



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES – JULY 20, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioner Lindsey was present via Webex and in-person.

Commissioners Gilmore, Hult, Palmerton, and Stephens were present via Webex.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. June 15, 2021 Minutes

MOTION: Accept the minutes as presented.

Stephens/Palmerton: Motion passed unanimously.

3. CHIEF EXAMINER UPDATE

Chief Examiner Pearson provided updates regarding Civil Service department operations.

- a. TEST FEST Update

- i. Testing this week for all 6 of our laboring positions. Lower numbers than in years past, but not unexpected in this current environment with so many places looking for employees. Testing this week through Saturday and should have eligible lists by the end of next week.

- b. Media Attention regarding Civil Service's Test Development Backlog

- i. Continue to encourage our hiring managers, department and division heads, city council members and administration to come directly to Civil Service for accurate and timely information regarding our timelines, test development processes, and classification issues.
- ii. Misinformation reported in the media
1. 9 month wait time test development was not an accurate number and was not provided by anyone in Civil Service
- iii. Communication with Civil Service is vital. Department's needs need to be submitted to us in a timely to ensure that we can assist departments with their hiring needs and prioritize work appropriately. Imperative as we support 47 departments and close to 400 classifications.
- iv. Commissioner Gilmore made a comment that they did hear the statement by council member and believes that Council President Beggs has invited Ms. Pearson to meet with the Council and thinks it is a brilliant idea. We just meet with them a short time ago and thought that there was a really good understanding that they would be coming to you with any questions about anything going on in the department. Maybe just a little reminder would be helpful rather than these ridiculous statements being made in an evening news session.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution 2021-03: Classification Actions

MOTION: Move to readopt.

Gilmore/Hult: Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Conrath Appeal Hearing

- i. Mr. Conrath a Police Corporal for the City of Spokane Police Department was passed over for the position of Police Sergeant under Civil Service Rule V, Section 4(a).

- ii. City's Attorney – Mr. Mike Bolasina

- 1. Argument

- 2. Witnesses

- a. Captain Tracie Meidl, City of Spokane Police Department

- b. The Commission called recess at 10:18 a.m. and resumed open session at 10:21 a.m..

- c. Commissioners Hult and Palmerton followed up with a questions to Captain Meidl.

- d. Jacqui MacConnell, Director of Strategic Initiatives, City of Spokane Police Department

- e. Commissioners Gilmore, Palmerton, and Stephens followed up with questions to Ms. MacConnell.

- f. Commissioner Hult followed up with questions to both Mr. Bolasina and Mr. Kuhlman.

- g. The Commission called recess at 11:23 a.m. and resumed open session at 11:38 a.m..

- h. Chief Craig Meidl, City of Spokane Police Department

- i. Commissioners Gilmore, Hult, Palmerton, and Stephens followed up with questions to Chief Meidl.

- j. The Commission called recess at 12:33 p.m. and resumed open session at 12:38 p.m..

- k. Commissioner Hult asked a question of the Chair – Mr. Lindsey, which was answered by Mr. Piccolo.

- iii. Appellant's Attorney – Mr. Joe Kuhlman

- 1. Argument

- a. Commissioners Gilmore, Hult, and Palmerton followed with questions to Mr. Kuhlman.

- iv. Closing Statements presented by Mr. Bolasina and Mr. Kuhlman

- a. Commissioner Palmerton followed with questions to Mr. Bolasina.

- b. Commissioners Gilmore and Palmerton followed with questions and comments to Mr. Kuhlman.

- v. The Commission adjourned into Executive Session at 1:20 p.m. and resumed open session at 2:03 p.m.

MOTION: Civil Service Commission has determined to deny Officer Conrath's appeal under Civil Service Rule 5, Section 4.

Gilmore/Stephens: Motion passed unanimously.

5. ADJOURN

The Commission adjourned at 2:06 p.m.