



# Muncie Police Merit Commission

## Call to order:

A meeting of the Muncie Police Merit Commission was held on Thursday, September 4, 2025 at 300 N. High Street Muncie, IN 47305- City Hall- Auditorium  
Bruce Qualls called the meeting to order at 6:03

## Roll call:

Attendees included – Bruce Qualls, Dea Bell, Chuck Zimmers, Carisa Aguilar, Steve Craig and Nathan Sloan

## Members not in attendance:

Members not in attendance- Mark Ervin

## Approval of minutes:

Chuck made a motion to accept the July 17, 2025 meeting minutes with any necessary corrections. Dea seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## Old business:

n/a

## New Business:

n/a

## Business from Police Chief:

Chief Sloan states that there are three Lieutenant positions he would like to fill from the current Lieutenant list and asks for the next three names on the list. Bruce states the next three names on the list are Garreth Vannatta, Joseph Duckham and Justin Peters. Chief asks that Sergeant Garreth Vannatta be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Dea Bell made a motion to promote Sgt. Garreth Vannatta to the rank of Lieutenant. Chuck seconded the motion. Motion to promote Garreth Vannatta to the rank of Lieutenant is carried by voice vote.

Chief Sloan invites new Lieutenant Gary Vannatta up to the stand and reads a quick bio. Lieutenant Vannatta was hired on January 6, 2003 and is in his 23<sup>rd</sup> year. He has been a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, D.R.E Officer, the Traffic team leader and crash reconstructionist. He has been a Uniform Sergeant since January 14, 2017. Congratulations.

Chief asks for the next three names on the list. Bruce states the next three names on the list are Joseph Duckham, Justin Peters and James Lenox. Chief asks that Sergeant Joseph Duckham be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Chuck made a motion to promote Joseph Duckham to the rank of Lieutenant. Bruce seconded the motion. Motion to promote Joseph Duckham to the rank of Lieutenant is carried by voice vote.

Chief Sloan invites new Lieutenant Joseph Duckham to the podium and reads a quick bio. Lieutenant Joseph Duckham was hired on January 2, 2018 and is currently on his 8<sup>th</sup> year. He has been a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Detective and has been part of the Hostage Negotiations Team since 2020. He was promoted to Sergeant in December of 2022. He has been a midnight road Supervisor and was so until November of 2024. He was then assigned to his Supervisor role over the SMART Unit and Domestic Violence Unit. Congratulations.

Chief asks for the next three names on the list. Bruce states the next three names on the list are Justin Peters, James Lenox and Amy Kesler. Chief asks that Sergeant Justin Peters be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Bruce made a motion to promote Sergeant Justin Peters to the rank of Lieutenant. Steve seconded the motion. Motion to promote Justin Peters to the rank of Lieutenant is carried by voice vote.

Chief invites new Lieutenant Justin Peters to the podium and reads a quick bio. He was hired on June 5, 2006 and is in his 20<sup>th</sup> year. He has been in Patrol, he has been a Field Training Officer, a K-9 Officer, and he has been a part of the dive team and served as that dive team leader. He has been an Honor Guard member and served as team leader there. He has been a Uniform Sergeant since August 18, 2020. Congratulations.

Business from Attorney Mark Ervin:

n/a

Other business:

n/a

Adjournment:

Chuck made a motion to adjourn, Carisa seconded the motion. Motion to adjourn is carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.