

**HAMPDEN COUNTY REGIONAL
RETIREMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
September 6, 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 10:01 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 in office
Thomas Sullivan Member- present in office

BOARD STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

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

Also present at the meeting: Tom Shea

1. **MINUTES:** Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve and sign the regular board meeting minutes from the August 2, 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. O’Neil made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued August 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.

#36 Salary 1-5		\$	23,203.44
#37 Board Member's Compensation		\$	2,833.33
#38 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems		\$	136,045.18
#39 Monthly Expenses		\$	1,131,165.05
#40 A Monthly Retirement Allowances		\$	4,447,702.84

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. Sullivan made a motion to approve the account balances for May and June 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.

BALANCES: 7/31/2023			
PEOPLES BANK: - Vote to accept reconciled balances for May and June 2023			
Money market Account Bal as of July 31, 2023		\$	41,838,447.54
Checking Account as of July 31, 2023		\$	864,239.55

4. **TRANSFER:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the transfer on warrants for August 31, 2023. 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.

A.	Needed for warrants:	\$ 5,740,949.84
B.	Transfer for warrants: 8/31/2023	\$ 5,737,700.00
	From Peoples Bank Money Market Account to	
	Peoples Bank Checking Account	

5. **NEW ALLOWANCES:** Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the new retirement Allowances. Ms. Hill 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 -		
NAME	TOWN	DATE
O'Connell, Lyn	Agawam	6/22/2023
Rush, Susan	Agawam	6/20/2023
Bak, Christine	Hamp/Wilb	6/30/2023
Joy, Debra	Hamp/Wilb	6/30/2023
Kern, Linda	Hamp/Wilb	6/30/2023
Hedges, Laura	Longmeadow	6/12/2023
Bertini, Michael	Ludlow	6/30/2023
Cheria, Donna	Ludlow	6/17/2023
Minie, Cindy Rae	Ludlow	5/12/2023
Frenette, Judith	Southwick/Tolland	6/30/2023

6. **APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT:** Ms. Hill made a motion to approve the new retirement applications. 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.

Name	Unit	Date	Group	Age	Service
Berthiaume, Pauline	Agawam	9/29/2023	1	69-03	37-02
Drane, Karen	Agawam	8/11/2023	1	64-01	12 yrs 11 mo
Zouridakis, Jill	Agawam	8/31/2023	1	65-08	22-11
Roberts, Douglas	Granville	8/9/2023	1	64-00	24-07
McKay, Lee	Hampden/Wilb	9/2/2023	1	72-02	15-00
Downie, Judy	Longmeadow	8/29/2023	1	67-00	22-01
Boman, Deborah	Monson	8/18/2023	1	56-03	12 yrs 11 mo
Lord, Keriann	Monson	8/17/2023	1	63-00	26-03
Naughton, Frances	Monson	8/18/2023	1	76-10	22-09
Fox, Russell	Southwick	5/16/2023	1	67-01	26-09

7. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS: The board reviewed the July 31, 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 Peoples Money Market account to PRIT Fund for investment in Board's General Allocation Account. 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.

9. NOTICES OF INJURY: Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the Notices of Injury reports. 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.

10. NEW MEMBERS: Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve and file the new members. 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.

<u>Unit/Name</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
AGAWAM		
PASSERINI, Niko	1	8/14/2023
EAST LONGMEADOW		
MUZZY, Mary	1	8/21/2023
LONGMEADOW		
BLAKESLEY, Kristen	1	8/23/2023
CAPELLAN, Luis	1	8/21/2023
MARIANO, Patricia	1	8/17/2023
PALMATIER, Victoria	1	8/28/2023
LUDLOW		
FIORINI, Brandon	1	6/26/2023
MAININI, Mark	4	7/3/2023
MONTGOMERY		
CARNEVALE, Renee	1	7/11/2023
PALMER		
CARNEY, Rachael	1	7/24/2023
LAROSE, Michelle	1	4/24/2023
SOUTHWICK		
SMOLEN, Elizabeth	1	7/17/2023
TOLLAND		
DRABEK, Charles	1	8/21/2023
WILBRAHAM		
	4	7/24/2023

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. TRIAL BALANCE—Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the trial balance from May and June 2023. 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.
14. MACRS CONFERENCE -Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the Board Members and Staff to attend the MACRS conference from October 1-4, 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; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.
15. BOARD MEETING DATE- Mr. Taylor made a motion to change the October 4, 2023, board meeting to October 5, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m. due to the MACRS conference. 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.
16. BRUCE SAWYER- Ms. Hill made a motion to appoint Attorney Pikula as the hearing officer for Bruce Sawyer’s Accidental Disability Application. 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.
17. PERAC AUDIT FOLLOW-UP – The board reviewed and filed the PERAC letter for the period of January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2020.
18. HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS – Chairman Schmaelzle talked about the Emerging Issues Conference to be held on September 21, 2023.
19. PERAC MEMOS – The Board reviewed and filed PERAC memo # 18.
20. OLD BUSINESS – No old business was discussed.
21. NEW BUSINESS – No new business was discussed.
22. LEGAL UPDATE – Attorney Pikula gave an update on new case law that will have complicated outcomes for some Accidental Disability cases. Attorney Pikula will prepare a memo to explain and then discuss in Executive Session.
23. ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY – Attorney Pikula recommended the board make a motion to accept the Accidental Disability application submitted by Benjamin Sanchez Jr. and to convene a medical panel. Mr. O’Neil made the motion and Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 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.
24. ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY – The board reviewed the PERAC letter remanding the Accidental Disability Application for John P. Labrecque.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 a.m. Ms. Hill 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.

Karl J. Schmaelzle

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