

**Judicial Merit System Commission  
Tuesday, March 4, 2025  
General Session Meeting Minutes**

The Judicial Merit System Commission met on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, for its regularly scheduled quarterly open meeting. The meeting was conducted out of the Cordova room and via Microsoft Teams video conference with Commissioners Craig Waugh, Stephen Burg, Lauren Eiler, Roger Geddes and Yvonne Hunter joining virtually.

**I. Meeting Convened**

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. with the following Commissioners in attendance: Commissioners Craig Waugh (Chair), Stephen Burg, Lauren Eiler, Roger Geddes and Yvonne Hunter. Also, in attendance were Jennifer Fish, Secretary to the Commission, and Maria Washburn, Human Resources Associate.

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes of the December 27, 2024 Quarterly Meeting General and Executive Sessions. It was agreed that the motion to enter into an Executive Session be removed from the draft Executive Session minutes and instead be included in the draft General Session minutes as the first paragraph under Item III.

**Motion: Chairman Waugh moved to approve the minutes of the December 27, 2024 General Session Meeting as amended.**

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

**Motion: Commissioner Hunter moved to approve the minutes of the December 27, 2024 Executive Session Meeting as amended.**

**Chairman Waugh seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted in favor. The motion passed with no oppositions and no abstentions.**

### **III. Appeals Pending Decision**

Secretary Fish advised that there were no appeals pending decision.

### **IV. Appeals For Notification of Status**

Secretary Fish advised that there were no appeals for notification of status.

### **V. Judicial Merit Commissioner Re-appointments**

Secretary Fish provided an update on the terms of appointments of commissioners, confirming that:

- All current appointments expire on June 30, 2025
- Merit Rules do not provide a limit on the number of terms served
- Presiding judge determines the term length of an appointment, which may be one, two or three years
- A recruitment process would not be initiated until the department becomes aware of an upcoming vacancy.

The Commission was asked to confirm their interest in a re-appointment so that the information can be relayed to the presiding judge for next steps. The following Commissioners confirmed their interest in being re-appointed:

- Commissioner Hunter
- Commissioner Geddes
- Commissioner Eiler and
- Commissioner Burg, for an additional two-year term.

Given his many years of service on the Commission, Chairman Waugh advised that he would not be seeking a re-appointment and resign as chairman following the expiration of his term.

Secretary Fish was asked to confirm whether the Merit Rules requires staggered terms. If it does not, she was asked to convey to the presiding judge the Commission's request to consider staggering terms going forward for continuity reasons.

**VI. Future Agenda Items**

Chairman Waugh requested that an item for the election of a chair be added to the June 2025 agenda.

Secretary Fish also advised that there were several disciplinary hearings at various stages that could become appeals to the Commission.

**VII. Call to the Public**

No response was received to the Call to the Public.

**VIII. Meeting Adjournment**

**Motion: Chairman Waugh moved to adjourn the meeting.**

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2025.