

State of Louisiana

***MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS' SUPPLEMENTAL PAY
BOARD MEETING***

AUGUST 19, 2020

10:00 a.m.

**Municipal Police Officers' Supplemental Pay
Board Meeting**

August 19, 2020

10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Bry Layrisson, Chairman

Ternisia Hutchinson

Candace Oby

Kay DeBenedetto

Paul Schexnayder, Esq.

Candy Diez

Soonie Tessier

ALSO PRESENT:

Albert Sharp, Ponchatoula Police

Rhonda Lobell, Mayor, Village French Settlement

Thomas Harrington, Chief of Police UNOPD

Joseph Hebert, UNOPD

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Municipal Police Officers' Supplemental Pay Board Meeting
August 19, 2020

MR. LAYRISSON:

I'd like to call Police Officers' Supplemental Pay Board meeting to order.
This is the August 19th meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MR. LAYRISSON:

The first item on the agenda is to review and approve the minutes from the
May 28th meeting. I need a motion to approve.

MS. HUTCHINSON:

I'll make a motion. I'll make a motion to approve.

MS. OBY:

I second it.

MR. LAYRISSON:

All in favor?
(All aye.)

MR. LAYRISSON:

Aye. The minutes approved.

OLD BUSINESS

CITY OF MINDEN - MICHAEL GRIFFITH & BRANDON GRIFFITH

MR. LAYRISSON:

The next item on the agenda is old business, City of Minden.

MS. DIEZ:

These -- both of these Mindens were from the last Board meeting where y'all

1 wanted to get something in writing from the Civil Service hearing, that's what these
2 yellow tabs are that I put on there. It's just flagging where it says that -- that they're
3 going to get back to the date of termination the back pay and benefits for Brandon
4 Griffith and Michael Griffith.

5 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

6 These were, Chief, from the last meeting that got reinstated.

7 **MS. DIEZ:**

8 Yeah.

9 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

10 We just need -- we need a motion to approve their applications?

11 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

12 No, no, no, no.

13 **MS. DIEZ:**

14 No.

15 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

16 We put them back on, but the town has requested -- sent us an invoice for paying
17 their back pay, and we needed to get verification from the town from the Civil Service
18 Board that that was included in the --

19 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

20 Okay.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 So have -- have they sent us an invoice yet?

23 **MS. DIEZ:**

24 Yeah. It's in the packet, and I did verify that the amounts were correct yesterday
25 according to UPS -- or --

1 **MS. OBY:**

2 Okay.

3 **MS. DIEZ:**

4 So one of them we owe \$2,800 to the town, and the other is \$850.

5 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

6 Anybody have any questions on that?

7 (No response.)

8 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

9 You good, Paul?

10 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

11 Yeah. I mean, we can give -- give them that back. We just wanted to make
12 sure that they are paying them.

13 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

14 Good deal.

15 **MS. DIEZ:**

16 Yeah. And there's also a copy of their payroll check stubs that the town
17 submitted showing where they got paid.

18 **MS. OBY:**

19 Well, they were -- they were fired?

20 **MS. DIEZ:**

21 They were terminated.

22 **MS. OBY:**

23 They were fired, and then they went to Civil Service and they were
24 wrongfully fired, so were put back on, but -- but we don't ever pay --

25 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

1 Right. We pay them directly -- you pay the individual.

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 Yeah. But we don't back pay them for like wrongful termination. We only
4 pay them like the day they came back to work. The town went and had to back
5 pay them for the time that they owe them, and now the town is asking us to
6 reimburse them. It's something written in our policy or something.

7 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

8 They rarely ask us to do that, but it is possible for us to reimburse them.

9 **MS. OBY:**

10 I think we've done it like once before since y'all have been here.

11 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

12 My only question is, if y'all move to approve this, does this become Act
13 110, because it is for a prior fiscal year?

14 **MS. OBY:**

15 I would guess so.

16 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

17 Yeah. Anything for the prior fiscal year, unless I'm wrong, Paul, has got to
18 be Act 110.

19 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

20 That's correct.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 So we can approve it, but --

23 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

24 We can approve moving forward with an Act 110 request.

25 **MS. OBY:**

1 I believe it is a correctional officer.

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 Okay. And am I correct, as a correctional officer, that -- I mean, the job title
4 only we don't usually approve that.

5 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

6 No.

7 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

8 This is for Paul.

9 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

10 What's that?

11 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

12 I need a legal opinion on this one.

13 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

14 I think -- I don't know if I want to give it right offhand.

15 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

16 Okay.

17 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

18 I want to take it under advisement and come back next -- the next meeting.

19 I want to review this fully before giving an opinion.

20 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

21 If you will go back in the packet, we have our little cheat sheet, I guess, as
22 you would, that we've always used when reviewing applications that deals with
23 which P.O.S.T. certificate is -- is needed. And then, of course, you know, if they
24 are a police officer or a marshal, they have to have the regular P.O.S.T. For a
25 police officer/jailer, the combination, they can have the correctional peace

1 officer's certificate, it -- on and on to where if a classification is a correctional
2 officer, no -- no police in -- no police duties, then that has never been eligible for
3 supplemental pay.

4 **MS. OBY:**

5 Oh, it looks like they sent in like this part that says at the top like police
6 officer. So are they saying she's a police officer now, or are they saying she just
7 takes on the highlighted duties that are police officer --

8 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

9 No. That's not job description.

10 **MS. OBY:**

11 This?

12 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

13 Well, if it's a -- I can't just have a job description. It should be her job
14 description.

15 **MS. OBY:**

16 Right, right. Because her job description is -- is right behind that as a
17 correctional officer.

18 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

19 Right. That doesn't make you a police officer.

20 **MS. OBY:**

21 Right. And I think --

22 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

23 Or a jailer/police officer.

24 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

25 And in their letter, they refer to her as a correctional officer, not a police

1 officer.

2 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

3 From what I see, they -- they tried to justify saying that she is now eligible
4 to work details which require her to carry a firearm, and she can make arrests,
5 but working details is -- is not full time.

6 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

7 Exactly.

8 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

9 So, in my opinion, she is not eligible.

10 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

11 Right.

12 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

13 Yes. And her personnel action form also states that she's a correctional
14 officer.

15 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

16 I'll make a motion to deny her request because she's a correctional officer.

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 I second.

19 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

20 All in favor?

21 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

22 What was that again, please?

23 **MS. OBY:**

24 We're denying --

25 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

1 I'll make a motion to deny this request based on that is a correctional officer.

2 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

3 We have a motion and a second.

4 All in favor, certify by saying "aye."

5 (All aye.)

6 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

7 Any opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

10 The motion passes.

11 **NEW BUSINESS**

12 FRENCH SETTLEMENT POLICE DEPARTMENT

13 MICHAEL RHODES AND MICHAEL DURKIN

14 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

15 The next item on the agenda is under the new business, the French
16 Settlement Police Department.

17 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

18 We have some guests here from French Settlement. This situation started
19 when they made a request to us regarding two of their police officers who they
20 had gotten notification from LCLE had not met their -- and I may not have this
21 exactly right -- had not met their requalifications -- firearms qualifications. The
22 Mayor was requesting some clarity on that. We -- Candace sent a request to
23 LCLE to specifically look at the -- I think it was just one in the beginning, and
24 they confirmed that he was -- had qualified and was -- his P.O.S.T. was still
25 valid. We sent that back. The Mayor sent in a bunch of emails, which you have

1 all of those here in the packet, and requested that they come before the Board for
2 some clarification.

3 **MS. OBY:**

4 Do we have --

5 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

6 Yes.

7 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

8 Would you like to come forward?

9 **COURT REPORTER:**

10 (Witnesses sworn.)

11 **MR. DENTON:**

12 For the record, my name is Jerry Denton, and I represent the town of French
13 Settlement -- Village of French Settlement.

14 Essentially, the Mayor has requested of us -- of our services to determine the
15 eligibility of Officer Mike Rhodes and Officer Mike Durkins (sic), but if the
16 Board would so indulge us, what -- what we would request here this morning is
17 to determine the officers that we have on our list, make sure that it complies or
18 comports with what all you have and so that way the Mayor when she -- she has
19 some discomfort in signing the requests that goes in every month because she
20 does not personally have copies of their certificates on file in her office and she
21 would like to have that. And she has requested it numerous times and has not
22 been able to get that from the Chief and she would -- she would feel much more
23 comfortable in signing that Title 33 document if she were to have those in her
24 possession to prove that she's also complying and truthfully verifying their
25 eligibility to receive their \$500 supplemental pay.

1 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

2 Mr. Denton, let me start by suggesting that the Mayor contact Fabian Blache
3 with the Chief's Association, because he works with LMA and they bring some
4 chiefs and mayors out -- or chiefs and mayors that are not getting along real
5 well, and they try to work on these issues. I would strongly suggest that for you,
6 because we see this quite often.

7 **MR. DENTON:**

8 Yeah. I -- I told her, I said, you know, in -- as a Special Assistant Attorney
9 General, I mean, we basically have a file cabinet of elected chiefs and elected
10 mayors that have kind of been at loggerheads in this issue, and it's certainly an
11 ongoing matter and it seems like it comes out every time there's a newly-elected
12 chief or a newly-elected mayor as to who is entitled to what particular
13 documents and that sort of thing. And, certainly, we will follow and contact Mr.
14 Fabian, and we're familiar with him and -- and would be very, very glad to do
15 that.

16 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

17 The first thing that -- that sticks out to me is, on Michael Rhodes, on the
18 sheet that I have, it shows him as part time, and what is his current status?

19 **MS. LOBELL:**

20 His current status is full time, and --

21 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

22 Go ahead and explain to us some of your concerns.

23 **MS. LOBELL:**

24 Okay. My name is Rhonda Lobell, L-O-B, as in boy, E-L-L, Rhonda, R-H-
25 O-N-D-A.

1 My first concern is that Michael Rhodes hasn't -- his last firearm
2 certification was July of 2015. My assistant brought it to my attention, and I felt
3 it was in the citizen's best interest for me to look at it. So I talked to Mr. Bob
4 Wertz at LCLE, and he sent me an email, and I'm sure you have the email. He
5 sent me the roster which was totally incorrect. Some officers on here, I don't
6 even know who they are. For example, as you've pointed Rhodes is part time.
7 There are a couple of officers that are not even on this list. So it's totally
8 incorrect. This is the current officer by agency report.

9 And then, with that email, Mr. Wertz sent me a breakdown of exactly the
10 compliance of each of our officers, which you can see they weren't in
11 compliance.

12 The very next morning, I get a call from Mr. Wertz who said that our
13 Assistant Chief went to visit him and now everything is okay, everything is good
14 now. So I find it very difficult to understand how everything could be okay.

15 So I asked the -- I asked him for a transcript, and if you'll notice on the
16 transcript, all of our officers took the e-courses all on the same day and same
17 time for four years in a row.

18 Also, you can notice some discrepancies in the firearm certification, for
19 example, Lawrence Callendar (phonetic), on the original, on this sheet here, his
20 firearms cert was in December -- yes, in December, and on the actual transcript,
21 it -- it just automatically appears as a different date. On Michael Rhodes, in a
22 town hall meeting, he admitted that he was not compliant and didn't know how
23 long he'd been out of compliance, and that's in a record of -- in a town meeting.

24 So I did get a firearms certificate for Michael Rhodes. He went to get his
25 firearms certificate on July 14, 2020, so he discovered it wasn't -- he wasn't

1 compliant, then he runs out and gets it. But, yet, on the records from LCLE, it
2 shows that he -- he got that compliance when it -- when it was corrected.

3 So I have a real concern signing my name to anything that's a warranty (sic),
4 based upon these documents that are supposed to come from an -- an agency.
5 And I have a problem with the Village -- the liability that Officer Rhodes puts
6 the Village in on patrol without a firearms certificate. And from what I
7 understand, he received supplemental pay for all that time.

8 So those are my concerns.

9 **MS. OBY:**

10 I want to say this. And, Bry, maybe you can attest to this as well, when I
11 spoke to Rebekah at LCLE, you know, I talked to her about having the firearms,
12 not having the firearms, being P.O.S.T. certified. She explained to me, and I
13 don't know if this is accurate or true, and, Paul, you may -- may be able to say
14 this as well, she told me that in order to stay qualified with your -- to be -- to
15 continue to have your P.O.S.T. certification, you are not -- there's no
16 requirement in law that you have to have firearms training, but you do have to
17 have it, apparently, to be a police officer, I don't -- to carry a firearm legally.
18 But she told me that there's no -- basically, there's no repercussion in the law that
19 says, if you don't have a firearms training, now your P.O.S.T. certification is
20 now invalid. Whereas, supplemental pay, we only require the P.O.S.T.
21 certification. So there's some gray area that -- and I don't know who can clarify
22 it or if we need to get some legal advice. I don't know the -- from what -- I
23 mean, we have to go with what LCLE tells us who is P.O.S.T. certified, and
24 from her explanation -- I don't know what the requirements are to be P.O.S.T.
25 certified, that's not something that I'm totally aware of, but her explanation was

1 that, originally, to get your P.O.S.T., I think you have to go through the academy
2 and all kinds of stuff, but then to maintain your P.O.S.T., you only have to do
3 your -- your in-service or your 20 hours or something. As far as the firearms
4 qualification, that does not nullify your P.O.S.T. certificate. Now, I don't know
5 how accurate -- like I said, that's just information I got over the phone.

6 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

7 The -- the best way to protect yourself is just what you've been doing is stay
8 in touch with LCLE. Because we do not reject anybody -- we go by LCLE
9 verifying that they're P.O.S.T. certified. They are the only ones that can take the
10 P.O.S.T. certificate. They do have to do 20 hours a year in-service. As far as I
11 know, you do have to qualify with your firearm on an annual basis. That could
12 be a gray area. That's just what we've always gone by in law enforcement.

13 But I suggest to you, as I did, to contact Fabian. Try to get somebody in city
14 hall that is keeping their records, you know. Somebody is going to have to get
15 your Chief of Police to cooperate, and then I can help with that as well, but --
16 you know, in the City of Ponchatoula, we have an HR lady that handles all this,
17 and she verifies that my officers are still certified. You know, she verifies that
18 they're working full time.

19 Full time is something that you need to watch as well, and you're a small
20 town -- and I'm not trying to tell you how to do your job, but I know with small
21 communities, they might not be working 40 hours a week, and if they're not,
22 then that could cause them to lose their supplemental pay as well, and that's a
23 warrant that you're signing saying that they have worked full time. So that's just
24 some suggestions that I could give.

25 But if LCLE has not pulled their P.O.S.T. certificate and they're on your

1 warrant, we -- we have to approve them. So you can call them and verify, is
2 their P.O.S.T. certificate valid, have they met their 20 hours of in-service, and
3 stuff of that nature, and that covers you. Because it -- LCLE is the main ones
4 that say yes or no.

5 **MS. LOBELL:**

6 He hadn't had his firearms certification, and I just -- I have a really difficult
7 time understanding if you don't have the -- your firearms certification and that
8 you're no longer an officer but you're P.O.S.T. certified, I don't -- it just -- it
9 doesn't make sense to me.

10 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

11 That's a question for the LCLE Board, and the question you need to ask
12 them, if he wasn't qualified for five years with his firearm, why did you not pull
13 his P.O.S.T. certificate. That's not an issue for the Board here, that's nothing that
14 we can control.

15 **MR. DENTON:**

16 Thank you. And I think we are going to take your recommendation and --
17 and see if we can set up a meeting with Mr. Fabian and -- and get that -- and get
18 the Chief's cooperation, along with -- involved, and --

19 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

20 And I'll be more than happy to come as Chairman, you know, with the
21 knowledge on supplemental pay, you know.

22 **MR. DENTON:**

23 And we would -- we may appreciate that you would be able to take your
24 time to come and -- and clear that, because we have issues on both sides that
25 probably should be properly addressed, and having someone that has, you know,

1 a completely independent interest would go a long ways toward helping us
2 resolve the conflict I think that currently exists.

3 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

4 I'd be more than happy to assist. Thank y'all for coming today, sir.

5 **MR. DENTON:**

6 Thank you.

7 IOWA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CHRISTOPHER PIPER

8 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

9 The next item on the agenda is the Iowa Police Department.

10 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

11 Iowa Police Department sent in an application for Christopher Piper, and the
12 reason we are bringing before the Board is because he has prior service with the
13 Fort Polk Military Police, and so we just need some clarification that that is
14 eligible prior service to calculate his effective date.

15 **MR. OBY:**

16 Does it say anything about military?

17 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

18 What it does say is what's not specific -- it specifically says what's not
19 consider prior service, but it they don't mention like military, so I would think if
20 they don't mention it, it's not disqualified.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 Okay.

23 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

24 Could you hear that, because I couldn't?

25 **MS. OBY:**

1 He said that the statute doesn't -- the statute only says what doesn't qualify,
2 and this is not included as something that does not qualify. So the -- if it doesn't
3 not qualify --

4 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

5 That's a double negative.

6 **MS. OBY:**

7 If it's not --

8 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

9 If it's not listed, it's not --

10 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

11 The statute really doesn't even talk about prior service, that's kind of always
12 been a Board --

13 **MS. OBY:**

14 Oh, I thought it did.

15 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

16 It does.

17 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

18 It -- it does have some -- some mention of prior service and -- and what is
19 considered prior service. There's no disqualification from -- or nothing saying
20 military police does not count toward prior service.

21 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

22 So, this military police, he has been employed with law enforcement, he's
23 P.O.S.T. certified and all this with military police, then I don't --

24 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

25 I mean, yeah. They go through more training than the police do.

1 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

2 Right. And police, right, certifies --

3 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

4 They do the basic --

5 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

6 He -- he has military police --

7 **MS. OBY:**

8 I mean, they do -- that means they go through the same academy and
9 everything.

10 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

11 Right. So he's police. He has P.O.S.T. certification. He worked in law
12 enforcement, working full time, and there's nothing that excludes military police
13 from qualifying. He worked -- he was in the military police for three years -- oh,
14 wait --

15 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

16 Yeah. So we do have his orders.

17 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

18 He served our country.

19 I make a motion that we approve his application.

20 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

21 Right. Because he was military police, that's what makes him eligible.

22 I'll make a -- I'll second.

23 **MS. OBY:**

24 Can you clarify your motion to accept this --

25 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

1 Based on our attorney's opinion that --

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 That the military police has prior service?

4 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

5 Correct.

6 **MS. OBY:**

7 Yeah.

8 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

9 Based on our attorney's opinion, I think that he is eligible for supplemental
10 pay, and I make the motion that we approve his application.

11 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

12 Okay. A previous application effective June 4, 2020, because we don't have
13 him on the sheet.

14 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

15 Okay. And I need a second.

16 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

17 Then a part of it will be Act 110?

18 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

19 Yeah.

20 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

21 He'll have a little bit of Act 110, correct.

22 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

23 All right. I'll second.

24 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

25 All in favor, certify by saying "aye."

1 (All aye.)

2 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

3 Any opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

6 The motion carries.

7 JENNINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT

8 BRANDI LEIGH BREAUX & ANDREA LYNN KLUMPP

9 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

10 The next item on the agenda is the Jennings Police Department.

11 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

12 Jennings Police Department is coming before your attention. They have
13 submitted two applications -- they actually have submitted three, and they
14 emailed just two days ago and pulled one because she had resigned. This is a
15 records clerk and a secretary to the chief, which they feel are eligible based upon
16 the Attorney General's opinion that they have attached. However, neither is
17 P.O.S.T. certified.

18 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

19 Are they Civil Service?

20 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

21 Yes.

22 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

23 Paul, isn't there a statute or something for police chief's secretaries under
24 Civil Service?

25 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

1 There is a mention of --

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 So I'm confused.

4 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

5 Me too.

6 **MS. OBY:**

7 They submitted the application without P.O.S.T. certification?

8 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

9 That's correct.

10 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

11 They do not have P.O.S.T. certification?

12 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

13 Neither one of them have P.O.S.T. certification.

14 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

15 So they're not eligible.

16 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

17 Right.

18 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

19 I'll make a motion to deny --

20 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

21 They feel they are eligible based upon the Attorney General's opinion.

22 **MS. OBY:**

23 Do we -- do we have a copy of that?

24 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

25 Yes. It's attached.

1 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

2 What is the Attorney General's opinion?

3 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

4 Do you need more time, Paul?

5 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

6 No. The opinion is way too short. It doesn't go into all of the qualifications.
7 What they left out is, you still have to be qualified. You still have to get
8 P.O.S.T.

9 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

10 You still have to get P.O.S.T., that's correct.

11 I make a motion that due to the fact that neither one of these officers are
12 P.O.S.T. certified, that we deny both of these applications for that reason.

13 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

14 I'll second.

15 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

16 All in favor, certify by saying "aye."

17 (All aye.)

18 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

19 Any opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 ZWOLLE POLICE DEPARTMENT - RANDY RIVERS

22 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

23 The next item on the agenda is -- how do you say that, Zwolle?

24 **MS. OBY:**

25 Zwolle.

1 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

2 Zwolle Police Department.

3 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

4 The Zwolle Police Department submitted an application for Randy Rivers,
5 and the only reason we're bringing this to the Board is that he is a school
6 resource officer, and we've always brought the alternative job titles before the
7 Board for approval.

8 **MS. OBY:**

9 Does he work full time?

10 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

11 They have marked that he is full time. His classification is --

12 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

13 Patrol.

14 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

15 Do we have anybody else that's a resource officer?

16 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

17 The second --

18 **MS. DIEZ:**

19 Yes.

20 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

21 School resource officer --

22 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

23 School resource officers are still full-time police officers with the same
24 arrest authority and the same powers of any police officer. If you'll look on
25 Page 2, his classification is patrol.

1 **MS. OBY:**

2 That's prior service. That's with the Sheriff's Office.

3 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

4 Yeah. Well, like I said, a school resource officer is a full-time police officer
5 with arrest authority and has the same powers of any other police officer.

6 So I'll entertain a motion.

7 **MS. DIEZ:**

8 Can I just say what we did for one of the last officers in the same situation?
9 We had to get with the town and find out if they were working during the
10 summer, and this guy was -- not this one, but the one before that did not get paid
11 for supplemental pay, he wasn't working at all. So, I mean, my thought is, if he's
12 working as a police officer during the summer when school is out -- you know,
13 and I --

14 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

15 I think that one particular person, they take -- you take him off during the
16 summer though, right?

17 **MS. DIEZ:**

18 I do, uh-huh.

19 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

20 They notify us that he's -- you know, now it's summer and he's not working,
21 and so we take him off for whatever, three months, and then I think they just sent
22 a notice in that he has -- you know, now that school is back in session, he's
23 returned. We would also request that this town do the same thing, if that is the
24 situation.

25 **MS. DIEZ:**

1 Right.

2 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

3 The majority of them that I am familiar with, including mine in my
4 department, is they roll out patrol whenever school is out, and they are patrol
5 when they're on a two-week break. So, with the SROs, I think we just need to
6 make a note on the administrative side that we confirm that they're working full
7 time throughout the year.

8 **MS. OBY:**

9 I make a motion to approve Randy Rivers.

10 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

11 And his effective date would be 2/26/2018, so that would be --

12 **MS. OBY:**

13 One second. Did he have a five-year break in service?

14 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

15 Yeah, but we have a letter from P.O.S.T.

16 **MS. OBY:**

17 Okay.

18 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

19 No, he does not have a break in service, Page 4.

20 **MS. OBY:**

21 So May 27th -- I mean, I'm confused. Why wasn't he getting supplemental
22 pay with the -- oh, he was part time.

23 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

24 Part time until 2018.

25 **MS. OBY:**

1 So he went full time --

2 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

3 February 26, 2018.

4 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

5 February 26th of 2018, he went full time.

6 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

7 And the town never put him on supplemental pay?

8 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

9 We have a letter from the Zwolle Police Department saying that Randy
10 Rivers was hired full time from part time on 2/26/18, and officially approved by
11 the Council at the following March of 2018 meeting. So, based on his prior
12 service, he would get -- he would be effective as of the day he went full time.

13 **MS. OBY:**

14 So we've got to back pay him?

15 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

16 Yes. We'll have to request Act 110 money.

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 Okay.

19 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

20 Your motion still --

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 My motion is -- yes.

23 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

24 I second.

25 All in favor, certify by saying "aye."

1 (All aye.)

2 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

3 Any opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 **NEW APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL**

6 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

7 We have -- the next item on the agenda is new applications.

8 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

9 One hundred and fifty-eight of them.

10 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

11 Before we got -- I want to go back -- I hate to do this, but I've got to go back
12 to the military police guy.

13 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

14 Okay.

15 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

16 I'm looking at all the rules on prior service. It says you're allowed credit for
17 previous full-time service with Louisiana police departments and/or Sheriff's
18 offices, and the statutes allow Louisiana State Police, Wildlife and Fisheries.

19 There is no mention of military police.

20 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

21 And I guess the other reason I would consider this falls into it is because he
22 did it at Fort Polk in Louisiana.

23 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

24 Yes.

25 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

1 I mean, you know, I --

2 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

3 That is something to consider. You know, we may not have to redo it. I just
4 wanted to --

5 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

6 So it's because he was Fort Polk military police, not just because he was in
7 the military.

8 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

9 Yeah.

10 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

11 It's because he was --

12 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

13 Right.

14 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

15 -- police.

16 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

17 And so we're still good?

18 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

19 I'm still good with it, as long as we don't have something in black and white
20 that says he's not eligible.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 Yes.

23 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

24 Okay.

25 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

1 Are all of our applications good?

2 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

3 Yes. Our 158 applications which were reviewed by Soonie, who did very
4 good for her jumping into this. We have, of course, quite a bit of Act 110, since
5 we're so new in the fiscal year. We hope to -- and, Ternesia, do you know what
6 -- are they -- are they having regular JLCB meetings now?

7 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

8 Yes, yes. Candace will be very happy to know she'll have to go to the
9 House floor to present to --

10 **MS. OBY:**

11 Bry needs to come too.

12 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

13 We were just hoping that due to everything that's changed now in the world
14 that we could just submit this request in writing and not even have to appear.

15 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

16 If only you were so lucky.

17 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

18 Okay. We're still on the record.

19 I need a motion to accept this, please.

20 **MS. OBY:**

21 I make a motion that we accept the 158 applications in globo.

22 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

23 I'll second.

24 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

25 All in favor, certify by saying "aye."

1 (All aye.)

2 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

3 Any opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 **SET TIME AND DATE ON NEXT MEETING**

6 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

7 The next item on the agenda is the next meeting will be November 18, 2020,
8 at 10:00 a.m. in this room.

9

10 **ADJOURN**

11 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

12 Would anybody love to give me a motion to adjourn?

13 **MS. HUTCHINSON:**

14 I make a motion to adjourn.

15 **MS. OBY:**

16 I'll second.

17 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

18 All in favor, certify by saying "aye."

19 (All aye.)

20 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

21 Any opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 **MR. LAYRISSON:**

24 Meeting adjourned.

25 **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED**

CERTIFICATE

I, MICHELLE S. ABADIE, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom this hearing was reported, and during which, testimony was taken after duly being sworn by me, that on August 19, 2020, a meeting for the Municipal Police Officers' Supplemental Board was held, that this testimony and matters were reported by me, was prepared and transcribed by me, and that the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 33, inclusive, is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding; that I am not related to counsel or to the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this proceeding.

MICHELLE S. ABADIE, CCR #24032
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Bry Layrisson, Chairman

Candace Oby

MICHELLE S. ABADIE, CCR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER