



**MINUTES FOR THE  
CITY OF AUSTIN FIREFIGHTERS', POLICE OFFICERS' AND  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL'S  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023**

The Firefighters', Police Officers', and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission convened in a Special Called Meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 5202 East Ben White Boulevard, Building 500, Austin TX 78741.

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

Commission Chair Jolsna Thomas  
Commission Vice Chair Farah Ahmed  
Commissioner Melissa Rogers

**Staff in Attendance:**

Chris Coppola, Law Division Chief  
Nathan Brown, Assistant Director  
Matthew Chustz, Civil Service Manager  
Cyndi Gordon, Civil Service Coordinator

Sarah Williams, Civil Service Coordinator  
Abby Varela, MCS Coordinator  
April Roberts, MCS Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes of the Firefighters', Police Officers', and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Regular Meeting of October 2, 2023.  
**The minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 2, 2023, were approved on Commissioner Rogers' motion, Chair Thomas' second on a 2-0 vote. Vice Chair Ahmed was off the dais.**

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

2. Hear and rule on appeal(s) from the Austin Police Department Lieutenant written promotional examination administered on November 28, 2023, pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 143.034 and Rule 7 of the City of Austin Fire Fighters', Police Officers' and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations. **Vice Chair Ahmed moved to approve the appeal of exam question 13 and accept all answers as correct. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion. The motion to approve the appeal of question 13 and accept all answers was approved on a 3-0 vote.**

**Vice Chair Ahmed moved to deny the appeal of exam question 45 and keep the answer as keyed. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 45 was approved on a 3-0 vote.**

**Vice Chair Ahmed moved to deny the appeal of exam question 81 and keep the answer as keyed. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 81 was approved on a 3-0 vote.**

**Vice Chair Ahmed moved to deny the appeal of exam question 90 and keep the answer as keyed. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 90 was approved on a 3-0 vote.**

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the request of Brian McRae, an Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services candidate, to the Commission to appoint a three-member board per Texas Local Government Code section 143.022(c) for another mental examination. **The motion to approve the appointment of a three-member board per Texas Local Government Code section 143.022(c) for another mental examination of Candidate McRae was approved on Vice Chair Ahmed's motion, Commissioner Rogers' second, on a 3-0 vote.**

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the requests of one or more Austin Fire Department candidates to the Commission to appoint three member boards per Texas Local Government Code section 143.022(c) for another mental or physical examination, as applicable. **The motion to approve the appointments of three-member boards per Texas Local Government Code section 143.022(c) for another mental examination to candidates Michael Mendoza, Russell Pinto, Shane Gonzalez, Barry Brand, and Nicholas Kovacs was approved on Vice Chair Ahmed's motion, Commissioner Roger's second, on a 3-0 vote.**

5. Discussion and possible action regarding future meeting dates and times. **Discussion was held regarding future meeting dates and times.**

**STAFF BRIEFINGS**

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

**Cyndi Gordon and Sarah Williams, Civil Service Coordinators, and Matthew Chustz, Civil Service Manager, delivered the briefing to the Commission.**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a 3-0 vote, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.**