

**PIKE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT  
MERIT COMMISSION  
4881 WEST 71ST STREET  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46268**

**President:**

Stephen Buschmann

**Vice President:**

Natrina DeBow

**Secretary:**

Russell Sipes

**Members:**

Steve Hendrixson

Nancy Poore

March 15, 2023  
**Regular Meeting**

*An Executive Session was held prior to the Regular meeting. No decisions were made during the Executive Session.*

**ATTENDEES:**

Merit Commission – Natrina DeBow, Russ Sipes, Nancy Poore, Steve Hendrixson, Stephen Buschmann

Pike Township – Chief Jeff Beam, Deputy Chief Mike Goodrich, HRM Kris Harrison

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Copies of the January 18, 2023 minutes were distributed for review. There was a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and approved.

**AGENDA/NEW BUSINESS:**

The meeting was called to order at 1831 hours.

The meeting began with The Pledge of Allegiance.

The next item on the agenda was the Election of Officers. After discussion, President Buschmann asked for a motion to retain the current officers. Secretary Sipes made the motion which was seconded by Commissioner Hendrixson. The motion passed unanimously.

As noted above, an Executive Session was held prior to the regular meeting to review two applicants for the position of Probationary Firefighter. President Buschmann asked for a motion to approve Applicant 23-041 and Applicant 23-364 pending approval by INPRS. Secretary Sipes made the motion to approve these two applicants. Mr. Hendrixson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was promotions.

There were twelve employees who were recommended for promotion from FFII to FFIII: B. Alexander, T. Ball, A. Bartrom, C. Berger, D. Christman, W. Garrison, A. Hall, J. Hutson, V. Muhammad, D. Ruark, S. Stunda and N. Taylor. Chief Beam stated that these firefighters have completed all necessary training and will be eligible for promotion on April 8<sup>th</sup>. President Buschmann asked for a motion to approve the twelve firefighters for promotion from FFII to FFIII effective April 8<sup>th</sup>. Secretary Sipes made the motion which was seconded by Vice-President DeBow and passed unanimously.

Chief Beam stated that Nathaniel Geist had been on military leave but has also completed the training and time requirement to be eligible for promotion from FFII to FFIII as of March 10<sup>th</sup>. President Buschmann asked for a motion to approve Nathaniel Geist for promotion from FFII to FFIII, effective March 10<sup>th</sup>. Vice-President DeBow made the motion which was seconded by Secretary Sipes and passed unanimously.

Chief Beam requested that the Merit Commission provide the next three names on the Lieutenant Promotion Eligibility List. President Buschmann stated that the next three names are Mindy Shupe, James Michalisko and Angela Highland. Chief Beam said that both Mindy Shupe and James Michalisko are in promotable positions and he intends to promote them. President Buschmann stated that since two promotions will be made, that the Commission would provide the first four names. President Buschmann asked for a motion to provide the Chief with the next four names on the Lieutenant Promotion Eligibility list who are Mindy Shupe, James Michalisko, Angela Highland and Ryan Ross. The motion was made by Vice-President DeBow and seconded by Secretary Sipes. All voted in favor.

Chief Beam said that he will promote Mindy Shupe and James Michalisko to the rank of Lieutenant Probationary on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Chief also requested the next three names on the Captain Promotion Eligibility List as there is a Captain vacancy that is currently posted and may not be filled. President Buschmann stated the next three names are Marcus Boone, Corey Johnson and Steve Mills. Secretary Sipes made the motion which was seconded by Vice-President DeBow. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Chief Beam said that he will advise the Merit Commission of any additional promotions at the April meeting.

#### **MISC. BUSINESS:**

Chief Beam and Chief Goodrich discussed that the new administration is settling in and doing well. The Commissioners were reminded of the Awards Banquet on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The Chief stated that the final version of the PTFD annual report was complete.

The meeting adjourned at 1844 hours.