

MERIT SYSTEM FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE KNOX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**MERIT SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
August 16, 2023, 1:00 P.M., Main Assembly Room,
City/County Building, 400 W. Main Street**

Present at this meeting: Christopher Manning, Chairman; John Valliant, Vice-Chairman; Brock Goetz, Board Member; Lindsay Willis, Board Member; Clarence Vaughn, Board Member; John Marshall, Board Member; Kenny Boatman, Board Member; Chief William Purvis, Knox County Sheriff's Office; Chief Mike Ruble, Knox County Sheriff's Office; Chief Bernie Lyon, Knox County Sheriff's Office; Larsen Jay, Knox County Commission; Myers Morton, Knox County Law Director; Paula Taylor, Executive Director.

Chairman Manning called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Manning asked if there were any amendments, additions, or deletions to the agenda; being none, the agenda was set.

The meeting minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Mr. Vaughn made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented, Mr. Marshall seconded, motion passed.

Chairman Manning recognized Chief Purvis to present the request for approval of the Maintenance Technician job description. Mr. Marshall made a motion to approve the job description as presented; Vice-Chairman Valliant seconded; motion passed.

Chairman Manning proposed an amendment to Rule and Regulation 6.1.3 to require applicants for Corrections and Patrol Officers to have a valid driver's license to be eligible; Vice-Chairman Valliant seconded; motion passed.

Chairman Manning proposed a motion to amend Rule and Regulation 2.3 and Knox County Ordinance Sec 42-53 (c), allowing an employee in the classified service to run for elective office and campaign for themselves while holding a position in the classified service, no longer requiring the employee to take a leave of absence to run for office; after discussion among the board Vice-Chairman Valliant seconded; motion passed.

Chairman Manning proposed a motion to amend Rule and Regulation 3.2 (f) and Knox County Ordinance Sec 42-53 (c) to narrow restrictions on board member's political activities to apply exclusively to elections for Knox County Sheriff. After lengthy discussion, no action was taken on the proposed motion. Chairman Manning appointed Vice-Chairman Valliant, Mr. Marshall, and Mr. Vaughn to a subcommittee to review and discuss possible changes to the proposed amendment.

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Chairman Manning presented a motion to propose an amendment to Rule and Regulation 9.5 and Knox County Ordinance Sec 42-62 (b) to allow a right of Grievance for suspensions of any time length that result in a loss pay. After considerable discussion, Chairman Manning asked Law Director Morton to prepare documentation regarding the private act that was passed by state legislature regarding suspensions and the board's operational guidelines within the act.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

Paula M. Taylor
Executive Director

Christopher Manning
Board of Directors Chairman