

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
August 30, 2017

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, Gerald Doyle Jr., Appointed Member, Mark Bashara, Elected Member, Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Board Member and Peter Menard Elected Member.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public have an opportunity to address the Retirement Board. *No comments.*

MINUTES:

1.) The Board minutes of the meeting held July 26, 2017, were signed and approved.

Voted to approve the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

2.) The Board reviewed and approved the election schedule for the December 2017 general election of a retirement board member. The elected term is three years and begins 1/01/2018.

Voted to approve the election schedule.

3.) The Board reviewed and approved the expense for the Berkshire County Retirement pens to be given to an active member when they retire. One hundred pens will be ordered and the total cost is \$1439.00.

Voted to approve the purchase of the pens.

4.) The Board was asked to review and approve a proposal for the installation of a new phone system in the offices of the retirement board. The Board received three proposals to review. The first proposal from Cornerstone (now known as MagnaFive) included a onetime equipment cost of \$1225.00, but required that we switch providers and the monthly cost for our telephone and internet would increase by \$100 a month. The Board was not interested in changing providers and felt the monthly increase in costs was not justified. The second proposal from DT Systems included a onetime equipment cost of \$2175.00 and we could stay with Spectrum. The equipment quoted was a refurbished phone system and the Board was not interested in refurbished equipment. The third proposal from Superior Telephone Systems included a onetime equipment cost of \$3772.14 and we could stay with Spectrum. This is a brand new system with a 2 year warranty on all parts and labor. After careful review Paul Lisi, Jr. made a motion to approve the proposal from Superior Telephone Systems, second Mark Bashara. Unanimous.

Voted to approve the purchase of Superior Telephone System.

INVESTMENTS:

5.) The Board received from PRIT a statement of performance for July 2017. The PRIT Fund returned 1.69% for the month of July.

Voted to note the record.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
August 30, 2017

BANK STATEMENTS:

6.) The Board received the bank statements for July 2017 and the budget for August 2017.
Note: copies of cash books for July 2017 were emailed to each Board member prior to the meeting.

Voted to note the record.

MONTHLY WARRANTS:

7.) The Board approved payment vouchers:

07-05-17	\$1,215,235.67
08-01-17	\$1,490.03
08-02-17	\$22,978.02
08-03-17	\$36,851.58
08-04-17	\$9224.49
08-05-17	\$1,252,842.34

Voted to approve payments as presented.

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT:

8.) The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Marjorie Kinne, BHRSD, paraprofessional, Group 1, age 75 with 17 years and 10 months of creditable service and chose Option A. The retirement will be effective July 31, 2017.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Terrence Field, Lenox, Selectman, Group 1, age 65 with 11 years and 11 months of creditable service and chose Option C. The retirement will be effective August 16, 2017.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Steven Johnson, Williamstown, Equipment Operator, Group 1, age 72 with 23 years and 4 months of creditable service and chose Option B. The retirement will be effective August 18, 2017.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Joan Baker, SBRSD, paraprofessional, Group 1, age 66 with 10 years and 6 months of creditable service and chose Option B. The retirement will be effective August 31, 2017.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Mary Wilson, Clarksburg, paraprofessional, Group 1, age 65 with 10 years of creditable service and chose Option B. The retirement will be effective October 8, 2017.

Voted to approve the retirements as presented.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE BUYBACK:

9.) Marie Bartlett, a member in CBRSD, is eligible to buy back 9 months of prior creditable service. If Ms. Bartlett pays \$1697.93 into the annuity savings fund by September 30, 2017, the Board will grant 9 months of creditable service.

Voted to approve the buyback request as presented.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
August 30, 2017

MEMBER TRANSFERS OUT OF SYSTEM:

10.) The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Stephanie Mirante, a member in Williamstown to the North Adams 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 \$8234.10.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Willie Morales, a member in Sandisfield to the Franklin Regional Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 10 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$4514.63.

Voted to approve transfers as presented.

REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS:

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

Glenn Alibozek	BHRSD	\$5539.47
Rhiannon Hagen	BHRSD	\$3386.94
Annie Lewis	Florida	\$5317.86
Peter Willey	Lee	\$9448.11
Nora Babcock	Lee	\$234.90 deductions taken in error

Voted to approve refunds as presented.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:

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

6688	ROBERT JM MILLER JR	SBRSD	6/5/2017	CUSTODIAN	1
6692	RYLE W O'BRIEN	SANDISFIELD	7/1/2017	LABORER	1
6693	PATRICK A PETTIT, JR	DALTON	7/5/2017	BLDG INSPECTOR	1
6695	REBECCA S SLICK	DALTON	7/1/2017	TOWN PLANNER	1
6192	RANDALL A AUSTIN	LENOX	7/10/2017	ADMIN ASSESSOR	1
6696	AMY B GARNER	WILLIAMSTOWN	9/1/2017	FOOD SERV DIR	1
6697	ZACHARY M LEVESQUE	W Stockbridge	7/17/2017	LABORER	1
6698	KORTNEY L BASHFORD	BHRSD	8/7/2017	SECRETARY	1
6700	CHRISTINE Owens-Crawford	LEE	8/11/2017	ADMIN SECY	1
6701	VICKI L BREITMAIER	CBRS	8/23/2017	ADMIN ASST	1
6702	LYNDSAY K BROOM	LEE	7/24/2017	ASST CAO/HR	1
6703	ROXANNE M GERMAIN	ALFORD	9/5/2017	SELECT SECY	1
6704	ELLYN N DUPONT	GT Barrington	7/5/2017	ASST CLERK	1
6705	RICHARD C AUSTIN	GT Barrington	8/7/2017	CUSTODIAN	1
6706	JEAN L DAIGLE	BHRSD	8/7/2017	CUSTODIAN	1
6707	COREY F DEMARY	LENOX	8/9/2017	POLICE OFFICER	4
6708	ROBERT D GRAVES	HINSDALE	8/14/2017	TOWN ADMIN	1

Voted to approve new members as presented.

INJURY REPORTS:

13.) The Board is notified of the following injuries:

William Boyne – Lee- 07/10/2017 – lost time

Voted to note the record.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
August 30, 2017

RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE APPROVALS:

14.) The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Philip Landry, as of June 30, 2017. Williamstown

	Member	Beneficiary
Annuity	\$8778.96	
Pension	\$19529.16	
Yearly	\$28308.12	
Monthly	\$2359.01	

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Robert Nason, as of June 30, 2017. Lee

	Member	Beneficiary
Annuity	\$23023.44	
Pension	\$46712.16	
Yearly	\$69735.60	
Monthly	\$5811.30	

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Elizabeth Bean, as of June 30, 2017. Lenox

	Member	Beneficiary
Annuity	\$3385.68	
Pension	\$7360.20	
Yearly	\$10745.88	
Monthly	\$895.49	

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Ruby Korte, as of June 30, 2017. BHRSD

	Member	Beneficiary
Annuity	\$4879.92	
Pension	\$17482.32	
Yearly	\$22362.24	
Monthly	\$1863.52	

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Evelyn Vallianos, as of June 30, 2017. SBRSD

	Member	Beneficiary
Annuity	\$3890.28	
Pension	\$13770.96	
Yearly	\$17661.24	
Monthly	\$1471.77	

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Judith Richardson, as of June 30, 2017. MGRSD

	Member	Beneficiary
Annuity	\$6561.60	
Pension	\$20096.28	
Yearly	\$26657.88	
Monthly	\$2221.49	

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
August 30, 2017

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Jane Gleason, as of June 30, 2017. FRRSD

	Member	Beneficiary
Annuity	\$10088.64	\$6725.76
Pension	\$31169.16	\$20779.44
Yearly	\$41257.80	\$27505.20
Monthly	\$3438.15	

Voted to note the record.

3(8)c REIMBURSEMENTS:

15.) The Board received a letter from PERAC ordering the Berkshire County Board through the provisions of MGL Sec 3(8)(c) to reimburse the Teacher's Retirement Board \$23505.63 a year toward the retirement allowance of Charles Flynn.

The Board received a letter from PERAC ordering the Chelsea Retirement Board through the provisions of MGL Sec 3(8)(c) to reimburse the Berkshire County Retirement Board \$9072.17 a year toward the retirement allowance of Robert Nason.

The Board received a letter from PERAC ordering the Melrose Retirement Board through the provisions of MGL Sec 3(8)(c) to reimburse the Berkshire County Retirement Board \$8975.69 a year toward the retirement allowance of Robert Nason.

The Board received a letter from PERAC ordering the State Retirement Board through the provisions of MGL Sec 3(8)(c) to reimburse the Berkshire County Retirement Board \$6273.37 a year toward the retirement allowance of Robert Nason.

The Board received a letter from PERAC ordering the State Retirement Board through the provisions of MGL Sec 3(8)(c) to reimburse the Berkshire County Retirement Board \$428.39 a year toward the retirement allowance of Elizabeth Bean.

Voted to note the record.

TRAVEL & EDUCATION APPROVALS:

16.) The Board approved the travel expense for Sheila LaBarbera to attend the PRIM Advisory Council meeting in Boston on September 19, 2017.

Voted to approve travel expense PRIM Advisory Council.

17.) The Board approved the travel expense for Sheila LaBarbera to attend the PPAG meeting at PERAC on September 21, 2017 in Somerville, MA.

Voted to approve travel expense PPAG meeting.

PERAC CORRESPONDENCE:

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

#24/2017	COLA for dependents of Acc disability and Acc death
#25/2017	Repeal of GL Ch 32 section 90G 3/4
#26/2017	Access to Prosper
#27/2017	Reinstatement to Service

Voted to note the record.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
August 30, 2017

19.) The Board received a letter from PERAC that confirms Richard Campeglia is in compliance with his filing of the 2016 Annual Statement of Earnings.

Voted to note the record.

20.) The Board received a letter from PERAC that confirms Harry Embry, Jr., is in compliance with his filing of the 2016 Annual Statement of Earnings.

Voted to note the record.

21.) The Board received a letter from PERAC approving the Berkshire County Retirement Board's supplemental regulation setting the interest rate on incorrect payments at the interest rate applied to members annuity savings accounts.

Voted to note the record.

22.) The Board received a letter from PERAC that lists former members of the MA state retirement systems that have been subject to section 15 forfeiture and are no longer entitled to any benefits from any Chapter 32 systems.

Voted to note the record.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

23.) The Board accepted and placed on file the following Domestic Relations Orders:

Geoffrey D. Powell, Town of Dalton
Ernest Cardillo, Town of Stockbridge
Eileen Kearney, Town of Lee

QDRO's will placed in the members files and noted in the permanent records.

Voted to note the record.

24.) Update on the audit performed by PERAC and the audit performed by MelansonHeath. Both audits are nearing completion. PERAC audit will require the auditors to return for several more days to review data on site. Once on site has been completed a draft report will be filed with the Board. MelansonHeath has completed all onsite review and is completing the audits of 4 member unit deduction reports. MelansonHeath will submit a draft report in September 2017.

Voted to note the record.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 9:00am.

Voted to adjourn at 10:15am.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
August 30, 2017

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Sheila LaBarbera, Executive Director

APPROVED BY:

Michael Ovitt, Chairman

Mark Bashara, Elected Member

Peter Menard, Elected Member

Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Council Member

Gerald Doyle, Jr., Appointed Member