

CITY OF RENO – CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday – September 24, 2020 – 3:30 PM
Reno, Nevada

MEMBERS

Tray Abney, Chairperson
YeVonne Allen, Vice Chairperson
Jeannie Atkinson
Ken Dalton
Ricardo Duarte
Jay Kenny
Nichole Paul

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson Abney called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. A quorum was established.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tray Abney
YeVonne Allen
Jeannie Atkinson
Ken Dalton
Jay Kenny
Nichole Paul

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ricardo Duarte

ALSO PRESENT FROM CIVIL SERVICE:

Barbara Ackermann, Chief Examiner
Candie Lorenzo, Management Analyst
Melissa Ulrich, Civil Service Technician
Susan Rothe, Deputy City Attorney
Karl Hall, City Attorney

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – This item is for either public comment on any action item or for general public comment and is limited to no more than **three (3) minutes** for each commentator.

Officer John Torres, Reno Police Department made a public comment regarding the expiration of the August 2019 Deputy Chief of Police eligible list.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (For Possible Action)

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Allen, seconded by Commissioner Paul, to approve the September 24, 2020 agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **LIAISON REPORT** (Item for announcements and informational items only. No deliberation or action will be taken on this item.)

None.

5. **MINUTES** – Approval of the August 27, 2020 regular meeting minutes. (For Possible Action)

It was moved by Commissioner Kenny, seconded by Commissioner Dalton, to approve the minutes for the August 27, 2020 Civil Service meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Request to approve employee confirmations. (For Possible Action)
- B. Request to approve eligible lists. (For Possible Action)
- C. Request to approve eligible list extensions. (For Possible Action)
- D. Request to approve the minimum qualifications for the job class specification of Fire Equipment Mechanic. (For Possible Action)
- E. Request to pre-approve eligible list extensions for the upcoming Police Sergeant and Police Lieutenant recruitments that will be established in November 2020. (For Possible Action)
- F. Request to approve extension of probation for Emad Asaad, Accounting Assistant in the Finance Department. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Atkinson requested that item 6.F. be pulled from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Allen, seconded by Commissioner Paul, to approve the Consent Agenda items 6.A. – 6.E. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held on Consent Agenda item 6.F. regarding adjusting the number of days for the extension of probation for Emad Asaad, Accounting Assistant in the Finance Department, to include time served.

It was moved by Commissioner Atkinson, seconded by Vice Chairperson Allen, to approve item 6.F. with the following amendment, that the extension be adjusted to recognize and credit the employee for time served through the end of his original probationary period in a training capacity.

7. CHIEF EXAMINER ANNOUNCEMENTS (Items for general announcements and informational items only. No deliberation or action will be taken on this item.)

Chief Examiner Ackermann presented the Commission with upcoming recruitments to fulfill vacancies within the City as well as an overview of the most recent Police Recruit recruitment.

Chief Examiner Ackermann provided a timeline to the Commission regarding the four upcoming Public Safety Promotional Assessment Centers that will take place over the next few months.

8. IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Atkinson requested an update on when additional rule changes would be brought to the commission for review in particular Rule VII, Section 11(a) – The Chief Examiner shall remove the names of an Eligible from the eligibility list in the following cases: (1) – If an eligible for entry level appointment has been certified and passed over three (3) times for appointment. Discussion about this rule was had and identified as an item that needs to be on the future agenda.

Chief Examiner Ackermann stated that this particular rule change along with a comprehensive review of the rules is a priority. Reduced staff in the Civil Service department coupled with the majority of City Hall working remote for the past five months has made it challenging to have the conversations and communications needed to make progress on processing rule changes. With the four upcoming assessment centers and the Holidays it will likely be the beginning of the year before the Commission will see any rule changes hit the Commission's Agenda for review.

9. CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE OF October 22, 2020 AT 3:30 PM. (For Possible Action)

The next regular meeting of the Civil Service Commission was scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 3:30 PM.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT – This item is for either general public comment or on any action item and is limited to no more than three (3) minutes for each commentator.

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT (For Possible Action)

It was moved by Commissioner Atkinson, seconded by Commissioner Dalton, to adjourn the meeting at 3:48 PM. The motion passed unanimously.



Candie Lorenzo <lorenzoc@reno.gov>

Public Comment and request for agenda item for 9/24

1 message

John Torres <john.torres@vminevada.com>
To: lorenzoc@reno.gov

Mon, Sep 21, 2020 at 8:37 AM

Please read the following into record for my public comment:

Commission members,

For the record, my name is John Torres. I am a Reno citizen, business owner, and currently serve as a Reno Police Officer. I am submitting this comment today to ask the Commission to extend the eligibility list for Deputy Chief at the Reno Police Department. It is my understanding the current list expired in August 2020. The time and financial resources it takes to conduct testing for this position are significant, and both are currently in short supply - as is requisite leadership within our department. Our Command Staff, as is the case at all other levels within the department, is short handed and stretched far too thin.

We are in the midst of a delicate time socially and to deprive the Reno Police Department and the community of a requisite leader poses as significant disservice to both the agency and the community. This can be avoided by promoting any of the very qualified candidates still on the list. From a business perspective, the projected city budget shortfall as a result of COVID can be relieved to a degree by extending the recently expired list as can the time investment to conduct testing and selection. The time and financial resources can be better spent focusing our efforts on the daily task of protecting and serving this community.

Under your Commission Rule VII, Section 9 the list can be extended for up to one year. I respectfully ask you to add this as an agenda item and approve the list extension without delay.

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Thank you for your time today,

John Torres