

501—6.4(80B,17A) Prehearing procedures.

6.4(1) *Council subpoenas.* Prior to the commencement of a contested case, the council may exercise the authority to subpoena books, papers, and records and shall have all other subpoena powers conferred upon it by law.

6.4(2) *Commencement of contested case proceedings.* Contested case proceedings shall be commenced by the delivery of a notice by the council or its designee requiring the affected law enforcement officer to appear and show cause as to why certification to be a law enforcement officer in the state of Iowa should not be revoked or suspended. Notice may be given in the same manner as the service of original notice as provided in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure; by certified restricted mail, return receipt requested; by signed acknowledgment accepting service; or, when service cannot be accomplished using the aforementioned methods, notice of hearing shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, published or circulated in the county of last-known residence of the affected law enforcement officer. The first notice of hearing shall be published at least 30 days prior to the scheduled hearing.

The notice shall include:

- a. A statement of the time, place and nature of the hearing;
- b. A statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is held;
- c. A reference to the particular sections of the statutes and rules involved;
- d. A short and plain statement of the grounds for revocation or suspension and relevant facts;
- e. Reference to the procedural rules governing conduct of the contested case proceeding; and
- f. Identification of the presiding officer, if known. If not known, a description of who will serve as presiding officer.

Notice may also be sent in the manner aforementioned or by ordinary mail to any other interested party. After the delivery of the notice commencing the contested case proceedings, the presiding officer may allow further response of pleadings by the party as, in the presiding officer's discretion, is deemed necessary and appropriate.

6.4(3) *Discovery.* The following discovery procedures available in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure are available to the parties: depositions upon oral examination or written questions; written interrogatories; production of documents, electronically stored information, and things; and requests for admission. Unless lengthened or shortened by the presiding officer, the time frames for discovery in the specific Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure govern those specific procedures.

a. Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure 1.701 through 1.717 regarding depositions shall apply to any depositions taken in a contested case proceeding. Any party taking a deposition in a contested case shall be responsible for any deposition costs, unless otherwise specified or allocated in an order. Deposition costs include, but are not limited to, reimbursement for mileage of the deponent, costs of a certified shorthand reporter, and expert witness fees, as applicable.

b. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.509 shall apply to any interrogatories propounded in a contested case proceeding.

c. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.512 shall apply to any requests for production of documents, electronically stored information, and things in a contested case proceeding.

d. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.510 shall apply to any requests for admission in a contested case proceeding. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.511 regarding the effect of an admission shall apply in contested case proceedings.

e. The mandatory disclosure and discovery conference requirements in Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure 1.500 and 1.507 do not apply to contested case proceedings. However, upon application by a party, the presiding officer may order the parties to comply with these procedures unless doing so would unreasonably complicate the proceedings or impose an undue hardship.

f. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.508 shall apply to discovery of any experts identified by a party to a contested case proceeding.

g. A party may file a motion to compel or other motion related to discovery in accordance with this subrule. Any motion filed with the presiding officer relating to discovery shall allege that the moving party has previously made a good-faith attempt to resolve the discovery issues involved with the opposing party.

Motions in regard to discovery shall be ruled upon by the presiding officer. Opposing parties shall be afforded the opportunity to respond within ten days of the filing of the motion unless the time is lengthened or shortened by the presiding officer. The presiding officer may rule on the basis of the written motion and any response or may order argument on the motion.

h. Evidence obtained in such discovery may be used in contested case proceedings if the evidence would otherwise be admissible in the contested case proceedings.

6.4(4) *Presiding officer subpoenas.* The presiding officer may issue subpoenas to a party on request, as permitted by law, compelling the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, records or other real evidence.

6.4(5) *Motions.* No technical form for motions is required. However, prehearing motions must be in writing, state the grounds for relief, and state the relief sought.

a. Any party may file a written response to a motion within ten days after the motion is served, unless the time period is extended or shortened by rules of the agency or the presiding officer.

b. The presiding officer may schedule oral arguments on any motion.

c. Motions pertaining to the hearing, including motions for summary judgment, must be filed and served at least ten days prior to the date of hearing unless there is good cause for permitting later action or the time for such action is lengthened or shortened by rule of the agency or an order of the presiding officer.

6.4(6) *Prehearing conference.* The presiding officer, upon its own motion or upon the written request of one of the parties, may, in the presiding officer's discretion and upon written notice, direct the parties to appear at a specified time and place before the presiding officer for a prehearing conference to consider:

a. The possibility or desirability of waiving any provision of these rules relating to contested case proceedings by written stipulation representing an informed mutual consent.

b. A necessity or desirability of setting a new date for hearing.

c. The simplification of issues.

d. The necessity or desirability of amending the pleadings for purposes of clarification, amplification or limitation.

e. The possibility of agreeing to the admission of facts, documents or records not substantially controverted, to avoid unnecessary introduction of proof.

f. The procedure at the hearing.

g. Limiting the number of witnesses.

h. The names and identification of witnesses and the facts each party will attempt to prove at the hearing.

i. Other matters as may aid in, expedite or simplify the disposition of the proceeding.

Prehearing conferences shall be conducted by telephone unless otherwise ordered. Parties shall exchange witness and exhibit lists in advance of a prehearing conference.

[ARC 5006C, IAB 3/25/20, effective 4/29/20]