

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
February 28, 2018

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 Karen Williams, 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 January 31, 2018, were signed and approved.
Voted to approve the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

2.) Review a proposal from PTG to add Pension Pro Employer Reporting Module. Board members asked what the reporting module would do and it was explained that it would modernize a manual process that would allow us to concentrate on other relevant issues such as verifying payroll codes and pensionable wages. The Board asked questions regarding the effect the reporting module would have on the town treasurers and any potential costs to the towns, there are no costs to the towns to create the files for upload. Board members also asked what would the effect on it would have on the work load and if it could potentially offset the need for additional staff in the future. The Board asked that a worksheet of pros and cons be created and presented at the March meeting.

Voted to table.

INVESTMENTS:

3.) The Board received from PRIT a statement of performance for January 2018. The PRIT Fund returned 2.74% for the month of January.

Voted to note the record.

BANK STATEMENTS:

4.) The Board received the bank statements for January 2018 and the budget for February 2018.

Voted to note the record.

MONTHLY WARRANTS:

5.) The Board approved payment vouchers:

02-01-18	\$1865.49
02-02-18	\$19183.19
02-03-18	\$362090.92
02-04-18	\$140200.19
02-05-18	\$1267415.89

Voted to approve payments as presented.

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT:

6.) The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Fern Sann, Williamstown, Librarian. The retirement will be effective March 28, 2018.

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The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Patricia Wooliver, Lanesboro, paraprofessional. The retirement will be effective March 2, 2018.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Albert LaMarre Sr., Williamstown, custodian. The retirement will be effective March 23, 2018.

Voted to approve the retirements as presented.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE BUYBACK:

7.) Lorena Bermeo, a member in SBRSD, is eligible to buy back 3 months of prior creditable service. If Ms. Bermeo pays \$762.42 into the annuity savings fund by March 31, 2018, the Board will grant 3 months of creditable service.

Brian Duval, a member in Dalton, is eligible to buy back 4 months of prior creditable service. If Mr. Duval pays \$3453.06 into the annuity savings fund by March 31, 2018, the Board will grant 4 months of creditable service.

Voted to approve the buybacks requests as presented.

Kristopher Balestro, a member in Great Barrington, has requested a buyback of prior creditable service. Mr. Balestro has not provided the detail necessary to calculate the buyback request, if he can provide the hourly rate or number of hours worked the Board can revisit and calculate creditable service.

Voted to deny the buyback as presented.

MEMBER TRANSFERS OUT OF SYSTEM:

8.) The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Mark Bushee, a member in Lee to the North Adams Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 2 years and 7 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$9067.07.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Samantha Cesario, a member in Williamstown to the Pittsfield Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 10 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$2287.52.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Christina Doherty, a member in Clarksburg to Teacher's Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 11 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$1051.66.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Nicholas Felix, a member in Sheffield to the North Adams Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 1 year and 7 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$8298.58.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Kimberley Wendling, a member in CBRSD to the Teacher's Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 8 years and 10 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is

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\$19931.04. The request for the buyback lacked enough information to calculate creditable service for the buyback. If the information for calculation is available in the future the Board will reconsider the request for a buyback.

Voted to deny the buyback as presented.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:

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

6775	REBECCA STONE	OTIS	1/2/2018	TOWN ADMIN	1
6776	JENNIFER RAFTERY	LEE	1/11/2018	PARA	1
6777	DEBORAH J BAKER	WILLIAMSTOWN	1/11/2018	LIBRARY ASST	1
6778	JOSEPH HAIGHT	MT Washington	1/22/2018	HIGHWAY	1
6780	ELIZABETH R HALLA	BHRSD	1/8/2018	PARA	1
6781	TRACY L EASTWOOD	DALTON	1/29/2018	Asst Tax COLLECT	1
6782	LORNA M GAYLE	LANESBORO	2/1/2018	COA DIRECTOR	1
6783	DAWN O LEMON	SANDISFIELD	1/22/2018	Town Accountant	1
6784	SUSAN M CARMEL	GT Barrington	1/22/2018	ACCOUNTANT	1
6785	JONATHAN T PIERCE	LEE	1/29/2018	HEALTH INSP	1
6786	REBEKAH L MILLER	SBRSD	2/1/2018	BLDG & GROUNDS	1
6787	TRAVIS P DROSEHN	PERU	12/24/2017	HIGHWAY LABOR	1
6788	MARGARET L RIVERS	LENOX	1/22/1/	PARA	1
6763	DOMINICK J CRUPI	SHEFFIELD	11/29/2017	POLICE OFFICER	4

Voted to approve new members 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)

Robert Everhart	Hinsdale	\$3324.17
Don Fitzgerald	Lenox	\$15126.21
Heather Lane	Florida	\$2461.67
James Martin	Gt Barrington	\$2706.54
Benjamin May	BHRSD	\$9019.90
Christopher Morris	Otis	\$52125.64
Christine Crawford	Lee	\$991.13
Robert Patterson	Gt Barrington	\$8021.76
Steven Weatherwalks	Florida	\$2080.69

Refunds on deductions taken in error at year end:

Peter C Beckwith	Egremont	\$74.46
Jason Costa	Lanesboro	\$620.02
Mary Ellen Deming	Lenox	\$100.00
Roxanne Germaine	Alford	\$135.85
Brad Lepicier	Lanesboro	\$769.62
Bruce Stringer	West Stockbridge	\$165.54

Voted to approve refunds as presented.

INJURY REPORTS:

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

Jamie Seward – SBRSD- 11/30/2017 – no lost time

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Natalie Bachetti- SBRSD- 11/20/17- no lost time
Laurie Briggs- SBRSD- 11/27/17- no lost time
Penny Rodick- SBRSD- 11/03/17- no lost time
Zoe Marinelli- SBRSD- 10/13/17- no lost time
Zoe marinelli –SBRSD- 10/11/17- no lost time
Cathy Jo Willig- SBRSD- 09/11/17- no lost time

Voted to note the record.

RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE APPROVALS:

12.) The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Elaine Markham, Town of Stockbridge as of October 1, 2017.

Annual pension amount is \$29,979.36.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Gary Kirby, Town of Lanesboro as of November 17, 2017.

Annual pension amount is \$19710.00.

Voted to note the record.

3(8)c REIMBURSEMENTS:

13.) 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 \$1026.64 a year toward the retirement allowance of Alice Jenkins.

Voted to note the record.

TRAVEL & EDUCATION APPROVALS:

14.) The Board approved the travel expense for Sheila LaBarbera to attend the PRIM Board Advisory Council Meeting in Boston on 03/09/2018.

Voted to approve the travel request.

PERAC CORRESPONDENCE:

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

#11/2018 Investment Related Issues and Concerns

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

Voted to note the record.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

- a.) The Board is in receipt of a letter from PERAC regarding the review of the Consent Agenda Policy.
- b.) Letter from PERAC regarding a workers comp claim for a disability retiree
- c.) Annual Statement update

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 9:00am.

Voted to adjourn at 10:20am.

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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