

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
June 27, 2018

The meeting of the Berkshire County Retirement Board was called to order at 8:00 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, 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. No comments.

MINUTES:

1.) The Board minutes of the meeting held May 30, 2018, were signed and approved.

Voted to approve the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

2.) The Board conducted a hearing for the application of accidental disability benefits for Owen Buck, Town of Savoy. In attendance for the disability hearing: Christopher Connolly Hearing officer representing the Berkshire County Retirement Board, Attorney Leonard Cohen, representing Owen Buck, Ann Connell-Smith, representing Owen Buck and Owen Buck applicant. The hearing was recorded and transcribed by Heather Davis, copies of the transcription will be available in 2-3 weeks. The Hearing began promptly at 8:00am. Attorney Cohen made a presentation of behalf of his client, Mr. Buck participated in the presentation answering questions regarding his work injury and current physical limitations. The Board members had several questions for Mr. Buck regarding his injury and work status with the Town of Savoy. The hearing concluded at 8:35am. With the conclusion of the hearing Mr. Buck and his attorneys left the meeting and the transcription ended.

The Board deliberated the issues regarding Mr. Bucks physical limitations and his inability to perform the essential functions of his job and determined he could not go back to work for the highway department in Savoy.

Paul Lisi Jr made a motion to approve the application for disability benefits for Owen Buck, second Karen Williams. Unanimous.

Voted to approve the application for accidental disability benefits.

INVESTMENTS:

3.) The Board received from PRIT a statement of performance for May 2018. The PRIT Fund returned .31% for the month of May.

The Board received the CFA Society Boston article announcing that Michael Trotsky has been elected to serve on the Board's Executive Committee.

Voted to note the record.

The Board received the email from Paul Todisco Senior Client officer PRIM, announcing that PRIT had made the top1000funds, and there is an email link to read the entire article.

The Board was notified that the Berkshire County Retirement system would begin the process of monthly redemptions from the PRIT fund beginning July 2, 2018. The monthly redemption amount is \$300,000.

Voted to note the record.

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BANK STATEMENTS:

4.) The Board received the bank statements for May 2018. The Board is also in receipt of the budget for June 2018.

Note: copies of cash books for May 2018 were emailed to each Board member prior to the meeting.

Voted to note the record.

MONTHLY WARRANTS:

5.) The Board approved payment vouchers:

06-01-18	\$7164.96
06-02-18	\$19183.19
06-03-18	\$13268.96
06-04-18	\$3688.10

Voted to approve payments as presented.

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT:

6.) The Board approved the application for superannuation retirement from James Olmsted, Egremont, Water Dept. The retirement will be effective August 15, 2018.

Voted to approve the retirements as presented.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE BUYBACK:

7.) There are no requests for service buybacks in the month of June.

MEMBER TRANSFERS OUT OF SYSTEM:

8.) There are no requests for transfers in the month of June.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:

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

6805	JANE LABRASCA	BHRSD	5/7/2018	PARA	1
6806	DARLENE M McCAULEY	LENOX	5/21/2018	Asst Dir Comm Ctr	1
6807	AMANDA M McLAUGHLIN	LENOX	5/21/2018	Youth SVC Coord	1
6808	THOMAS J DEAN	OTIS	4/30/2018	HWY LABORER	1
6809	PAUL C POLSON	LANESBORO	4/23/2018	DPW	1
6810	MAXIMILIAN KOLB	EGREMONT	5/22/2018	POLICE OFFICER	4
6811	WILLIAM A DROSEHN	SAVOY	6/4/2018	ASST HWY SUPT	1
6813	LISA E FARLEY	DALTON	5/29/2018	ADMIN ASST	1

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)

Kendra Parkinson	CBRS	\$875.64
Deborah Pires	Lee	\$2212.74
Mary Austin-King	Mt. Washington	\$4076.58

Ms. King's refund of deductions results from an inactive account transferred from Teacher's Retirement with a membership deduction rate of 7%.

Voted to approve refunds as presented.

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INJURY REPORTS:

11.) There are no injuries reported in the month of June.

RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE APPROVALS:

12.) The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Fern Sann, Williamstown as of March 28, 2018. Annual pension amount is \$18114.96.

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 \$6199.89 a year toward the retirement allowance of Margaret Muskrat.

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 Montague Retirement Board \$3841.40 a year toward the retirement allowance of Francis Abbondanzio.

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 \$1629.57 a year toward the retirement allowance of Francine Groener.

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 Pittsfield Retirement Board \$779.28 a year toward the retirement allowance of Michael Harrington.

Voted to note the record.

TRAVEL & EDUCATION APPROVALS:

14.) There are no travel requests for the month of June.

PERAC CORRESPONDENCE:

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

#18/2018 Vernava : Compliance with PERAC memos

#19/2018 Tobacco Company List

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

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

- a.) Copy of a joint pre hearing memorandum for R. Prevey. Attorney Christopher Connolly updated the Board on the status of the appeal, Mr. Prevey has admitted he worked in excess of 960 hrs., but his case claims he never went over the earning limits so he is not responsible to pay back. It may be years before case is before DALA for a hearing.
- b.) MIIA participation credits for FY18.
- c.) There are no written letters of interest for the surplus property offered to the participating towns/districts of the Berkshire County Retirement System. Paul Lisi Jr. made a motion to dispose of the surplus equipment one Hp Printer and one Bizhub copier, second by Gerald Doyle Jr. Unanimous. A letter will be sent to MacFarlane Office indicating these items have been scrapped.

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OLD BUSINESS:

16.) Review a proposal from PTG to add Pension Pro Employer Reporting Module. The Board will review the advantages and costs of implementing this system. Update on the demo session at MACRS. Karen Williams stated that they spent about 2 hours on a demonstration of the module with PTG personnel and suggested we have them come out to a board meeting for a demonstration so all of the Board members could review the module. She indicated her payroll provider is not currently on the list of supported payroll systems but that PTG was looking into setting them up.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

17.) Salary – to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel.

A motion was made by Paul Lisi, Jr to enter into executive session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel. Second by Mark Bashara

A roll call vote was taken to enter into executive session:

Record of Vote:	Motion	Second	Yea	Nay	Abs
Michael Ovitt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mark Bashara	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paul A. Lisi, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Karen Williams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gerald Doyle, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Board voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 9:21am.

One vote was taken.

The Board closed the executive session and voted to return to the regular order of business at 9:41am.

Voted to adjourn regular meeting at 9:41am.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 9:00am

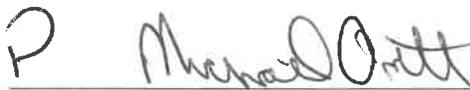
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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Sheila LaBarbera, Executive Director

APPROVED BY:

P 

Michael Ovitt, Chairman



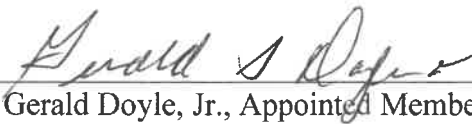
Mark Bashara, Elected Member



Karen Williams, Elected Member

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Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Council Member



Gerald Doyle, Jr., Appointed Member