

September 3, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:47 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Richard C. Cox, Chair  
Carolina M. Stark  
Ernesto A. Baca  
Kathryn A. Hein  
Paoi X. Lor  
Sarah W. Morgan

ALSO PRESENT: Douglas Holton, Chief, Milwaukee Fire Department; and Edward Flynn, Chief, Milwaukee Police Department.

The Chair reconvened the Board in Regular Session, having previously met in Executive Session from 4:40 p.m. to 5:40 p.m. pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) Wis. Stats. to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over whom the Board has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: quarterly performance evaluation of Fire Chief Douglas Holton.

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 30, 2009. Commissioner Baca moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

1. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Director presented an Informational Memorandum regarding Social Security numbers. He stated that he worked with the Police Department to evaluate the procedures on the use of Social Security numbers and to re-emphasize the policy to officers so that police-community relations would be improved. The Field Interview cards have a box for a social security number, but it is not required to be filled in. However, the SOP could be clarified to eliminate any misunderstanding. Commissioner Baca asked if under any circumstances, an individual will be arrested for refusing to provide their Social Security number. The Director stated that police officers can ask for the number, but the individual is not required to provide it in accordance with federal law. Commissioner Morgan moved approval of the informational memorandum, seconded by Commissioner Baca. The motion carried unanimously.

b) The Director presented the Stipulation and Order for Dismissal signed by Circuit Court Judge William S. Pohan dismissing Case No. 08-CV-14953, the Milwaukee Police Association (MPA) lawsuit against Michael Tobin and the Fire and Police Commission (FPC). The lawsuit was filed last year and concerned the pilot citizen complaint process. The FPC worked with the MPA to resolve the issues in the pilot process resulting in dismissal of the suit with minimum expense to taxpayers.

John Balcerzak, President of the Milwaukee Police Association, thanked the FPC for its willingness to look at the concerns and needs of police officers in a way that would not be detrimental to the citizens of Milwaukee.

2. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following promotion, as presented by Chief Douglas Holton, was approved by the Board:

TO OFFICE ASSISTANT II, from Office Assistant I, effective September 6, 2009:

CASEY J. KLOSS.

b) The Director presented a letter dated August 26, 2009, from Chief Holton, wherein he requests that Battalion Chief Jack P. Christianson serve as Acting Deputy Chief in the Firefighting Division for more than 30 days, retroactive to August 16, 2009, until a promotion to Firefighting Deputy Chief can be made. Commissioner Stark moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

The Director presented a letter dated August 26, 2009, from Chief Holton, wherein he requests that Battalion Chief Steven W. Gleisner serve as Acting Deputy Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Maintenance for more than 30 days, retroactive to August 3, 2009, until a promotion to Deputy Chief, Bureau of Construction and Maintenance can be made. Commissioner Baca moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Director presented a letter dated August 26, 2009, from Chief Holton, wherein he requests that advanced educational standards be required for future entry level and promotional examinations after December 31, 2010. Specifically, the Chief suggests that Firefighter applicants be state-certified EMT's; that applicants for Heavy Equipment Operator be certified as Fire Apparatus Drive/Operator-Pumper and Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator-Aerial; applicants for Fire Lieutenant should have 30 college credits, Captains should have 60 college credits, and Battalion Chiefs 90 college credits; applicants for Deputy Chief and Assistant Chief should have a Bachelor's Degree; and a Master's Degree would be preferred for Chief applicants. The Chair referred the request to the Committee on Testing and Recruiting.

Bobbie Webber, President of the Milwaukee Fire Fighters Association, stated he is opposed to the proposed changes and wants to explore the value-added benefits of the changes. He stated he hopes that the union will be sought out for input and ideas. Also, he is ready to come forth with ideas and value-added benefits. The Chair stated Mr. Webber is welcome to attend the meetings on the Committee of Testing and Recruiting to offer input, and the Director invited Mr. Webber to submit concerns in writing in advance of the meeting.

### 3. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following promotions, as presented by Chief Edward Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO LIEUTENANT OF POLICE, from eligible list established May 15, 2008, contingent upon successful completion of a drug screening, retroactive to April 5, 2009:

#3 – PHILLIP M. HENSCHL.

Note: This promotion was laid over at the Regular meeting of April 2, 2009 until an internal investigation was completed.

TO OFFICE ASSISTANT II, from Office Assistant I, effective September 6, 2009:

ROSALYN D. FULLER and SANDRA HANSEN-ZUNIGA.

b) The following appointments, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO POLICE AIDE, from eligible list established April 23, 2009, contingent upon successful completion of a medical examination, psychological evaluation, drug screening, updated background investigation, and number of vacancies, effective September 21, 2009:

#10 – DEON M. WILLIAMS; #25 – SCOTT R. WIETING; #28 – THOMAS SCHULZ; #32 MARISA I. JIMENEZ; #34 – RANDY J. ZUELSDORF; #40 – MATTHEW J. ZAWORSKI; #48 – MOLLY D. WELLMANN; #52 – GERARDO P. OROZCO; #54 – JOSE I. RAMIREZ; #55 – SKYLER E. HALAMA; #56 – DANIEL J. TIERNEY; #79 – ASHLEY D. NAVONE; #83 – JOSHUA HERITZ; #89 – JAMIE J. RODENKIRCH; #110 – RAYMOND B. DEBRASKA; #111 – TREMELL J. MCBRIDE; #117 – JONATHON C. NEWPORT; and #119 – CURTIS J. PELCZYNSKI.

TO SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD (REGULAR), with the effective dates:

FRANCES Y. BROWN (08/14/09); PAMELA M. CORBEIL (08/14/09); RUTH G. CUMMINGS (08/14/09); ANASTACIO GONZALEZ (08/12/09); ANDREW P. HOBAN (08/14/09); CHARLETTE JORDAN (08/04/09); MICHELLE P. MCGEE (07/31/09); SHEMEEN R. SCHMITT (08/12/09); THOMAS N. SHAW, SR. (08/13/09); and ELAINE WATTS (08/10/09).

TO SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD (SUBSTITUTE), with effective dates:

DARLEAN BLACKSHIRE (08/12/09); JEROME C. CAINION, SR. (08/20/09); MARTELL A. JONES (08/21/09); JERMAINE L. WILLIAMS (08/21/09); and SHIRLEY WILLIAMS-MCCOY (08/13/09).

c) The Director presented a letter dated August 25, 2009, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that the appointment date for Network Coordinator-Senior Nicholas M. Popowycz, approved at the Regular meeting of July 30, 2009, has been changed from August 24, 2009 to September 14, 2009.

d) The Director presented a letter dated August 18, 2009, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Officer Ronald D. Bridges has been discharged and suspended for five working days for violation of Department Rules and Regulations under Personnel Order 2009-137 dated August 18, 2009. Police Officer Bridges has appealed the discipline and the hearing is scheduled for November 11, 2009.

e) The Director presented a letter dated August 18, 2009, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Officer Kenneth A. Peterson has been suspended without pay for 31 working days for violation of Department Rules and Regulations under Personnel Order 2009-138 dated August 18, 2009. Police Officer Peterson has appealed the discipline and the hearing is scheduled for December 9, 2009.

f) The Director presented a letter dated August 20, 2009, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that he has granted an unpaid educational leave of absence to Police Officer Elizabeth Hallman, commencing February 22, 2010 and expiring July 24, 2010.

The Director presented a letter dated August 20, 2009, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board of the following personnel transactions: Police Sergeant Kimberlee Foster was granted an extension to an unpaid medical leave of absence, which commenced July 18, 2009 and will conclude on September 30, 2009; Detective William Beauchene was granted an unpaid military leave of absence, which commenced July 17, 2009 and will conclude in February 2010; Police Officer Daniel Ocasio was granted an unpaid military leave of absence, which commenced July 14, 2009 and will conclude on August 10, 2010; Police Officer Tiffany Skonieczny was granted an unpaid military leave of absence, which commenced August 6, 2009 and will conclude on August 31, 2009; Police Officer Jimmy Young was granted an unpaid military leave of absence, which commenced July 21, 2009 and will conclude on October 6, 2009; and Police Telecommunicator Norma Ortega was granted an extension to an unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence, which commenced June 16, 2009 and will conclude on September 30, 2009.

g) The Director presented a letter dated July 28, 2009, from Chief Flynn, wherein he presents a request for reappointment to the position of Accounting Assistant II from Aileen Fornal. Ms. Fornal was appointed on February 12, 2007, and resigned on July 11, 2009. The letter states that Ms. Fornal wants to be reappointed for the purpose of being placed on the City Service Commission's reinstatement list. Chief Flynn recommends that the request be denied. Ms. Fornal was not present. Commissioner Baca moved to deny the reappointment request, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

h) Due to technical difficulties, the Chair laid over the presentation regarding the Recruiting/Branding Campaign to the next meeting.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no comment made from the public present.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Baca moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 6:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael G. Tobin".

Michael G. Tobin  
Executive Director

MGT:mk