

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
September 25, 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, Gerald Doyle Jr., Appointed Member, Karen Williams, Elected Member and Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Board Member.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

MINUTES:

1.) The Board minutes of the meetings held August 27, 2019 and September 10, 2019, were signed and approved.

Voted to approve the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

2.) The Board accepted and approved the December 2018 Financial Audit performed by MelansonHeath.

Voted to note the record.

3.) The Board reviewed the final draft of the revised Personnel Policy for the Berkshire County Retirement Board. The Board asked that the unpaid leave and FMLA sections of the draft be amended and resubmitted to the board on October 30, 2019 for final approval.

Voted to table.

4.) The Board reviewed the request from the Hoosac Water Quality District about joining the Berkshire County Retirement System. After a legal review of the request to join the Berkshire County Retirement System it was determined that, the water district would fall under the jurisdiction of the North Adams Retirement System. A motion was made to deny the request by Paul Lisi, Jr, second by Mark Bashara, unanimous. A letter was sent to the Hoosac Water District instructing them to apply to the North Adams Retirement System.

Voted to deny the request to join Berkshire County Retirement System.

5.) The Board approved the request from Bobbi Burdick for a 12(2)d pension benefit. The application for 12(2)d was completed and it was determined Mrs. Burdick was the eligible survivor of Glenn Burdick, a member in Florida.

Voted to approve the request for a 12(2)d pension benefit.

6.) The Board reviewed a proposed draft 2019 budget for the Berkshire County Retirement System. The Board requested that the individual line items be broken down with additional detail and will be reviewed at the October 30, 2019, board meeting. The Board requested that the proposed budget be available for the Berkshire County Retirement Advisory Council meeting on October 23, 2019.

Voted to note the record.

INVESTMENTS:

7.) The Board received from PRIT a statement of performance for August 2019. The PRIT Fund returned -0.32% for the month of August.

Voted to note the record.

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BANK STATEMENTS:

8.) The Board received the bank statements for August 2019 and budget for September 2019.

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

Voted to note the record.

MONTHLY WARRANTS:

9.) The Board approved payment vouchers:

08-04-19	\$1,400,255.65
09-01-19	\$2,400.66
09-02-19	\$73,296.13
09-03-19	\$5,122.40
09-04-19	\$20,605.96
09-06-19	\$18.65

Voted to approve payments as presented.

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT:

10.) The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Sean Ward, Lenox, Police Officer. The retirement will be effective 09/25/2019.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Daria Woodger, Lenox, Health Aid. The retirement will be effective 10/04/2019.

The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from Karen Chamberland, SBRSD, secretary. The retirement will be effective 11/01/2019.

Voted to approve retirements as presented.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE BUYBACK:

11.) Joanne Gadenbusch, a member in Clarksburg, is eligible to buy back 4 years of prior creditable service. If Ms. Gadenbusch pays \$4287.47 into the annuity savings fund by October 31, 2019, the Board will grant 4 years of creditable service.

Michael Williams, a member in Clarksburg, is eligible to buy back 4 years and 6 months of prior creditable service. If Mr. Williams pays \$10,979.78 into the annuity savings fund by October 31, 2019, the Board will grant 4 years and 6 months of creditable service.

Voted to approve service buybacks as presented.

MEMBER TRANSFERS OUT OF SYSTEM:

12.) The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Dawn Frissell, a member in Hinsdale to the Teacher's Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Board will accept liability for 22 years and 2 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$15,234.03.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Robert Hungate, a member in Egremont to the State Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 6 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$2,226.67.

Voted to approve transfers as presented.

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INJURY REPORTS:

13.) There was an injury reported in the Town of Stockbridge.

Voted to note the record.

REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS:

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

Jennifer Brown	Monterey	\$3,121.52
Stacey Lee Oates	SBRSD	\$446.56
Gary Heath	Gt Barrington	\$37,300.00
Cory Ziobro	BHRSD	\$6,099.28
Matthew Wilson	Lee	\$2,752.55

Voted to approve refunds as presented.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:

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

6964	TYLER J CRYSTAL	BECKET	7/9/2019	MECHANIC	1
6966	JAMES S FERGUSON	CBRS	8/22/2019	CUSTODIAN	1
6967	CAROLE A HILDERBRAND	CHESHIRE	8/15/2019	COA COORD	1
6968	JAMES P COOK	SBRSD	8/15/2019	Night CUSTODIAN	1
6969	TRAVIS B FACHNI	WILLIAMSTOWN	8/19/2019	INSPECTOR	1
6970	STACEY L HOGUE	BHRSD	8/26/2019	ASST COOK	1
6971	IRENE E YOCHER	BHRSD	8/26/2019	PARA	1
6972	EILEEN C REYNOLDS	MGRSD	9/13/2019	PARA	1
6973	ELISA PAOLONI	MGRSD	9/13/2019	PARA	1
6974	STACEY E WHITNEY	CBRS	9/5/2019	TITLE 1 TUTOR	1
6975	ELIZABETH A ANDREW	CBRS	9/5/2019	PARA	1
6976	CAROLAN P FLEER	CBRS	9/5/2019	PARA	1
6977	PAULA M FISH	CBRS	9/5/2019	PARA	1
6978	KELLY A ALLESSIO	CBRS	9/5/2019	PARA	1
6979	AMY N GARNER	CLARKSBURG	8/15/2019	PARA	1
6980	MARK S MESSINA	FLORIDA	9/3/2019	AIDE	1
6981	RUTH A KNYSH	LANESBORO	8/26/2019	TOWN CLERK	1
6982	MARTHA A GUINAN	LEE	8/26/2019	PARA	1
6983	DREW E MORSE	LEE	9/1/2019	FF/PARAMEDIC	1
6984	LINSEY K WILLIAMS	LEE	8/26/2019	PARA	1
6985	LEAH R SCHWAB	LEE	8/28/2019	KITCHEN	1
6986	TERESA I CULPEPPER-RYSZ	FLORIDA	8/26/2019	PARA	1
6988	SUMMER A DALEY	CBRS	9/5/2019	PARA	1
6989	ALEXIS M NASON	MGRSD	9/13/2019	PARA	1
6990	AMANDA J EVANGELISTO	MGRSD	9/13/2019	PARA	1
6991	JACQULYN E SCHULTZ	SBRSD	8/26/2019	1:1 ESP	1
6993	LAUREN N SINOPOLI	BCRHA	9/26/2019	COORDINATOR	1
6994	JENNIFER A DECHAIINE	MGRSD	9/13/2019	PARA	1
6995	KENNETH E TURN	MGRSD	9/13/2019	PARA	1
6996	ASHLEY A VADNAIS	MGRSD	9/27/2019	ADMIN ASST	1
6997	JUSTIN M BONA	Gt Barrington	8/1/2019	FIREMAN	1

Voted to approve new members as presented.

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RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE APPROVALS:

16.) The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Katherine Meunier, CBRSD, as of 6/30/19. Annual pension amount is \$15,825.36.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Paul Mahoney, Lenox, as of 6/17/19. Annual pension amount is \$18,756.84.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Gary Wellington, Lee, as of 6/25/19. Annual pension amount is \$55,990.80.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Deborah Ball, Gt Barrington, as of 3/15/19. Annual pension amount is \$37,639.44.

The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Raymond Tarjick, CBRSD, as of 05/12/19. Annual pension amount is \$26,660.76.

Voted to note the record.

3(8)c REIMBURSEMENTS:

17.) 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 North Adams Retirement Board \$137.32 a year toward the retirement allowance of Ann Louise Perry.

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 North Adams Retirement Board \$18,267.47 a year toward the retirement allowance of Mary Hackner.

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 \$1459.18 a year toward the retirement allowance of Jennifer Miller. **Recalculation**

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 \$3939.18 a year toward the retirement allowance of Karen Lehtinen. **Recalculation**

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 \$733.09 a year toward the retirement allowance of Michelle Peters. **Recalculation**

PERAC CORRESPONDENCE:

18.) The Board is in receipt of the approved funding schedule for FY20.

Voted to note the record.

TRAVEL & EDUCATION APPROVALS:

19.) The Board approved the travel expense for 3 staff and 1 board member to attend the MIIA injured on duty law presentation November 13, 2019, in Northampton, MA.

Voted to approve travel as requested.

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20.) The Board approved the travel expense for 1 board member and 2 staff to attend the MACRS Conference, October 1 and 2, 2019 in Springfield, MA.

Voted to approve travel as requested.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

a.) CRAB Notice of Appeal for James Salice

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 9:00am.

Voted to adjourn at 10:05am.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Sheila LaBarbera, Executive Director

APPROVED BY:



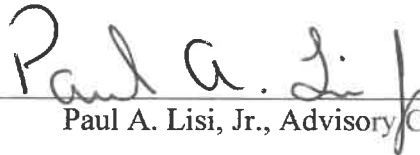
Michael Ovitt, Chairman



Mark Bashara, Elected Member



Karen Williams, Elected Member



Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Council Member

Gerald Doyle, Jr., Appointed Member