

HAMPDEN COUNTY REGIONAL
RETIREMENT BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING
June 14, 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 10:00 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 – absent
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

1. **MINUTES:** Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve and sign the regular board meeting minutes from the May 3, 2023, board meeting. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

2. **WARRANTS:** Mr. O’Neil made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued May 31, 2023. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

#21 Salary 1-4 includes overtime pay	\$ 26,685.98
#22 Board Member's Compensation	\$ 2,833.33
#23 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems	\$ 426,438.85
#24 Monthly Expenses and 3(8)(c) Pmts	\$ 52,423.01
#25 A Monthly Retirement Allowances	\$ 4,346,989.39

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. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill - Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

BALANCES: 5/31/2023

PEOPLES BANK: - Vote to accept non-reconciled balances May 31, 2023

Money market Account Bal as of May 31, 2023	\$ 1,990,123.04
Checking Account as of May 31, 2023	\$ 570,780.37

4. TRANSFER: Mr. Sullivan made a motion to reaffirm the transfer on warrants for May 31, 2023. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill - Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Sullivan, - Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

A.	Needed for warrants:	\$ 4,855,370.56
B.	<u>Transfer for warrants: 5/31/2023</u>	\$ 4,952,450.00
	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 and to correct the retirement allowance for Sarah Leavy from Superannuation to Accidental Disability. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 4-1.

SUPERANNUATION -

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Brisbois-Cross Pamela	Agawam	3/24/2023
Thompson, Debra	East Long	3/31/2023
Ely, Todd	Hampden	3/23/2023
Costa, Michelle	Ludlow	3/31/2023
Leacock, Sandra	Ludlow	3/31/2023
Pereira, Fred	Ludlow	3/28/2023
Camilleri, Scott	Palmer	4/30/2023
Williams, Scott	Palmer	4/7/2023

ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Leavy, Sarah	Agawam	2/13/2023

6. APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT: Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the new retirement applications. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes, and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 4-1.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Service</u>
O’Connell, Lynn	Agawam	6/22/2023	1	59-06	16-11
Rush, Susan	Agawam	6/20/2023	1	65-00	13-07
Sadowski, Peter	Agawam	7/28/2023	1	61-04	26-11
Davis, Louise	East Longmeadow	8/27/2023	1	63-00	10-11
Joy, Debra	Hamp/Wilb	6/30/2023	1	64-08	23-00
Kern, Linda	Hamp/Wilb	6/30/2023	1	64-03	30-07
Chaplin, Pamela	Longmeadow	7/3/2023	4	54-01	30-05
Crafts, Lauren	Longmeadow	5/15/2023	1	66-11	14-08

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Service</u>
Hedges, Laura	Longmeadow	6/12/2023	1	65-00	11-00
Macsata, Gerald	Longmeadow	5/26/2023	4	59-06	32-10
Bertini, Michael	Ludlow	6/30/2023	1	72-08	18-10
Cheria, Donna	Ludlow	6/17/2023	1	63-01	24-04
Burke, Sandra	Palmer	5/1/2023	1	66-03	21-08

7. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS: The board reviewed the April 30, 2023, 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. Sullivan made a motion to vote to affirm the transfer from PRIT to Money Market for \$4,000,000.00 to cover retiree payroll and expenses for the month of May 2023. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 4-1.

9. NOTICES OF INJURY: Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the Notices of Injury reports. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Injury Date</u>
Senecal, Justin	Wilbraham	Fire	4/19/2023

10. NEW MEMBERS: Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve and file the new members. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil- Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

AGAWAM

IRELAND, Liam	1	5/8/2023
SMITH, Amanda	1	4/3/2023

EAST LONGMEADOW

CAPRILLE, Lauren	4	5/15/2023
LOFTUS, Daniel	4	4/24/2023
QUINN, Kristopher	1	5/1/2023

GRANVILLE

WINSLOW, Patrick	4	4/17/2023
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LONGMEADOW

CATALDO, Maria	1	5/1/2023
DOMNARSKI, Candice	1	3/21/2023
FRODEMA, Dennis	1	5/2/2023
GOODHUE, Daniel	4	4/16/2023
LEE, Michael	1	5/15/2023
WETMORE, Keith	1	4/25/2023
WILENSKY, George	1	4/3/2023

MONSON

BARAL, Cynthia	1	4/24/2023
PROVOST, Jacob	1	5/15/2023

PALMER

BEDORE, Brandon	4	5/22/2022
FOSTER, Joshua	1	4/10/2023
HAMELIN, Karlee	1	5/1/2023
HERMANSON, Sarah	1	8/16/2021

PATHFINDER

PYTEL, Jennifer	1	4/3/2023
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SOUTHWICK

MORGAN, Bonnie	1	3/8/2023
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SOUTHWICK/TOLLAND

PETTIT, Melissa	1	5/15/2023
SEAMAN, Adam	1	5/15/2023

WESTCOMM

CENTER, Bailey	1	3/22/2023
GATES, Cassandra	1	3/16/2023
GITAH, Shalyne	1	3/16/2023
ROBERT, Andrew	1	4/28/2023
SASEN, Colin	1	4/28/2023

11. EXPENSE BREAKDOWN—Board reviewed and filed the expense breakdown.

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

13. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT –Mr. O’Neil made a motion to reaffirm and approve the after-closing financial reports for the month of December 2022. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaeizle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

14. ANNUAL STATEMENT – Mr. O’Neil made a motion to reaffirm and approve the 2022 Annual Statement. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

15. TRIAL BALANCE – Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the trial balance from January and February 2023. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

16. JOAN CLARK – Mr. O’Neil made a motion to appoint Attorney Pikula as the hearing officer for Joan Clark’s Accidental Disability Application. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

17. HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS- Chairman Schmaelzle reviewed PERAC memo # 13 with the board. Chairman Schmaelzle and Executive Director Martin attended a town hall meeting for the Town of Southwick on Monday June 12, 2023, to explain the additional 2% COLA increase that was approved by the state. There was no vote taken by the Select Board at this meeting. The Select Board will make their decision at the June 26, 2023, meeting.

The Retirement Board will have a special meeting, if necessary, on June 27, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m. to discuss the towns who voted to deny or grant the additional 2% COLA increase.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to take item # 22 Accidental Disability out of order. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

22. ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY – Attorney Pikula recommended the board adopt the findings from the medical panel for Ordinary Disability benefits submitted by Christine Coutu. Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the findings of the medical panel for Ordinary Disability for Christine Coutu. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill – Absent; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Sullivan – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

18. PERAC MEMOS -The board reviewed and filed PERAC memo # 13 during the Hampden County Retirement Board Comments section of the meeting.

19. OLD BUSINESS – No old business was discussed.

20. NEW BUSINESS – No new business was discussed.

21. LEGAL UPDATE – Attorney Pikula gave an update on Attorney ViVenzio who is doing much better.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. O'Neil made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 AM. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Hill - Absent; Mr. O'Neil - Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Sullivan- Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 3-2.

Tom Sullivan
Pat E. O'Neil
Mr. Taylor
Karl J. Schmaelzle