

**Judicial Merit System Commission
Tuesday, June 2, 2026
Executive Session Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was conducted out of the Cordova room and via Microsoft Teams video conference with Commissioners Lauren Eiler and Casey Newcomb joining in-person, and Commissioners Stephen Burg and Roger Geddes joining virtually.

Also in attendance were: Jennifer Fish, Secretary to the Commission; Nichole Fleshman, HR Manager; and Maria Washburn, Human Resources Associate.

I. Executive Session

The Commission entered an Executive Session at 2:31 p.m.

The response from legal counsel regarding the Commission's questions around burden of proof for appeals relative to the applicable statutes was discussed. The Commission also noted two different standards of review for discipline in each the statute and the Rule.

Following discussion, the Commission requested that Secretary Fish obtain further information from legal counsel on burden of proof and the differing standards of review between the Rules and the applicable statute. The information requested from legal counsel would be discussed at next meeting before both issues could be before the Presiding Judge for policy direction.

The Commission agreed that Secretary Fish could work with the Chair on the request for additional information from legal counsel.

Motion: Commissioner Geddes moved to exit the Executive Session and resume the General Session of the Judicial Merit System Commission's meeting.

Commissioner Burg seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor. The motion passed with no oppositions and no abstentions.

The Executive Session ended at 2:57 p.m.