

**CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA  
ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
LOCAL FIRE AND POLICE PENSION BOARDS MEETING  
AUGUST 21, 2025**

A meeting of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Board of Mesa, Arizona, was held in Conference Room 170 West, 20 E. Main Street on August 21, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dee Ann Mickelsen, Chair  
Scott Butler, City Manager  
Kurt Castaneda (Fire)  
Chris Fifield (Fire)  
Marc Heirshberg (Citizen Member)  
Nick Lien (Police)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ryan A. Russell (Police)

**STAFF PRESENT**

Holly Moseley, City Clerk  
Vera Warhurst, Sr. Program Asst.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Cynthia Kelley  
Crystal Parks  
Carrie Pile  
Marie Reece  
Tina Rogers

Chairperson Mickelsen conducted a roll call.

Chairperson Mickelsen excused Boardmember Russell from the entire meeting.

Chairperson Mickelsen excused Boardmember Castaneda from the beginning of the meeting; he arrived at 11:01 a.m.

**1. Approval of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of July 17, 2025.**

It was moved by Boardmember Heirshberg, seconded by Boardmember Fifield, that the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of July 17, 2025, be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Fifield-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Castaneda-Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

**2. Discussion and possible action to amend the meeting date and time of the Local Fire and Police Pension Boards.**

Chairperson Mickelsen asked the Board if they had any questions or concerns about the proposed change. The consensus of the Board was that the proposed change would make meetings easier to attend.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Lien, that the Local Fire and Police Pension Boards adopt a new regular meeting schedule beginning in October, to be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m., except for a few notable exceptions due to holiday schedules.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT - Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

### **FIRE PENSION BOARD**

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

**3. Certification of full-time Firefighters pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 38-842.24(B), 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 applicants Nicolas Brady, Robert Celentano, Nathan Cookman, Megan Dietz, Matthew Dodt, Anthony Elzy, Nicholas Jean, Zane Lalama, Adrian Montano, Dennis Nelson, Elody Obitz, Anthony Odorisi, Daniel Oldham, Jordan Peloquin, Cole Reeder, Nathan Roth, Christopher Spade, Dustin Van Grouw, Zachary Wheeler, Brenden Woodhull, and Tristan Young have pre-existing medical conditions.

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Fifield, that Firefighter applicants Nicolas Brady, Robert Celentano, Nathan Cookman, Megan Dietz, Matthew Dodt, Anthony Elzy, Nicholas Jean, Zane Lalama, Adrian Montano, Dennis Nelson, Elody Obitz, Anthony Odorisi, Daniel Oldham, Jordan Peloquin, Cole Reeder, Nathan Roth, Christopher Spade, Dustin Van Grouw, Zachary Wheeler, Brenden Woodhull, and Tristan Young be certified subject to the pre-existing conditions as noted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

(The Local Fire and Police Board recessed at 11:04 a.m. in order to convene an Executive Session and reconvened the meeting at 11:15 a.m.)

**4. Discuss and consider awarding a Line of Duty Death benefit to Firefighter Mark Keller.**

Chairperson Mickelsen noted that the Board received Mark Keller's Certificate of Death and the medical examiner's report. She asked if there were any questions or concerns.

It was moved by Boardmember Fifield, seconded by Boardmember Castaneda, that the Line of Death Duty benefit to Firefighter Mark Keller be approved based on the nature of the call and his passing at the station upon his return from an emergency call, as well as the circumstances

around that event in line with the report from the Medical Examiner. He passed away while on duty at the fire station, and he was unable to respond to the subsequent emergency call. The Board considered the totality of circumstances when making this decision.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Castaneda-Fifield-Heirshberg-Mickelsen  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - None

Carried unanimously.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Fire Pension Board adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

### **POLICE PENSION BOARD**

Chairperson Mickelsen called to order the Local Police Pension Board at 11:17 a.m.

5. Acknowledge receipt of PSPRS plan elections made by new hires.

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

6. 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 Donavon Bailey, Nathan Bernhard, David Boon, John Brannan, Bradley Burton, Bryce Dehaan, Preston Dennard, Joel Espinoza, April Faris, Adriel Guzman-Rodriguez, Erica Hart, Xander Hemphill, Stanley Hendrix, Clarke Howell, Daniel James, Wyatt Koontz, Blake Lemus, Jack Leslie, Gabriel Micks, Gianni Mineccia, Natalie Mitchell, Tyler Mlazgar, Law Pezzelle, Jonnethen Sanders-Mitea, Joseph Scanlon, Garrick Timson, Nickolas Vazquez, Ricky Wampler, Kyle White, and Jenni Wiggins have pre-existing medical conditions.

It was moved by Boardmember Lien, seconded by Boardmember Butler, that Police applicants Donavon Bailey, Nathan Bernhard, David Boon, John Brannan, Bradley Burton, Bryce Dehaan, Preston Dennard, Joel Espinoza, April Faris, Adriel Guzman-Rodriguez, Erica Hart, Xander Hemphill, Stanley Hendrix, Clarke Howell, Daniel James, Wyatt Koontz, Blake Lemus, Jack Leslie, Gabriel Micks, Gianni Mineccia, Natalie Mitchell, Tyler Mlazgar, Law Pezzelle, Jonnethen Sanders-Mitea, Joseph Scanlon, Garrick Timson, Nickolas Vazquez, Ricky Wampler, Kyle White, and Jenni Wiggins be certified subject to the pre-existing medical conditions as noted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

7. Discuss and take action on the re-hire of PSPRS member Kenneth Cost to Assistant City Manager.

Human Resources Administrator Tina Rogers stated that Kenneth Cost retired as the City of Mesa Police Chief effective July 1, 2025, and competed in an open competitive recruitment process for the civilian, non-PSPRS position of Assistant City Manager.

It was moved by Boardmember Lien, seconded by Boardmember Heirshberg, that the re-hire of retired PSPRS member Kenneth Cost to Assistant City Manager with an effective date to be after September 1, 2025, be approved as within the statutory requirements and that no alternate contribution will need to be paid.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

8. Discuss and take action on the re-hire of PSPRS member Jason Flam to Public Safety Homeless Solutions Liaison.

Human Resources Administrator Tina Rogers reported that Jason Flam retired as a City of Mesa Police Officer effective February 1, 2024, and competed in an open competitive recruitment process for the civilian, non-PSPRS position of Public Safety Homeless Solutions Liaison.

It was moved by Boardmember Lien, seconded by Boardmember Heirshberg, that the re-hire of retired PSPRS member Jason Flam to Public Safety Homeless Solutions Liaison, with an effective date to be determined, be approved as within the statutory requirements and that no alternate contribution will need to be paid.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

9. Discuss and take action on the re-hire of PSPRS member John White to Police Investigator III – Financial Crimes Unit.

Human Resources Administrator Tina Rogers stated that John White retired as a Supervisory Special Agent from the Arizona Attorney General's Office effective March 29, 2024, and competed in an open competitive recruitment process for the civilian, non-PSPRS position of Police Investigator III in the Financial Crimes Unit.

It was moved by Boardmember Lien, seconded by Boardmember Heirshberg, that the re-hire of retired PSPRS member John White to Police Investigator III in the Financial Crimes Unit, with

an effective date to be determined, be approved as within the statutory requirements and that no alternate contribution will need to be paid.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Butler-Heirshberg-Lien-Mickelsen

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

10. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Fire and Police Pension Boards adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

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 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 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

vw  
(Attachment – 1)

\*Those highlighted elected to participate exclusively in DC Plan. Employer needs to ensure that in their contribution uploads they include the applicable Disability and Subsidy contributions \*

[illegible]

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[illegible]