

**CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA  
ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING – FIRE/POLICE  
APRIL 17, 2025**

A meeting of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Board of Mesa, Arizona, was held in Conference Room 170 W, 20 E. Main Street, 1st Floor, April 17, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dee Ann Mickelsen, Chair  
Kurt Castaneda (Fire)  
Chris Fifield (Fire)  
Marc Heirshberg (Citizen Member)  
Nick Lien  
Ryan A. Russell

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Chris Brady, City Manager

**STAFF PRESENT**

Holly Moseley, City Clerk  
Steven Aguilar, Deputy City Clerk  
Vera Warhurst, Sr. Program Asst.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Kathryn Baillie  
Eric Brunyer (Applicant)  
Melissa Green  
Laura Henson (Applicant)  
Emily Nichols  
Brett Oberly (Applicant)  
Crystal Parks  
Marie Reece  
Tina Rogers

Chairperson Mickelsen conducted a roll call.

Chairperson Mickelsen excused Chris Brady from the entire meeting.

1. Approval of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of February 20, 2025.

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of February 20, 2025, be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

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

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

At the request of Chairperson Mickelsen, the Local Police Pension Board convened prior to the Local Fire Pension Board, but for purposes of clarity items will remain as listed on the agenda.

## **FIRE PENSION BOARD**

Chairperson Mickelsen called to order the Local Fire Pension Board at 11:07 a.m.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire Pension Board meeting of March 25, 2025.**

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Fifield, that the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire Pension Board meeting of March 25, 2025, be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

(The Local Fire Pension Board recessed at 11:08 a.m. in order to convene an Executive Session and reconvened the meeting at 11:42 a.m.)

**3. Discuss and take action on the re-hire of retired PSPRS member Joshua Grandinetti to Civilian Paramedic.**

Chairperson Mickelson welcomed Human Resources Administrator Melissa Green and requested a summary from last month's meeting. Ms. Green noted that Joshua Grandinetti recently retired from Eloy Fire as a Fire Captain. He recently competed in an open, competitive recruitment process for the civilian, non-supervisory, non-PSPRS position of Civilian Paramedic.

Chairperson Mickelson encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Mr. Grandinetti's rehire.

Boardmember Castaneda noted reservations that Mr. Grandinetti was recently approved for an Accidental Disability Retirement related to a knee injury with Eloy Fire and the physical duties of a Civilian Paramedic are very similar to the documented job duties of a Firefighter with Eloy Fire, albeit the statutory requirements have been met.

Chairperson Mickelsen requested that Ms. Greene make Mr. Grandinetti aware of the potential conflicts in performing similar job duties and that his Accidental Disability Retirement with Eloy Fire may be at risk.

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Fifield, that the re-hire of retired PSPRS member Joshua Grandinetti, to Civilian Paramedic be approved as within statutory requirements.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Firefighter Eric Brunyer.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Firefighter Eric Brunyer to the meeting. She acknowledged the new medical information that was provided to the Board indicates permanent work restrictions. She encouraged the members to pose any questions that they may have regarding Mr. Brunyer's pending Accidental Disability Retirement Application.

It was moved by Boardmember Fifield, seconded by Boardmember Castaneda, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application for Firefighter Eric Brunyer, be sent for an independent medical evaluation.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Fire Engineer Brett Oberly.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Fire Engineer Brett Oberly and his attorney Kathryn Baillie to the meeting. She stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Mr. Oberly's new Accidental Disability Retirement application, and all records provided to the Board.

Chairperson Mickelsen mentioned that the Local Board had not received a timeline from the applicant that provides the sequence of events and specific calls that contributed to the diagnosis.

Ms. Baillie pointed out that a timeline of the incidents and calls was included as part of Mr. Oberly's medical record that was provided to the Board. She noted that additional incidents may be identified by the applicant as he continues treatment.

It was moved by Boardmember Fifield, seconded by Boardmember Castaneda, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application for Fire Engineer Brett Oberly be sent for an independent medical evaluation with the accidental disability questionnaire and supplemental questions to identify whether the diagnosis was created on-the-job or initiated from the applicant's history that came into the job with him.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Fire Pension Board adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

### **POLICE PENSION BOARD**

Chairperson Mickelsen called to order the Local Police Pension Board at 11:02 a.m.

**6. Approval of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Police Pension Board meeting of March 20, 2025.**

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that the minutes of the Public Safety Local Police Pension Board meeting of March 20, 2025, be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen-Russell

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

**7. Acknowledge receipt of PSPRS plan elections made by new hires.**

Receipt of PSPRS plan elections made by new hires was acknowledged. (**See attachment 1**)

**8. 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 records, Local Boardmembers requested the record reflect that the applicants Nathan Dunmire, Jacob Earle, Kelsey Helfrich, Brandon Herrera, Austin Krause, and Jeremy Stier have pre-existing medical conditions.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that Police applicants Nathan Dunmire, Jacob Earle, Kelsey Helfrich, Brandon Herrera, Austin Krause, and Jeremy Stier be certified subject to the pre-existing medical conditions as noted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen-Russell

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

**~~9. Conduct a hearing and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Jeffrey Covington.~~**

This item was withdrawn at the request of the applicant.

**10. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Sergeant Laura Henson.**

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

Discussion ensued relative to Sergeant Henson's injuries, subsequent treatments, and current condition.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application for Police Sergeant Laura Henson, be sent for an independent medical evaluation.

AYES – Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen-Russell

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Police Pension Board adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

11. Adjournment.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Board meeting of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025. 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

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