

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
November 22, 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, Karen Williams, Elected Member and Gerald Doyle Jr., Appointed Member. Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Board Member, participated by phone.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

MINUTES:

1.) The Board minutes of the meeting held October 30, 2019, were signed and approved.
Voted to approve the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

2.) The Board discussed the implementation of the new Personnel Policy and Appendix Policy for the Berkshire County Retirement Board and staff. The Board will review the policy for any questions or concerns and then meet with legal counsel in January to review and implement the new policies.

Voted to note the record.

3.) The Board was notified that the application for accidental disability benefits for Michael Wigglesworth has been incomplete since November 4, 2018. Mr. Wigglesworth's application has been withdrawn from consideration because it lacked a physician's statement and after a year the application was considered stale. Mr. Wigglesworth and his attorney were notified of the withdrawal and that if they wish to reapply for accidental disability benefits they are required to submit a new application.

Voted to withdraw the application from PERAC.

INVESTMENTS:

4.) The Board received from PRIT a statement of performance for October 2019. The PRIT Fund returned 1.39% for the month of October.

Voted to note the record.

BANK STATEMENTS:

5.) The Board received the bank statements for Oct 2019 and the budget for Nov 2019.

Voted to note the record.

MONTHLY WARRANTS:

6.) The Board approved payment vouchers:

10-06-19	\$1,645.48
11-01-19	\$32.92
11-02-19	\$6,564.28
11-03-19	\$40,571.23
11-04-19	\$518.24
11-05-19	\$20,575.96

Voted to approve payments as presented.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
November 22, 2019

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT:

7.) There were no requests for retirement in the month of November. The Board also asked that we remind Treasurer's to do their best to return wage verifications quickly to ensure a reasonable processing time for a retirement calculation.

Voted to note the record.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE BUYBACK:

8.) Steve Abellie, a member in BCRHA, is eligible to buy back 3 years of prior creditable service. If Mr. Abellie pays \$11,192.70 into the annuity savings fund by December 31, 2019, the Board will grant 3 years of creditable service.

Karen Miller, a member in Lenox, is eligible to buy back 8 months of prior creditable service. If Ms. Miller pays \$1,924.61, into the annuity savings fund by December 31, 2019, the Board will grant 8 months of creditable service.

Rebecca Davis, a member of the State Retirement System, is eligible to buy back 25 days of prior creditable service. If Ms. Davis pays the prescribed amount into the State Retirement System, the Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 25 days of creditable service.

**The Berkshire County Retirement Board will not accept any liability for a request by Ms. Davis for a buyback of service from 7/1/2009 thru 08/21/2009, because Ms. Davis was a member of the Teacher's Retirement System during that time.*

Voted to approve service buybacks as presented.

MEMBER TRANSFERS OUT OF SYSTEM:

9.) The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Gordon Bailey, a member in Lee to the State Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 10 years and 4 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$6,961.17.

The Board approved the notice of transfer of the account of Douglas Costa, a member in Egremont to the Hampden County Retirement Board. The Berkshire County Retirement Board will accept liability for 2 months of creditable service. The amount of the transfer is \$6,917.17.

Voted to approve transfers 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)

Anthony Blair	Becket	\$5,833.76
Graham Coterwas	Egremont	\$19,710.68
Liliana Arteaga-Tucker	BHRSD	\$584.65
Jimmy Van Zandt	Becket	\$563.80

Deductions in error:

Leslie Durfee	Lee	\$6.48
Zachary Cochrane-Handerek	Richmond	\$26.44

Voted to approve refunds as presented.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
November 22, 2019

INJURY REPORTS:

11.) There were no injuries reported in the month of November.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:

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

6940	BRADLEY LUPIANI	GT Barrington	3/3/2019	POLICE OFFICER	4
7019	COREY L ROBERTS	FARMINGTON	9/12/2019	LONG TERM SUB	1
7021	KIRSTEN A HENSHAW	WINDSOR	10/6/2019	TREAS/COLLECTOR	1
7022	SUSAN A BARKIN	BHRSD	10/22/2019	PARA	1
7028	CHRISTOPHER A ISNER	BECKET	9/24/2019	OPERATOR/LABOR	1
7029	KRISTEN J McNEICE	CLARKSBURG	1/9/2019	Behavior Intern	1
7030	CATHERINE B MARCEAU	CLARKSBURG	9/23/2019	PRESCHOOL	1
7031	ROBERT W HORNER III	BHRSD	10/24/2019	TECH & IT	1
7032	NATALIA ROMANO-GEHLOT	CLARKSBURG	11/4/2019	COOK	1
7033	CAITLIN M GRANT	CLARKSBURG	11/11/2019	PHYS THERP ASST	1
7034	LANE W HUGHES	DALTON	11/21/2019	B&G ASST	1
7035	JODI L BURATTO	LEE	10/28/2019	PARA	1
7036	DION M HALL	RICHMOND	11/20/2019	CUSTODIAN	1
6335	STEVE J ABELLIE	BCRHA	11/4/2019	SVC COORD	1
7037	SHANNON L RUANE	SBRSD	11/7/2019	SECRETARY	1

Voted to approve new members as presented.

RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE APPROVALS:

13.) The Board received approval from PERAC to grant a retirement allowance to Patrick Boyne, Lee Housing Authority, as of 08/16/19. Annual pension amount is \$23,881.20.

Voted to note the record.

3(8)c REIMBURSEMENTS:

14.) There are no 3(8)c requests for the month of November.

PERAC CORRESPONDENCE:

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

#24/2019 Appropriation Data due 10/31/19

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

16.) The Board was notified that we may have to terminate a survivor's benefit because the child was adopted. We will know more when documentation has been received and we will proceed accordingly.

Voted to note the record.

TRAVEL & EDUCATION APPROVALS:

17.) There are no travel requests for the month of December.

Berkshire County Retirement Board Meeting
November 22, 2019

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

- a.) The Berkshire County Retirement Advisory Council meeting re-elected Mark Bashara to another 3-year term beginning January 1, 2020. Letters were sent to PERAC and the MA Retirees Association notifying them of Mr. Bashara's re-election.
- b.) Copy of the PEARC pension news November 2019.
- c.) Copies of the 111F training notes were given to each of the Board members and staff.

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

Voted to adjourn at 9:45am.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Sheila LaBarbera, Executive Director


APPROVED BY:



Michael Ovitt, Chairman

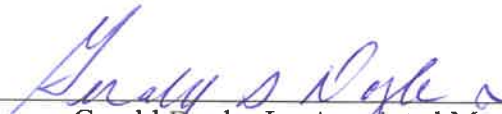


Mark Bashara, Elected Member



Karen Williams, Elected Member

Paul A. Lisi, Jr., Advisory Council Member



Gerald Doyle, Jr., Appointed Member