

**ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD**  
**MINUTES**  
**1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER BOARD MEETING – January 25, 2024**

Present were Illinois State Police Merit Board Chairman Tim Touhy, Board Secretary Michelle Carrera, Board Member Dr. Raymond Garcia, Board Member Dr. Michelle Hoy-Watkins, Executive Director Emily Fox, and Chief Legal Counsel Daniel Dykstra. Board Member William Stiehl attended the meeting via telephone conference.

Deputy Director Christopher Campbell, Illinois State Police Division of Justice Services; Deputy Director Marcus Gipson, Illinois State Police Division of Academy & Training; Deputy Director Isaiah Vega, Illinois State Police Division of Statewide 9-1-1; Assistant Deputy Director The Tran, Illinois State Police Division of Patrol; Captain Sean Brannon, Illinois State Police Command Council; Master Sergeant Jim Knipper, Illinois State Police Office of Labor Relations; and Master Sergeant Steve Dunlop, Illinois State Police Office of Labor Relations also attended the meeting in-person.

The meeting was held at the Michael A. Bilandic Building, Chicago. Chairman Touhy opened the meeting at 9:30 AM and asked Board Members to introduce themselves.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting minutes held on October 18, 2023.

Director Fox updated the Board on the Cadet Applicant Process. The deadline to apply for Cadet Class 147-Fast Track, and 148-Traditional was September 15, 2023. Applicant testing was held in August and September. A total of 1,138 applicants completed the online Pre-Employment Application Form and were invited to complete the Physical Fitness Inventory Test (PFIT) and Recruitment Exam on their selected date for Cadet Class 147 and Cadet Class 148. Out of the 1,138 applicants invited to participate in testing, 241 passed the PFIT, 92 failed the PFIT, 68 withdrew prior to participating in testing, and 737 were no-shows. Out of the 241 applicants who successfully completed the PFIT, 186 passed the recruitment exam, and 55 failed the recruitment exam. A total of 180 backgrounds were initiated. Background Review will be conducted today, and interviews will be held on February 6 and 7, 2024. Cadet Class 147 and Cadet Class 148 are scheduled to begin in April 2024.

Director Fox updated the Board on the 2023 Promotional Process. The 2023 Promotional Lists were certified to the State Police on December 4, 2023. The 2024 Promotional Test Development for target Sergeant and Master Sergeant is underway. The Reading Lists are currently being finalized and are set to be published by April 1, 2024.

The Board discussed MB-19 – Employee Handbook policy.

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The Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

Chairman Touhy, Board Secretary Carrera, Board Member Dr. Garcia, Board Member Dr. Hoy-Watkins, Director Fox, and Chief Legal Counsel Dykstra attended the closed session portion of the meeting in-person. Board Member Stiehl attended the closed session portion of the meeting via telephone conference.

The Board discussed the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Mark Reynolds matter docket number 22-01.

The Board discussed the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Jason Vulgamott matter docket number 22-03.

Director Fox updated the Board on the Discipline Report.

Chief Legal Counsel Dykstra provided the Board with an Administrative Review update.

The Board discussed keeping the October 18, 2023, closed meeting minutes confidential.

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


The Board voted unanimously to accept Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Mark Reynolds matter 22-01, suspending Trooper Reynolds for 60 days.

The Board voted unanimously to accept the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Jason Vulgamott matter 22-03, suspending Trooper Vulgamott for 120 days.

The Board voted unanimously to approve MB-19 – Employee Handbook.

The Board voted unanimously to keep the October 18, 2023, closed meeting minutes confidential.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

  
Michelle D. Carrera, Secretary