

**HAMPDEN COUNTY REGIONAL  
RETIREMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
February 1, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hampden County Regional Retirement Board took place at the Agawam Corporate Center, 67 Hunt Street, Suite 116, Agawam, Massachusetts. The meeting was conducted in person at the Retirement Board office. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

**THOSE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Karl J. Schmaelzle, Chairman/Treasurer present in office  
Robert Taylor, Member – present in office  
Patrick E. O’Neil, Member – present in office  
Michelle L. Hill, Member – present via zoom  
Thomas Sullivan Member– present in office

**BOARD STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Atty. Edward Pikula – Co-Counsel present in office  
Karen Martin, Executive Director present in office  
Erica LeCours, Assistant Director present in office

Also present was Tom Shea

1. **MINUTES:** Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve and sign the regular board meeting minutes from the January 11, 2023, board meeting. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

2. **WARRANTS:** Mr. Sullivan made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued January 31, 2023. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

#1 Salary 1-4 includes overtime pay		\$ 23,984.14
#2 Board Member's Compensation		\$ 2,833.33
#3 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems		\$ -
#4 Monthly Expenses		\$ 25,777.71
#5 A Monthly Retirement Allowances		\$ 4,258,388.50

3. **BALANCES:** The Board members reviewed copies of the checking & savings account statements from Peoples Bank that were provided in their packets along with reconciled records for the checking account. Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the account balances. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill - Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

<b>BALANCES: 12/30/2022</b>		
<b>PEOPLES BANK: - Vote to accept non-reconciled balances for Dec 2022</b>		
Money market Account Bal as of December 30, 2022		\$ 1,330,234.20
Checking Account as of December 30, 2022		\$ 2,770,579.67

4. **TRANSFER:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the transfer on warrants for January 31, 2023. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill - Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Sullivan, - Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

A.	Needed for warrants:	\$ 4,310,983.68
B.	<u>Transfer for warrants: 01/30/2023</u>	\$ 4,300,000.00
	From Peoples Bank Money Market Account to	
	Peoples Bank Checking Account	

5. **NEW ALLOWANCES:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the new retirement allowances. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

#### **SUPERANNUATION -**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>TOWN</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>
STELLATO, Peter	Agawam	11/12/2022
GRAHAM, Darlene	Ludlow	11/11/2022
NORTH, Deborah	Palmer	11/10/2022
SAWYER, Bruce	Wilbraham	11/24/2022

6. **APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT:** Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the new retirement applications. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Unit</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Group</u></b>	<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Service</u></b>
PEREIRA, Fred	Ludlow	3/28/2023	1	69-01	39-00

7. **INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS:** The board reviewed the December 31, 2022, statement provided by the PRIT fund cash account and general allocation account as provided in the monthly packet each board member received prior to this meeting.

8. **PRIT FUND TRANSFER:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to vote to affirm the transfer from PRIT to Money Market for \$2,500,000.00 to cover retiree payroll and expenses for the month of February 2023. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

9. **NOTICES OF INJURY:** There were no notices of injury for the board to review.

10. **NEW MEMBERS:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to approve and file the new members. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil- Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

<u>Unit/Name</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
<b>EAST LONGMEADOW</b>		
BELISLE, Sarah	1	8/5/2021
BORECKI, Danielle	1	8/27/2021
COOK, Danielle	1	8/27/2021
COVIELLO, Emerald	1	11/29/2022
DONAIS, Jessica	1	8/27/2021
DRISCOLL, Liam	1	12/14/2022
KELLY, Samantha	1	8/27/2021
KUKAHIKO, Amy	1	11/2/2022
RAMOS, Elsie	1	11/1/2022
WILLIAMS, Patrice	1	8/26/2022
<b>HAMPDEN/WILBRAHAM</b>		
BAIRD, Karen	1	12/15/2022
DONALDSON, Robert	1	12/12/2022
SPEARS, Anesa	1	12/12/2022
<b>LONGMEADOW</b>		
MAREK, David	1	12/12/2022
WINCH, Tabatha	1	12/5/2022
<b>LUDLOW</b>		
FORSYTHE, Jaime	1	12/12/2022
<b>PALMER</b>		
GEROW, Joseph	1	12/5/2022
OTTOMANIELLO, Marlene	1	12/13/2022
<b>PATHFINDER</b>		
FIGUEROA, Lourdes	1	11/14/2022
GREGOIRE, Tyler	1	12/20/2022

11. **EXPENSE BREAKDOWN**–Mr. Sullivan made a motion to review and approve the 2023 budget breakdown. Mr. O'Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

12. EXPENSE BREAKDOWN-Mr. Sullivan made a motion to change the date from 2023 to 2022 for the item that was tabled at the January 11, 2023 board meeting. Mr. O'Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill- Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

13. DIRECTORS REPORT – Ms. Martin reviewed the monthly directors report which the board members received in their monthly packets prior to the meeting.

14. REINSTATEMENT – Mr. O'Neil made a motion to vote to accept the 2 (two) retiree applications received for reinstatement to service pursuant to G.L. c. 32, §105. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

15. COLA INCREASE- Mr. Taylor made a motion to discuss and vote on an additional 2% COLA increase for retirees. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

16. TRIAL BALANCE –There was no trial balance to review this month.

17. HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS – There were no comments made this month.

18. PERAC MEMOS –The board reviewed and filed PERAC memos #1-7.

19. OLD BUSINESS – No old business was discussed.

20. NEW BUSINESS – No new business was discussed.

21. LEGAL UPDATE – Attorney Pikula gave a legal update. CRAB APPEAL: Parties are waiting for a decision. DALA APPEALS: Parties are waiting for dates.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 AM. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes- and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

*Karl J. Schmaelzle*  
*Bob E. O'Neil*  
*Tom Sullivan*