



MICHIGAN CITY FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

100 MICHIGAN BLVD.

MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA 46360 219-8731570

KEITH HARRIS, PRESIDENT

JOHN SKIERKOWSKI, VICE PRESIDENT

LOUISE MOCK, SECRETARY

Bart Lombard, COMMISSIONER

JOHN STIMLEY, COMMISSIONER

Minutes of the June 6, 2011 Michigan City Fire Merit Commission Meeting.

President Harris called the meeting to order. A quorum was noted as present with Commissioners John Stimley, Keith Harris and Louise Mock, in attendance. Others present Deputy Chief Randy Novak, Attorney Pam Krause, Council Liaison Pat Boy, and Recording Secretary Gale Neulieb.

(Note: President Harris stated Commissioner Skierkowski was ill and would not be attending the meeting.)

On a motion by John Stimley, second by Louise Mock the minutes of the April 4, 2011 meeting and the Executive Session of May 2, 2011 were approved. **Motion 3-0.**

President Harris advised Commissioner Lombard that the minutes of May 2, 2011 were correct regarding what was stated about the status of Consent Decree.

Discussion ensued between President Harris and Commissioner Lombard.

Commissioner Mock asked for the approval of \$1,416.67 for Claims and Payroll.

Commissioner Lombard made a motion to pay Claims/Payroll in the amount of \$1,416.67, second by Commissioner Stimley and approved. **Motion 3 – 0.**

Attorney Krause had nothing to report.

President Harris advised that to date the Fire Merit Commission had received a total of sixty-two (62) applications; two (2) were incomplete, thirteen (13) minorities, and forty-seven (47) other, stating that applications would be accepted through August 12, 2011.

Commissioner Mock stated that the Commission's decision was that if an application was not complete the applicant would not be notified.

Commissioner Lombard questioned if the Fire Commission would be sending applicants a letter advising them that their application was not completed properly.

President Lombard stated the Commission voted on not sending letters to applicants that did not complete their application.

Attorney Krause addressed Commissioner Lombard's question regarding the number of minorities that need to be hired on the Fire Department.

President Harris stated that he met with Ta-Tanesha Clark, Human Rights Executive Director/EEO Officer advising that she will give the Commission these figures when she receives the updates from the 2010 Census.

President Harris addressed the Commission regarding applicants that apply for the Fire Department and have a felony conviction/arrests record, advising what is stated in the Fire Merit Commission Ordinance and the Consent Decree is what the Commission has to follow.

Council Liaison Boy, President Harris, Attorney Krause, and Commissioner Lombard discussed whether Ms. Clark would be able to get the figures from the 2010 Census regarding what percentage of minorities there are between the ages of twenty-one (21) and thirty-five (35) years old that live within the City limits.

Commissioner Stimley asked if a minority retires would the Commission have to hire two (2) minorities.

Discussion ensued among President Harris, Commissioner's Lombard, Stimley, Mock, Attorney Krause, and Councilwoman Boy.

Council Liaison Boy had nothing to report.

President Harris stated that Councilwoman Boy and he will be scheduling a workshop regarding the Fire Merit Ordinance.

Ms. Neulieb stated that she would report on the number of minority applicants received that live within the Civil City limits for the next meeting (July 5, 2011).

Deputy Chief Novak presented the weekly evaluation report regarding the three (3) probationary firefighters attending the academy to the Commission advising he and Larry Butcher, Training Officer went to the academy last week, stating that the guys are doing an outstanding job.

Deputy Chief Novak advised the three probationary firefighters will be finishing up at the academy on September 2, 2011 and would like to bring them back and present their badges to them at the September 6, 2011 Fire Merit Commission meeting.

Deputy Chief Novak stated that the M.C.F.D. is doing a Swedish Flashover chamber at the training tower on Hitchcock Street. Chief Novak stated a flashover happens when all the materials in a room reach their ignition point and they all catch fire.

Deputy Chief Novak stated the union asked when a meeting was going to be scheduled regarding the Fire Merit Ordinance.

Chief Novak addressed Commissioner Lombard's question advising he would check and see if the Westfield Fire Department Training Academy would be having a ceremony for the probationary firefighters graduating from the academy in September and email the Commissioners that information.

A discussion ensued between President Harris and Deputy Chief Novak regarding the state considering establishing fire regional academies throughout the state of Indiana.

Chief Novak advised that the Westfield Fire Academy is developing a ninety-two acre sight for a central Indiana academy for police and fire.

There were no comments from the Commission.

There were no comments from the public.

President Harris stated that he would be calling a special meeting on July 5, 2011 at 4:45 to discuss the 2012 budget and due to the holiday the Fire Merit Commission's regular meeting would follow at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

President Harris, Commissioner Harris and Commissioner Lombard discussed the schedule for the hiring of minority applicants would start after August 12, 2011.

There were no objections.

President Harris asked if there were any more comments or questions and hearing none, a motion by Commissioner Stimley, second by Commissioner Mock the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.