



**MINUTES for  
Firefighters', Police Officers' and Emergency Medical Personnel's Civil Service Commission  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

The Firefighters', Police Officers', and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission convened in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 via teleconference from 5202 East Ben White Boulevard, Building 500, Room 249, Austin TX 78741.

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Commission Chair Jolsna Thomas  
Commission Vice Chair Eyna Canales-Zarate  
Commission Member Farah Ahmed

**Staff in Attendance:**

Matthew Chustz, Acting Civil Service Administrator  
Michael Sullivan, Civil Service Coordinator  
Mecia Griffin, Civil Service Coordinator  
Ann Skowronski, Assistant City Attorney  
Patricia Bourenane, Assistant to Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano  
Dr. Ronnelle Paulson, Assistant Director, Austin Fire Department

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Civil Service Commission Chair Thomas called the Commission Meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. via video teleconference.**

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

**No members of the public signed up to speak on this item.**

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approve the minutes from the Firefighters', Police Officers', and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Regular Meeting of January 4, 2021.

**The minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 4, 2021, were approved on Commission Member Ahmed's motion, Vice Chair Canales-Zarate second, on a 3-0 vote.**

## **2. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Hear and rule on appeal(s) from the 2021 Captain - Field written promotional examination administered on January 27, 2021 pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 143.034, Article 12 of the Agreement between the City of Austin and the Austin-Travis County EMS Employees Association and Rule 7 of the City of Austin Fire Fighters', Police Officers' and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations.

**Commission Vice Chair Canales-Zarate moved to deny the appeal of exam question 73, and let the question remain as keyed. The motion failed due to lack of a second.**

**Commission Ahmed moved to grant the appeal of exam question 73. Commission Chair Thomas seconded the motion. The motion to grant the appeal of question 73 was approved 2-1, with Commission Vice Chair Canales-Zarate voting no.**

- b. Discussion and possible action regarding the request of an Austin Fire Department candidate to the Commission to appoint three-member boards per Chapter 143.022(c) LGC for another mental or physical examination. (John Itz)
- c. Discussion and possible action regarding the request of an Austin Fire Department candidate to the Commission to appoint three-member boards per Chapter 143.022(c) LGC for another mental or physical examination. (Nicholas Deboes)

**Agenda items 2b and 2c were taken up together to no objection.**

**The order to appoint three-member boards per Chapter 143.022(c) LGC was approved on Commission Vice Chair Canales-Zarate motion, Member Ahmed's second, on a 3-0 vote.**

- d. Provide feedback on the report responsive to Council Resolution No. 20190619-092, which highlights gaps and areas of improvements of mental health services for public safety first responders.

**The motion to decline to provide feedback in response to the report in the form of an email to Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano was approved on Commission Vice Chair Canales-Zarate motion, Member Ahmed's second, on a 3-0 vote.**

## **3. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- a. Report from the Civil Service Office regarding exam processes, disciplinary hearings and fit for duty actions.

**Matthew Chustz, Acting Civil Service Administrator, delivered the briefing to the Commission.**

**4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Future Meetings Schedule.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was approved on Commission Vice Chair Canales-Zarate motion, Member Ahmed's second, on a 3-0 vote., and the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 am.**