

Columbia River Fire and Rescue
Civil Service Meeting
270 Columbia Blvd., St. Helens, OR 97051
July 26, 2023
3 p.m.

Staff Present: Chief Joel Medina; Battalion Chief Jerry Cole; Chief Examiner W. Scott Jorgensen
Commissioners Present: Tammy Armentrout and Mouhamad Zaher

Division Chief Jerry Cole called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

Old Business

New Business: Accept New Member-Medina explained that the previous civil service commission had served for around 30 years. All three members resigned around the same time and one has passed away. Two new commissioners, Tammy Armentrout and Mouhamad Zaher, have already been sworn in.

Ricky Linares has volunteered to serve in the third commissioner position. Linares introduced himself. He and his wife are the owners of the Grocery Outlet in St. Helens and he's looking to be involved in the community.

Armentrout moved to accept Linares as the new member of the commission. That motion was seconded by Zaher and adopted unanimously.

Linares took his oath of office and was officially sworn into his position.

Elect a Chairperson-It was decided by consensus that as the most senior member of the commission, Zaher should fill that position. He agreed.

Commissioner Armentrout moved to have Zaher serve as chair. That motion was seconded by Zaher and adopted unanimously. Zaher took over as chair of the meeting.

Establish Terms of Office-There was a discussion about terms of office. The commission bylaws state that members shall have four-year terms that are staggered. Zaher and Armentrout were both appointed in 2022. It was decided by consensus that Armentrout's term shall be two years and expire in 2024. Zaher's shall be a three-year term set to expire in 2025. Linares shall have a four-year term that expires in 2027.

Accept Appointment of National Testing Network-Cole gave an overview about the National Testing Network and how it can be useful to the CRFR.

Armentrout moved to declare the NTN the CRFR's official contract testing company. That motion was seconded by Linares and adopted unanimously.

Ratify Civil Service Hiring List-Armentrout moved to ratify the list. That motion was seconded by Linares and adopted unanimously.

First Review of Bylaws-Cole explained that the civil service rules needed to be updated. During the COVID pandemic, many meetings were held virtually. But the commission's current rules don't have that as an option. There are also some other changes that have been proposed. Commissioners will review the proposed changes and bring their input to the next meeting.

Chief Examiner W. Scott Jorgensen suggested that commissioners be issued CRFR email addresses for the purposes of conducting business. Chief Medina said that would be possible and he would get it taken care of.

Commissioners and staff agreed by consensus that the next meeting be held September 26 at 3 p.m.

Zaher adjourned the meeting at 4 p.m.