualified candidates. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

5. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following promotions, as presented by Chief Mark Rohlfing, were approved by the Board:

TO FIRE CAPTAIN, on a waiver basis, from eligible list established February 19, 2009, effective August 8, 2010:

#13 – ROBERT G. SKARADZINSKI.

TO FIRE LIEUTENANT, on a waiver basis, from eligible list established December 17, 2009, effective August 8, 2010:

(Fire Department:)

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#11 – THOMAS S. JONES.

TO FIRE LIEUTENANT, on a waiver basis, from eligible list established December 6, 2007, effective August 8, 2010:

#25 – CHRISTOPHER J. KIETZKE.

Note: Mr. Kietzke was on unpaid military leave when his name was reached on the eligible list. For seniority purposes this promotion is retroactive to May 31, 2009.

TO FIRE EQUIPMENT REPAIRER II, from Fire Equipment Mechanic, effective August 8, 2010:

MARC R. DELKER.

b) The Director presented a letter dated July 20, 2010, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he requests that the appointments of #43A – Benjamin T. Pechacek, #90 – John G. Zidek, #96 – Mark M. Fletcher, and #113 – Patrick L. Schey to Firefighter, approved at the July 1, 2010 Regular Meeting, be rescinded as the candidates either withdrew or did not qualify for the position. Commissioner Morgan moved to rescind the appointments, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Director presented a letter dated July 22, 2010, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board that he has granted Firefighter Stephen Schultz an unpaid military leave of absence, effective July 16, 2010.

d) The Director presented a letter dated July 20, 2010, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he requests the reclassification of Inventory Control Assistant III in the Bureau of Construction and Maintenance. The Chair referred the request to the Department of Employee Relations for study and report.

6. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following promotions, as presented by Assistant Chief Edward Liebrecht, were approved by the Board:

TO LEAD POLICE TELECOMMUNICATOR, from eligible list established March 4, 2010, effective August 8, 2010:

#3 – SUSAN C. MCGOVERN and #4 – TINA TORRESCRUZ.

TO ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II, from Office Assistant III, effective August 8, 2010:

JULIE A. GASZAK.

TO OFFICE ASSISTANT III, from Office Assistant II, effective August 8, 2010:

REBECCA L. SMITH.

b) The following appointments, as presented by Assistant Chief Edward Liebrecht, were approved by the Board:

TO POLICE DISPATCHER, from eligible list established February 19, 2009, contingent upon successful completion of a background investigation, effective August 8, 2010:

#29 – PATRICIA A. HUDSON.

(Police Department:)

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TO POLICE DISPATCHER, from eligible list established February 19, 2009, contingent upon successful completion of a background investigation, medical examination, and drug screening, effective August 9, 2010:

#30 – PERSEPHONE L. CONNER and #31 – FREEMAN L. SEMONS, JR.

TO POLICE TELECOMMUNICATOR (REGULAR), from eligible list established May 7, 2009, contingent upon successful completion of an updated background investigation, psychological test, medical examination, and drug screening, effective August 9, 2010:

#23 – NICOLE SPREWER.

TO POLICE TELECOMMUNICATOR (REGULAR), from eligible list established May 7, 2009, effective August 8, 2010:

#37 – REGENIA A. THOMAS.

TO POLICE SERVICES SPECIALIST INVESTIGATOR, effective August 9, 2010:

RICHARD L. THOMPSON (FULL-TIME) and FREDERICK JONES (HALF-TIME).

The following appointments, as presented by Chief Edward Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO POLICE SERVICES SPECIALIST, contingent upon successful completion of a medical examination and drug screening, effective August 9, 2010:

EDGAR BULLOCK JR.

TO ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN, from a Department of Employee Relations eligible list, contingent upon successful completion of a medical examination and drug screening, effective August 9, 2010:

#2 – SCOTT E. PFEIFER.

c) The Director presented a letter dated July 19, 2010, from Assistant Chief Edward Liebrecht, wherein he requests that the appointments of #289 – Calvin J. Smith, #338 – James I. Landers, #490 – Kenneth R. Cyiark, #574 – Sergey V. Babakhanov, #590 – Steven R. Keiller, #615 – Anthony W. Schnacke, and #625 – Maribell Velez to Police Officer, approved at the June 17, 2010 Regular Meeting, be rescinded as the candidates either withdrew or did not qualify for the position. Commissioner Hein moved to rescind the appointments, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

d) The Director presented a letter dated July 14, 2010, from Assistant Chief Edward Liebrecht, wherein he requests that the appointment of #3 – Patti Thundercloud to Police Telecommunicator (Seasonal), approved at the July 1, 2010 Regular Meeting, be rescinded as she is no longer interested in the position. Commissioner Morgan moved to rescind the appointment, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

e) The Director presented a letter dated July 9, 2010, from Chief Edward Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Officer Chaquila C. Peavy has been suspended without pay for 8 working days, for violation of Department Rules and Regulations under Personnel Order 2010-133 dated July 9, 2010.

f) The Director presented a correspondence dated June 22, 2010, from Chief Edward Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Aide Raquel R. Linder has been terminated for violation of Department Rules and Regulations under Personnel Order 2010-119 dated June 22, 2010.

g) The Director presented a letter dated July 21, 2010, from Assistant Chief Edward Liebrecht, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Aide Adam Dettman returned from an unpaid military leave of absence granted April 19, 2009, effective May 3, 2010; Police Officer Andrew Thoma returned from an unpaid military leave of absence granted May 8, 2010, effective May 27, 2010; Identification Technician Jimmy Young returned from an unpaid military leave of absence granted March 15, 2010, effective May 10, 2010; Police Officer Diana Barchus returned from an unpaid military leave of absence granted May 26, 2010, effective July 11, 2010; Police Officer Eugene Burns was granted an extension to his unpaid military leave of absence which commenced January 18, 2009, and will now conclude April 2011; Police Officer Trevor DeBoer was granted an extension to his unpaid military leave of absence which commenced February 2, 2009, and will now conclude February 2011; Police Officer Ryan Dummann was granted an unpaid military leave of absence commencing May 10, 2010, and concluding June 2011; Police Officer Kathryn Gebhardt was granted an unpaid maternity leave of absence commencing July 7, 2010, and concluding August 14, 2010; Police Sergeant April Hoffman was granted an unpaid maternity leave of absence commencing May 21, 2010, and concluding April 3, 2011; Police Sergeant Thomas Lieske was granted an unpaid military leave of absence commencing July 9, 2010, and concluding July 2011; Police Aide Jose Ramirez was granted an extension to his unpaid military leave of absence which commenced March 27, 2010, and will now conclude September 2010; and Police Telecommunicator Corliss Shaw was granted an unpaid medical leave of absence commencing May 18, 2010, and concluding June 30, 2010.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Crivello, President of the Milwaukee Police Association (MPA), read a prepared written statement reiterating the MPA's position regarding the promotional path of Detectives and concerns that Police Officers are overworked with Detective duties.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 6:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

MGT:mk