

**Rock Island County Merit Commission Meeting**

**March 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes 9:00 A.M.**

**Rock Island County Justice Center- 502 Jury Deliberation Room**

**1317 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Rock Island, IL 61201**

Merit Commission Attendees: Bill Hass, John Callas (via Zoom) and William Kauzlarich

Absent: Captain Justin Chisholm

Public: Sheriff Darren Hart, Capt. Jens Lape, Capt. Mindy Meyers, Capt. Eric Holton and LeAnn Ziegenhorn

Bill Hass called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. William Kauzlarich seconded; all were in favor.

A roll call vote was taken.

John Callas, Bill Hass and William Kauzlarich

**TOTAL YES     3**

**TOTAL NO      0**

Motion carried.

**1) OLD BUSINESS:**

William Kauzlarich motioned to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2024 meeting, John Callas seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

John Callas, Bill Hass and William Kauzlarich

**TOTAL YES     3**

**TOTAL NO      0**

Motion carried.

**2) CLOSED SESSION**

The Rock Island County Merit Commission may enter a Closed Session for the following:

*5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.*

John Callas motioned that the Commission go into closed session for personal matters. William Kauzlarich seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

John Callas, Bill Hass, and William Kauzlarich

**TOTAL YES     3**  
**TOTAL NO      0**

Motion carried.

John Callas made a motion to come out of closed session, and William Kauzlarich seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

John Callas, Bill Hass and William Kauzlarich

**TOTAL YES     3**  
**TOTAL NO      0**

Motioned carried.

### **3) NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Certification of Eligibility List for Deputy**

John Callas motioned that candidate James Walls passed the physical agility requirements and scored 70% and above on the deputy sheriff written test, and that Walls be placed on the current eligibility list. William Kauzlarich seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

John Callas, Bill Hass, and William Kauzlarich

**TOTAL YES     3**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

**B. Deputy Sheriff Inductions (Hunter Locke)**

New Sheriff's Deputy Hunter Locke was introduced to the Merit Commission. Deputy Locke graduated from the academy on December 19, 2024. He is currently in the FTO program.

**C. Merit Commission Letters of Tenure- Deputy Malik Gilmore and Levi Stropes have both successfully completed their 12-month probation period with the Sheriff's Office.**

**D. Discuss Revision of Merit Commission Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures**

The Sheriff has sent a redlined version to everyone to review for next Merit Commission meeting on May 7, 2025 from 10 AM- Noon. This item is tabled until further.

**E. Bills to Consider**

William Kauzlarich motioned to pay the invoices for postage to return testing materials. John Hass seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

John Callas, Bill Hass and William Kauzlarich

**TOTAL YES 3**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

**4) Next Meeting Date: May 7, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. (tentative)**

**5) Adjournment:**

Motion made by William Kauzlarich, seconded by John Callas.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried for adjournment.