

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MINUTES

The Civil Service Commission met in a Special Called Meeting on Friday, May 5, 2023, at the Commissioners' Room located at 118 South Cage Blvd., 2nd Floor, Pharr, Texas. The following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Chairperson, Mario Lizcano
Board Member, Vittorio Puente

STAFF PRESENT: Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager / CS Director
Bea Fuentes, HR Coordinator / Civil Service Asst.
Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief
Juan F. Gonzalez, Acting Police Chief
Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Rebecca Hayward, CS Attorney

ITEM 1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- (A) **ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY ABSENT MEMBER OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**
Vice-Chairperson Lizcano called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. Roll call established a quorum. Board Member Lizcano moved, and Board Member Puente seconded to excuse Chairperson Rodriguez for being absent from the meeting.

ITEM 2 PUBLIC TESTIMONY There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 3 REGULAR AGENDA

- (A) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023.**
Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

Board Member Puente moved to approve minutes as submitted. Vice-Chairperson Lizcano seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

- (B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE RAW AND FINAL SCORES FROM THE ENTRY LEVEL EXAM ADMINISTERED FOR FIREFIGHTER FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023.**
Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

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Board Member Puente moved to proceed with the approval of scores as recommended. Vice-Chairperson Lizcano seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

- (C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE ELIGIBILITY LIST CREATED FROM THE ENTRY LEVEL EXAM ADMINISTERED FOR FIREFIGHTER FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023.**

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

Board Member Puente moved to proceed with the recommendation. Vice-Chairperson Lizcano seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

- (D) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF A THREE-MEMBER PANEL TO EXAMINE PHARR FIREFIGHTER RUDY HERNANDEZ AND DETERMINE THE EMPLOYEE'S FITNESS FOR DUTY, PURSUANT TO SECTION 143.081(d) TEX.LOC.GOV'T CODE.**

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano moved to proceed with the recommendation. Board Member Puente seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

- (E) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING THE APPEAL BY OSCAR MORENO OF THE INDEFINITE SUSPENSION ISSUED BY FIRE CHIEF RODRIGUEZ.**

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano moved to dismiss the appeal due to not complying with the statutes. Board Member Puente seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (PD AND FD)

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

Act. Police Chief Gonzalez reported on the Crime Victims event that was held the prior month. This event provided awareness, education, and information on services for crime victims. The Police department also had an employee luncheon where they recognized and awarded 2 officers with a lifesaving award. Chief reported 8 probationary police officers that completed their field training program. Chief also shared a recruitment video spotlighting the women on the force. Chief Gonzalez invited all to the upcoming Fallen Officer's Memorial Ceremony scheduled for May 16, 2023.

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Fire Chief Rodriguez reported that upon their approval of the entry level firefighter's eligibility list, they can now schedule physical agility exams for those potential employees, in hopes of filling the 3 current vacancies. The fire department recently had a She's My Hero camp on April 15th. This is the 3rd camp already with efforts towards gender equality in the Fire Service and due to the positive response, 2 more all-female camps are scheduled for the summer. Chief Rodriguez announced the passing and service of Edinburg's Fire Chief Snyder.

ITEM 5. CIVIL SERVICE DIRECTORS REPORT

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

Nothing to report, only extend gratitude to the first responders during the recent bad weather storms.

ITEM 6. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION COMMENTS

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano introduced the item.

Vice-Chairperson also expressed gratitude towards all public servants that ensured the life and property for the great city of Pharr.

ITEM 7. CLOSED SESSION: In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Gov't. Code, the Civil Service Board of Commissioners hereby gives notice that it may meet in executive session to discuss the items listed on the public portion of the meeting agenda, including items 3 in accordance with the following below:

Pursuant to Section 551.071, the Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting with its attorney and discuss any matters related to legal advice on pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer, and/or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter. The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.074, the Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters related to appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties and discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee and to hear any complaints or charges against an officer or employee. The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff including members so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.076, the Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters on the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices. The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

Pursuant to Section 551.084, the Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting to discuss any matters involving an investigation and may exclude a witness from hearing during the examination of another witness in the investigation. The City and its attorney may also discuss such issues with the appropriate staff so as to obtain necessary and relevant information so that such discussion is informative and developed.

The time being 8:34 am, Chairperson Rodriguez stated the commission would be entering a closed session.

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ITEM 8. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION, AND CONSIDER ACTION, IF NECESSARY, ON ANY ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

The time being 8:47 am, Chairperson stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before, Board Member Puente moved to adjourn. It was seconded by Vice-Chairperson Lizcano and when put to a vote the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 am.


Chairperson Dolores Rodriguez


Vice-Chairperson Mario Lizcano


Board Member Vittorio Puente

APPROVED: _____