

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
December 30, 2019

The meeting of the Berkshire County Retirement Board was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Retirement Office, located at 29 Dunham Mall, Pittsfield, MA. Present at the meeting were, Michael Ovitt, Chairman, Mark Bashara, Elected Member, Karen Williams, Elected Member and Gerald Doyle Jr., Appointed Member. Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Board Member, participated by phone. Roll call vote taken to allow remote participation Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public have an opportunity to address the Retirement Board.

There was no public comment.

MINUTES:

1.) The Board minutes of the meeting held November 22, 2019, were signed and approved.

Voted to approve the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

2.) The Board reviewed the quotes for the computer system upgrade for January 2020. Quotes included the computer upgrades and a secure email system. The computer hardware will be purchased from the MA State/Municipal buy program through Dell. The secure email network will be purchased through Zix, located in Burlington, MA. The executive director recently met with two local companies Renatus and Synagex that provide computer security and email services, Zix provided the secure email service at a lesser cost.

Voted to approve the purchase of the computer hardware and the secure email network System in January 2020.

3.) The Board members were asked to submit agenda items for the personnel policy review with Attorney Beth Goodman scheduled for January 2020. There were no agenda submissions by board members. Executive Director prepared three items for discussion #1- implementation of new policies, which items apply to both Board and staff? #2 signature pages presented annually? Signatures required for the whole policy or the individual items listed in the appendix? #3- annual review every January? What about updates during the year if laws change? An agenda will be prepared for Ms. Goodman's presentation in January. Mr. Ovitt requested an agenda item for January's Board meeting to discuss continued personnel legal services provided by Beth Goodman.

Voted to note the record.

INVESTMENTS:

4.) The Board received from PRIT a statement of performance for November 2019. The PRIT Fund returned 1.06% for the month of November.

Voted to note the record.

BANK STATEMENTS:

5.) The Board received the bank statements for Nov 2019 and the budget for Dec 2019.

Note: copies of cashbooks for October and November 2019 were emailed to each Board member prior to the meeting.

Voted to note the record.

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MONTHLY WARRANTS:

6.) The Board approved payment vouchers:

11-06-19	\$1,411,246.88
12-01-19	\$2,946.78
12-02-19	\$36,004.62
12-03-19	\$1,459,881.20
12-04-19	\$87,583.45
12-05-19	\$25,326.42
12-06-19	\$2,357.39

Voted to approve payments as presented.

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT:

7.) The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Tracy Clark, BHRSD, Secretary. The retirement will be effective 11/25/2019.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Michael Lamke, Richmond, Mechanic. The retirement will be effective 12/02/19.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Annalee Dickson-Riley, SBRSD, Paraprofessional. The retirement will be effective 12/31/19.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Susan Baker, Lee, Admin Asst. The retirement will be effective 02/10/2020.

Voted to note the record.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE BUYBACK:

8.) Jeffrey Henault, a member in Peru, is eligible to buy back 6 years of prior creditable service. If Mr. Henault pays \$64,545.19 into the annuity savings fund by January 31, 2020, the Board will grant 6 years of creditable service. Upon proper repayment the Pittsfield Retirement Board will accept liability for 6 years of creditable service.

Elias Casey, a member in Gt Barrington, is eligible to buy back 1 year and 10 months of prior creditable service. If Mr. Casey pays \$5,206.41 into the annuity savings fund by January 31, 2020, the Board will grant 1 year and 10 months of creditable service.

Jonathon Finnerty, a member in Gt Barrington, is eligible to buy back 1 year and 2 months of prior creditable service. If Mr. Finnerty pays \$4,256.60 into the annuity savings fund by January 31, 2020, the Board will grant 1 year and 2 months of creditable service.

Voted to approve service buybacks as presented.

MEMBER TRANSFERS OUT OF SYSTEM:

9.) The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Justin Kimball, a member in Lee to the Hampden County Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 2 years and 4 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$9,104.08.

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The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Bruce Turner, a member in Egremont to the Teacher's Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 20 years and 10 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$58,053.03.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Michael Doyle, a member in Dalton to the Pittsfield Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 4 years and 6 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$14,017.36.

Voted to approve transfers as presented.

REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS:

10.) The Board approved the applications for refunds from the following members: (Pending approval from Dept. of Revenue- child support division)

Cheryl Cardillo	SBRSD	\$2877.44
John Mullen	New Marlboro	\$65.34
Christian Limberger	BHRSD	\$6,408.98

Voted to approve refunds as presented.

Pending Ethics Investigation:

Peter Skorput West Stockbridge

PERAC recommends no refund until determination in ethics investigation will refer to our legal counsel for a written opinion

Voted to table.

INJURY REPORTS:

11.) There were no injuries reported in the month of December.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:

12.) The Board approved for membership in the Berkshire County Retirement System the following members:

6998	DANIEL J BONETTI	New Marlboro	8/19/2019	HIGHWAY	1
7020	MARGARET M ZERBATO	FARMINGTON	9/12/2019	PARA	1
7025	HUNTER S LUCEY	SHEFFIELD	10/10/2019	PATROL OFFICER	4
7026	SUSAN J OLDS	FARMINGTON	10/7/2019	PARA	1
7027	MICHELLE M CLORAN	FARMINGTON	10/24/2019	CUSTODIAN	1
7038	JOANNE M GRYBACH	SANDISFIELD	10/14/2019	TOWN MANAGER	1
7039	ELIAS J CASEY	GT Barrington	10/20/2019	POLICE OFFICER	4
7040	ERIK P CROFTON	PERU	10/13/2019	LABORER	1
7041	DAVID A TABORES	SBRSD	11/21/2019	CUSTODIAN	1
7042	JESSICA A REED	RICHMOND	11/6/2019	PARA	1
7043	JONATHAN BROWN	LEE	11/11/2019	PARA	1
7046	ROBERT D GAUGHRAN	GT Barrington	12/1/2019	FIREMAN	4
7047	REBECCA E HALL	LEE	11/25/2019	KITCHEN HELPER	1
7048	DONNA ROONEY-STALKER	LENEX	12/2/2019	PARA	1
7049	NATHAN T FENWICK	LANESBORO	11/26/2019	DPW LABORER	1
7050	HUGH J PAGE	STOCKBRIDGE	12/4/2019	Highway Foreman	1
7052	KATHRYN J HARTY	LEE	12/16/2019	PARA	1

Voted to approve new members as presented.

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RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE APPROVALS:

13.) The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Judith Buker, Lee, as of 06/15/2019. Annual pension amount is \$12,759.36.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Kim Graham, Lenox, as of 07/21/2019. Annual pension amount is \$30,571.20.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Mark Webber, West Stockbridge, as of 07/29/19. Annual pension amount is \$42,104.52.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Donald Campbell, CBRSD, as of 08/03/19. Annual pension amount is \$9,494.28.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to William Boyne, Lee, as of 08/08/19. Annual pension amount is \$15,851.88.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to John Ostrander, Gt Barrington, as of 08/10/19. Annual pension amount is \$39,917.76.

Voted to note the record.

3(8)c REIMBURSEMENTS:

14.) The Board received a letter from PERAC ordering the Berkshire County Retirement Board through the provisions of MGL Sec 3(8)(c) to reimburse the Teacher's Retirement Board \$3,509.31 a year toward the retirement allowance of Nancy Graham. **recalculation**
Voted to note the record.

PERAC CORRESPONDENCE:

15.) The Board received from PERAC the following memorandums:

#25/2019 New Fraud Prevention poster
#26/2019 2019 Disability Data

Note: copies of memorandums and letters given to each Board member

Voted to note the record.

TRAVEL & EDUCATION APPROVALS:

16.) There are no travel requests for the month of December.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

- a.) The Board is in receipt of the CRAB motion to dismiss the appeal of James Salice.
- b.) The Board is in receipt of the Annual CFR Report from PRIT
- c.) The Board is notified that the letter sent to Ashley Davidson regarding the dependent allowance paid to Samuel Pratt was returned unclaimed. Item will be referred to legal counsel.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 9:00am.

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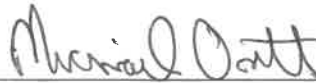
Voted to adjourn at 10:00am.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Sheila LaBarbera, Executive Director

APPROVED BY:



Michael Ovitt, Chairman



Mark Bashara, Elected Member

Karen Williams, Elected Member

Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Council Member



Gerald Doyle, Jr., Appointed Member