



**CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA  
ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING – FIRE/POLICE  
JULY 29, 2024**

A meeting of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards of Mesa, Arizona, was held in the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, July 29, 2024 at 11:11 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF PRESENT
Dee Ann Mickelsen, Chair* Chris Brady, City Manager Kurt Castaneda (Fire) Chris Fifield (Fire) Marc Heirshberg (Deputy City Manager) Nick Lien (Police) Ryan A. Russell (Police) Jenny Sheppard (Citizen Member)	None	Holly Moseley, City Clerk
		OTHERS PRESENT
		Joseph Adams (Applicant) Nicole Fazzio Yolanda Fierros Melissa Green Nitra Hawkins Cynthia Kelley* Michael Lee (Applicant) Teri Overbey Nate Peterson Crystal Parks Marie Reece Christopher Riemersma (Applicant) Tina Rogers Travis Steelman (Applicant)

(\*Participated telephonically.)

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed new Boardmembers, Chris Fifield, Marc Heirshberg, and Nick Lien to the Local Board.

1. Approval of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of June 20, 2024.

It was moved by Boardmember Brady, seconded by Boardmember Castaneda, that the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of June 20, 2024 be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Castaneda-Mickelsen-Russell  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - None  
ABSTAIN - Fifield-Heirshberg-Lien

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those voting.

**FIRE PENSION BOARD**

**2. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Firefighter Michael Lee.**

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Firefighter Michael Lee to the meeting. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Mr. Lee's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to additional medical records provided to the Local Board.

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Brady, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant, Firefighter Michael Lee, be sent for an Independent Medical Evaluation with all relevant records and written testimony of Mr. Lee's statements made during the June 2024 Local Board meeting of his willingness to return to work.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Mickelsen  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - None

Carried unanimously.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Fire Pension Board adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

**POLICE PENSION BOARD**

**3. Certification of full-time Law Enforcement Officers pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 38-842.24(A), 38-842.27, 38-842.31 and 38-847(D)1.**

Subsequent to a review of all medical reports, Local Boardmembers requested the record reflect that applicants Christiann Biscayart, Scott Dermer, Aidan Giordano, Rylan Gomez, Randall Gray, Maximus Pearce, Caleb Sander, Dominic Wilson, and Grace Young have pre-existing medical conditions.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that Law Enforcement applicants Christiann Biscayart, Scott Dermer, Aidan Giordano, Rylan Gomez, Randall Gray, Maximus Pearce, Caleb Sander, Dominic Wilson, and Grace Young be certified subject to the pre-existing medical conditions as noted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen-Russell  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - None

Carried unanimously.

(The Local Police Pension Board recessed at 11:32 a.m. in order to convene an Executive Session and reconvened the meeting at 11:42 a.m.)

4. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Sergeant Joseph Adams.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Police Sergeant Joseph Adams to the meeting. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Sergeant Adams' pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to Dr. Patterson's IME report, which indicated with the records provided, Sergeant Adams should be able to return to work. Dr. Patterson also advised that an MRI would be helpful to make a final determination in the form of an addendum to the IME.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Sergeant Joseph Adams be tabled for 90 days to allow Sergeant Adams to obtain an MRI, staff to provide the MRI to Dr. Patterson, and Dr. Patterson to provide an addendum to the IME report.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen-Russell  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - None

Carried unanimously.

5. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Christopher Riemersma.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Police Officer Christopher Riemersma to the meeting. She stated that the Local Board has reviewed the IME of Dr. Doug Clouse. She encouraged the members to discuss and pose any questions they may have regarding the IME report.

Boardmembers advised that the IME report indicates that Officer Riemersma does suffer from the claimed disability, that his condition permanently prevents him from performing a reasonable range of duties of a Police Officer, that his condition was incurred while performing his duties as a Police Officer, that there are no pre-existing conditions that contributed to the claimed disability, and there are no conflicts in medical evidence.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Christopher Riemersma be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen-Russell  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - None

Carried unanimously.

Boardmembers thanked Officer Riemersma for his service to the City.

6. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Travis Steelman.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Police Officer Travis Steelman to the meeting. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Steelman's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application, which was previously tabled for 90 days to allow more records to be submitted for Local Board review.

Discussion ensued relative to additional records submitted to the Local Board, including an IME performed by Dr. Baillie for Worker's Compensation, which indicated that Officer Steelman's condition is considered permanent and stationary.

Boardmember Russell advised that he feels comfortable sending Officer Steelman for an IME with supplemental questions addressing both a pre-existing degenerative condition and weight, as both are listed in his medical records as possible contributing factors to his condition.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant, Police Officer Travis Steelman, be sent for an Independent Medical Evaluation with supplemental questions.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen-Russell  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - None

Carried unanimously.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Police Pension Board adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Police Pension Board meeting of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 29th day of July 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK