

Special Called Meeting of the Dallas Civil Service Board

Present:

Chair Anita Childress, Vice-Chair Flora Hernandez, Johnny Clark, Albert Turner, Sharon Van Sell

Absent:

Jeff Bryan

Attendees:

Irene Alanis, Lieutenant, Dallas Police Department
Milton Henderson, Assistant City Attorney
Tom Lawrence, Assistant Chief, Dallas Police Department
Albert Martinez, Deputy Chief, Dallas Police Department

Civil Service Department Staff:

Michelle Hanchard, Assistant Director
Patricia Marsolais, Secretary to the Board
Pamela McDonald, Manager - Examining and Recruitment Division

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM I – Consider request to extend the Police Lieutenant Promotional List

Assistant Police Chief Tom Lawrence explained the reasons for requesting the eligibility list for Lieutenant be extended for another year beyond its scheduled expiration of January 29, 2015. The current list has been in effect for 18 months. With pending closure to the DROP program (Deferred Retirement Action Program) at the end of March it is possible that employees who become eligible for the program and cannot enroll in it will opt to retire. If this occurs it will have a significant impact on promotional opportunities to the rank of lieutenant. Chief Martinez noted that there are 58 candidates left on the list.

Chief Lawrence explained that the DROP Program allows an officer to retire on duty while continuing to work for the department and contribute to the pension plan. The pension an officer would have been authorized at the time goes into the DROP system. It is, in essence, a type of annuity that is managed by the pension fund.

The Chair asked if the department is doing anything to forestall the potential impact of closing off DROP. Chief Lawrence indicated that there really wasn't anything that could be done because it's in the hands of the pension board at this point. The Chief added that the department is going to revisit the possibility of a lateral program where officers will be in the academy for 36 weeks after coming from another department. This will not help with the loss of mid level officers such as Lieutenants though.

The Board voted unanimously to extend the eligible list for another year.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

(A complete transcription of this meeting is available)



ATTESTED



APPROVED