

JOURNAL OF POLICE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
Civic Center, 2 Park Drive South, Commission Chambers
September 10th, 2025 - 9:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER: 9:01 AM

ROLL CALL/STAFF INTRODUCTIONS: Police Commission members present: John Hackwith and Rich Hollis. Also present, Lt. Rich LaBard.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVE June 20TH, 2025 MEETING MINUTES.

Commissioner Hackwith moved, seconded by Commissioner Hollis, to accept the minutes from the June 20th, 2025 meeting as written.

Motion carried 2-0

2. APPROVE July 24th, 2025 MEETING MINUTES.

Commissioner Hackwith moved, seconded by Commissioner Hollis, to accept the minutes from the July 24th, 2025 meeting as written.

Motion Carried 2-0

NEW BUSINESS

1. POLICE COMMISSION'S EXAMINATION OF APPLICANT(S): LAZARA SCHRECK FOR THE POLICE FORCE – GREAT FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Lt. LaBard stated that the application(s) of **Caleb Justus** had been referred to the Police Commission. Pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. §7-32-4154, this meeting is an examination of the applicant as to their age, legal, mental, moral, and physical qualifications and their ability to fill the office as a member of the police force.

Lt. LaBard read the provisions of Mont. Code Ann. § 7-32-4151, that sets forth the role of the Police Commission; reviewed each item provided to the Commission members in their meeting packets; and, read the provisions of Mont. Code Ann. § 7-32-303, qualifications of law enforcement officers. He explained that this meeting is for the Police Commission to review the documentation, conduct the examination of each applicant, and make a determination as to whether each applicant meets the qualifications of a law enforcement officer.

He read the provisions of Mont. Code Ann. § 2-3-203(3). He asked the applicant's position with regard to their right to privacy. **Applicant(s) Caleb Justus asserted his right to privacy.**

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Lt. LaBard noted that there is substantial value in having the examination confidential to have a frank and open discussion with the applicants and to gain an accurate view of qualifications to determine their ability to fill the office as a member of the police force. Lt. LaBard determined that each applicant(s) individual privacy clearly exceeded the merits of public disclosure, and closed the meeting for the Commission to conduct each applicant(s) examination in executive session.

At **9:10 AM** members of the Commission and Lt. LaBard, met in closed executive session in the City Commission Chambers for the purpose of the Commission conducting the examination of applicant(s), **Caleb Justus**.

- -EXECUTIVE SESSION- -

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- -END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION- -

The meeting reconvened in an open meeting in the City Commission chambers at **9:21 AM**.

Lt. LaBard summarized the Commission's examination of the applicant(s) for the police force; that the Commission reviewed the background of the applicant(s); and, that **Caleb Justus**, meet the age, legal, mental, moral and physical qualifications and he was eligible to be a member of the Great Falls Police Department.

Commissioner Hackwith moved, seconded by Commissioner Hollis, that the Police

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Commission approve of applicant(s), Caleb Justus, for hiring consideration as a member of the Great Falls Police Department.

Lt. LaBard asked if there was any public comment. Hearing none, Lt. LaBard asked if there was any further discussion among the Commissioners.

There being no further discussion, Lt. LaBard called for the vote.

Motion carried 2-0.

Both Commissioners signed the certificate(s) authorizing Caleb Justus to become a member(s) of the Great Falls Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner Hollis moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hackwith, of September 10th, 2025 at 9:22 AM.**

Motion carried 2-0.



Lt. Rich LaBard, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: 10/22, 2025