

**ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD  
MINUTES  
1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER BOARD MEETING – January 18, 2023**

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

Deputy Director Akil Smith, Illinois State Police Division of Internal Investigation; Assistant Deputy Director Isaiah Vega, Illinois State Police Division of Internal Investigation; Ret. Master Sergeant Jim Poortinga, Teamsters; Master Sergeant Jim Knipper, Illinois State Police Office of Labor Relations; Master Sergeant Steve Dunlop, Illinois State Police Office of Labor Relations; Mr. Bruce Bialorucki, Illinois Troopers Lodge; Chase Wiggs, and Micah Davis also attended the meeting in-person.

Acting Chief Legal Counsel Kelly Griffith, Illinois State Police; Colonel Marcus Gipson, Illinois State Police Division of Academy and Training; Executive Director Kim Schultz, Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; Brian Jant, Illinois State Police Legal; and Captain Sean Brannon, Illinois State Police Command Council attended via teleconference.

The meeting was held at the Michael A. Bilandic Building, Chicago.

Board Secretary James Riley opened the meeting at 10:30 AM. Secretary Riley asked Board Member Touhy to facilitate the meeting as he was attending by phone.

Board Member Touhy asked the Board Members to introduce themselves.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting minutes held on October 18, 2022.

Executive Director Emily Fox updated the Board on the Applicant Process. Cadet Class 139 began on Saturday, October 8, with 52 cadets, and a total of 49 cadets graduated in December. Cadet Class 140 began on Sunday, October 9, with 24 cadets and all 24 remain. Cadet Class 141 began on Saturday, January 7, 2023, with 11 cadets and all 11 remain. Cadet Class 142 began on Sunday, January 8, with 19 cadets and 18 currently remain. Cadet Class 143 and 144 are tentatively scheduled to begin in June 2023. PFIT and Recruitment Exam testing was held on October 22, and December 10, in Frankfort; and October 29 and December 17 in Springfield. The following are the totals from the four testing events: 779 signed up for testing; 510 testing no-shows; 26 testing withdraws; 62 PFIT fails; 181 PFIT passes; 81 Recruitment Exam fails; 117 Recruitment Exam passes; 15 unacceptable applicants; and 101 backgrounds initiated. Backgrounds are due to the Merit Board in March. Cadet Class 145 and 146 are tentatively scheduled to begin in October 2023. Cadet Class 145 is set to be a Chicago-Lateral Class. Cadet Class 146 is set to be a traditional class. Applicant testing is scheduled for February 4th and 25th, in Frankfort, and March 4th in Springfield. As of now, 253 applicants have signed up to participate throughout the three testing dates. The deadline to apply is March 1.

**Illinois State Police Merit Board**  
**January 18, 2023**  
**Page Two**

Executive Director Emily Fox updated the Board on the 2022 and 2023 Promotional Processes. The 2022 Promotional Certification Lists were delivered to the State Police on Friday, December 2. Test development is underway for the 2023 Promotional Process, to the rank of Lieutenant and Captain. Testing will be held the week of September 18, 2023, at the Merit Board office. The reading lists are set to be published on April 15, and test declaration in June.

Chief Legal Counsel Daniel Dykstra provided an update on comments received regarding the proposed Administrative Rule Amendments from the Illinois State Police and the Illinois State Police Troopers Lodge.

The Board discussed MB-03 – Promotional Policy.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to go into closed session.

Board Secretary James Riley, Board Member Michelle Carrera, Board Member Dr. Raymond Garcia, Board Member Tim Touhy, Executive Director Emily Fox, and Chief Legal Counsel Daniel Dykstra attended the closed session portion of the meeting.

The Board discussed the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Special Agent Jonathan Parker matter 19-5.

The Board discussed the Motion to Dismiss in the Master Sergeant Macharia Fortson matter, docket number 19-6.

The Board discussed the Trooper Richard “Chase” Wiggs matter, docket number 21-1.

The Board discussed the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Wesley Van Hook matter, docket number 21-2.

The Board discussed the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Donald Simmons matter, docket number 22-5.

The Board discussed personnel matters.

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

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

The Board discussed keeping the October 18, 2022, closed meeting minutes confidential.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to go out of closed session and return to open session.

**Illinois State Police Merit Board**  
**January 18, 2023**  
**Page Three**

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to accept Joint Motion for a Decision in the Special Agent Jonathan Parker matter 19-5, suspending Special Agent Parker for 180 days.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to accept the Motion to Dismiss Master Sergeant Macharia Fortson 19-6 matter, due to Fortson's termination.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to terminate Trooper Richard "Chase" Wiggs.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to accept the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Wesley Van Hook matter 21-2, suspending Trooper Van Hook for 90 days.


The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to accept the Joint Motion for a Decision in the Trooper Donald Simmons matter 22-5, suspending Trooper Simmons for 60 days.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to keep the October 18, 2022, closed meeting minutes confidential.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to elect Board Member Tim Touhy as Chairman of the Board.

The Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve MB-03 – Promotion Policy.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James V. Riley, Secretary