

**MINUTES
OF THE NEW BRAUNFELS CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
MEETING OF JUNE 23, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Civil Service Commission of the City of New Braunfels, Texas, convened on June 23, 2021, in the Tejas Room in the City of New Braunfels City Hall Building.

2. ROLL CALL:

Commissioners present were: Chairperson Paul Ericksen, Vice-Chairperson Brian Martinez, and Commissioner Heidi Aleman.

City Staff and others present were: Becca Miears, Human Resources/Civil Service Director; Jackie Malloy, Human Resources/Civil Service Manager; Lori Stidham, Human Resources/Civil Service Specialist; Frank Onion, First City Attorney; Keith Lane, Police Chief; Joe Vargas, Assistant Police Chief; Michael Penshorn, Police Captain; John McDonald, Police Captain; Joe Robles, Police Lieutenant and Joe Tovar, Police Sergeant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ericksen at 1:30 p.m. in the Tejas Room in the City of New Braunfels City Hall Building.

3. PRESENTATIONS: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. JUNE 7, 2021.

Commissioner Aleman made motion to approve; Chairperson Ericksen seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. CITIZENS - None

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

A. APPOINTMENT OF BECCA MIEARS, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR AS CIVIL SERVICE DIRECTOR.

Civil Service Specialist Lori Stidham presented and discussed the item. She explained that according to the Local Rules Definitions, the Human Resources Director shall be the Human Resources Director.

Commissioner Aleman made motion to approve; Chairperson Ericksen seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

B. COMMISSION TO CONSIDER PROBABLE CAUSE EXISTS TO DEMOTE JEFFREY MEIER AS RECOMMENDED BY THE POLIC CHIEF IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 143.054 OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE.

Chairperson Ericksen read aloud item B and asked that introductions from counsel, who they are representing.

First City Attorney, Frank Onion introduced himself and who he is representing, Police Chief Keith Lane.

Chairperson Ericksen asked who is representing Sergeant Meier; Civil Service Specialist Lori Stidham stated that Sergeant Meier was not present.

Chairperson Ericksen asked the Civil Service Director to mark exhibit 1 as the notice of involuntary demotion.

Chairperson Ericksen announced that the Commission would be retiring into Executive Session at 1:35 pm.

C. RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION – TAKE ACTION, IF ANY, ON ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The Civil Service Commission reconvened in open session at 2:39 pm.

Chairperson Ericksen asked for a motion.

Commissioner Aleman made a motion that the New Braunfels Civil Service Commission finds probable cause exists in the Chief's notice of involuntary demotion of Sergeant Jeffrey Meier.

Vice-Chairperson Brian Martinez seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Ericksen announced that the Commission would be retiring into Executive Session to determine the date and time of the hearing at 2:41 pm.

The Civil Service Commission reconvened in open session at 2:58 pm.

Chairperson Ericksen announced the Commission does find probable cause exists and orders Sergeant Meier to appear before the Commission on August 17, 2021 at 9:00 am.

Chairperson Ericksen asked that secretary to prepare an Order for signatures. All Commissioners signed the Order.


Chairperson Ericksen announced that copies of the Order were provided to both counsel and parties.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION- The Commission may retire to an Executive Session on any agenda item as provided under Chapter 551.074 (personnel matters) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney concerning privileged and unprivileged client information deemed confidential by Rule 1.05 of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct) of the Texas Government Code and/or Section 143.053(d) of the Texas Local Government Code, as applicable.


8. **ADJOURNMENT**: Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Date Approved: August 5, 2021


Commission Member


Commission Member

Attest:


Lori Stidham Recording Secretary