

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting  
April 29, 2015

**The meeting of the Berkshire County Retirement Board was called to order a 9:05 A.M. in the Retirement Office, 29 Dunham Mall, Pittsfield, MA. Present at the meeting, Michael Ovitt, Chairman, Peter Menard Elected Member, Patricia Carlino, Elected Member and Deborah Brunelle, Advisory Board Member. Gerald Doyle Jr., Appointed Member was absent.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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

**MINUTES:**

1.) The Board minutes of the meeting held March 30, 2015, were signed and approved.

**Voted to** approve minutes

**NEW BUSINESS:**

2.) The Board reviewed and signed the 2015 Berkshire County Retirement Board engagement letter from Melanson & Heath. Melanson & Heath also provided a proposed timeline for completion of the 2014 audit.

**Voted to** approve Melanson & Heath's proposed time line and sign engagement letter.

3.) The Board approved a 3% Cost of Living Allowance for the retirees of the Berkshire County Retirement System who retired on or before June 30, 2014. The COLA will be on the first \$14,000 and will be effective July 1, 2015.

**Voted to** approve the 3% COLA.

**INVESTMENTS:**

4.) The Board received from PRIT a statement of performance for March 2015. The PRIT Fund returned 0.34% for the month of March.

**Voted to** note the record.

**BANK STATEMENTS:**

5.) The Board received the bank statements for March 2015. The Board also received the budget April 2015.

**Voted to** note the record.

**MONTHLY WARRANTS:**

6.) The Board approved payment vouchers:

04-01-15	\$450.14
04-02-15	\$21839.42
04-03-15	\$14311.82
04-04-15	\$22758.51
04-05-15	\$1007025.86

**Voted to** approve payments as presented.

**REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT:**

7.) The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Jerry Brasee, Lee, custodian, Group 1, age 64 with 33 years and 9 months of creditable service and chose Option B. The retirement will be effective April 27, 2015.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting  
April 29, 2015

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Claudia Ziobro, SBRSD, paraprofessional, Group 1, age 64 with 19 years and 10 months of creditable service and chose Option A. The retirement will be effective June 30, 2015.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Barbara Suriner, Dalton, Town Clerk, Group 1, age 71 with 36 years and 5 months of creditable service and chose Option B. The retirement will be effective May 17, 2015  
**Voted** to approve retirements as presented.

**REQUEST FOR SERVICE BUYBACK:**

8.) Adam Yorke, a member in CBRSD, is eligible to buyback 1 year and 6 months of prior creditable service. If Mr. Yorke pays \$3733.32 into the annuity savings fund by May 31, 2015, the Board will grant 1 year and 2 months of creditable service.

William Jennings, a member in Williamstown, is eligible to buyback 2 years and 9 months of prior creditable service. If Mr. Jennings pays \$7536.25 into the annuity savings fund by May 31, 2015, the Board will grant 2 years and 9 months of creditable service.  
**Voted** to approve buybacks as presented.

**MEMBER TRANSFERS IN/OUT OF SYSTEM:**

9.) There were no requests for transfers for the month of April.

**REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS:**

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

Patricia Burdick	Florida	\$972.43
Wendy Hathaway	Lee	\$19347.32
Benjamin Pigott	Egremont	\$2244.07

**Voted** to approve refunds as presented.

**NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:**

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

6482	JENNIFER M BROWN	MONTEREY	2/26/2015	TOWN CLERK	1
6483	MONICA MICHAELS	SBRSD	1/26/2015	SPED	1
6490	TAMMY Lockenwitz-Payer	BHRSD	4/30/2015	PARA	1
6491	DON W FITZGERALD	LENOX	3/23/2015	BLDG INSP	1

**Voted to** approve the new members as presented.

**RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE APPROVALS:**

12.) The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Michael Skorput, as of February 22, 2015. New Marlboro

	<b>Member</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>
Annuity	\$3467.52	
Pension	\$7422.24	
Yearly	\$10889.76	
Monthly	\$907.48	

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting  
April 29, 2015

**INJURY REPORTS:**

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

Bruce Stringer – Stockbridge- Police Dept. – 03/24/15 - lost time

**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 State Retirement Board the recalculated amount of \$1448.20 a year toward the retirement allowance of Frederick Holmes.

**Voted to** note the record.

**PERAC CORRESPONDENCE:**

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

#09/2015 Tobacco Company List

#10/2015 Retirement Board Training 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015

#11/2015 New post retirement limits on employment for Disability Retirees

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

**MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a.) SEI information for Pension plan management
- b.) Appeal of a retirement board decision by Diane Sturtevant
- c.) MA PRIM reduces budget by 12 million 3.3% in FY16
- d.) Michael Trotsky announces staff promotion and departure Tom Hanna COO is leaving PRIM, David Gurtz is interim COO.
- e.) PERAC pension News March 2015
- f.) MIIA FY 2016 renewal property / disability /workers compensation proposal.
- g.) MACRS proposed amendment to the constitution and bylaws voting 6/1/15

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 9:00am.

**Voted to** Adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting  
April 29, 2015

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

---

Sheila LaBarbera, Executive Director

APPROVED BY:

---

Michael Ovitt, Chairman

---

Patricia Carlino, Elected Member

---

Peter Menard, Elected Member

---

Deborah Brunelle, Advisory Council Member

---

Gerald Doyle, Jr., Appointed Member