



**CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA
ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING – FIRE/POLICE
FEBRUARY 23, 2022**

A meeting of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards of Mesa, Arizona, was held in the City Clerk's Conference Room, Suite 150, 20 E. Main Street, February 23, 2022 at 9:33 a.m.

The meeting was conducted via a virtual format.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Raines, Chairman*
Chris Brady, City Manager*
Kurt Castaneda (Fire)*
Stephen Lentz (Police)*
Ryan A. Russell (Police)*
Jenny Sheppard (Citizen Member)*
David Silides (Fire)*

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Holly Moseley, City Clerk*
Ann Marie Fantasia, Sr. Program Asst.*
Vanessa Wisneski, Sr. Program Asst.*

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayra Arauyo*
Ryan Gallagher (Applicant)*
Travis Gribble (Applicant)*
Nitra Hawkins*
Frank Hermosillo (Applicant)*
Natalie Kurdoughlian*
Jose Montenegro (Applicant)*
David Niederdeppe*
Teri Overbey*
Nathan Peterson*
Erin Pierce*
Tina Rogers*
Kari Savage (Applicant)*
Christy Trevino*
Christopher Williams (Applicant)*

(* Participated in the meeting via a virtual format.)

Chairman Raines excused Boardmember Russell from the beginning of the meeting. He arrived at 9:35 a.m.

Chairman Raines excused Boardmember Brady from the remainder of the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

1. Approval of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of January 20, 2022.

It was moved by Boardmember Sheppard, seconded by Boardmember Castaneda, that the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of January 20, 2022 be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Castaneda-Lentz-Sheppard-Silides

NAYS – None

ABSENT - Russell

ABSTAIN – Raines

Chairman Raines declared the motion carried unanimously by those present and voting.

2. Discuss status of Model Procedures.

Local Board Attorney David Niederdeppe advised the Local Board of changes to PSPRS Model Local Board Procedures. He stated that the Mesa Local Board appears to meet the requirements regarding how and when applicants awarded with a disability benefit exit the workforce. He suggested certain language be added to Local Board meeting agendas regarding the Local Board's authority and that supplemental information be added to explain the Mesa Local Board's process for additional psychological testing and interviews performed by a psychologist during the Independent Medical Evaluation (IME) process for mental conditions.

FIRE PENSION BOARD

3. Acknowledge the termination of the pension benefit of deceased member Tim Reed, effective 12/23/2021.

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Silides, that the termination of the pension benefit of deceased member Tim Reed, effective 12/23/2021, be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Castaneda-Raines-Sheppard-Silides

NAYS – None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Fire Pension Board adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

POLICE PENSION BOARD

4. 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 Cory Lindholm, William Masten, and Alex Redner have pre-existing medical conditions.

It was moved by Boardmember Lentz, seconded by Boardmember Russell, that Law Enforcement applicants Cory Lindholm, William Masten, and Alex Redner be certified subject to the pre-existing medical conditions as noted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Raines-Russell-Sheppard
NAYS – None
ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

5. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Ryan Gallagher.

Chairman Raines welcomed Police Officer Ryan Gallagher to the meeting. He stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Officer Gallagher's application and medical records. He encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Gallagher's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to Officer Harris' injury and subsequent treatments.

Chairman Raines indicated that in view of the absence of questions from the Board, he would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant Police Officer Ryan Gallagher be sent for Independent Medical Evaluations.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Raines-Russell-Sheppard
NAYS – None
ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

(The Local Police Pension Board recessed at 9:59 a.m. in order to convene an Executive Session and reconvened the Public Safety Local Police Pension Board meeting at 10:12 a.m.)

6. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Sergeant Travis Gribble.

Chairman Raines welcomed Police Sergeant Travis Gribble to the meeting. He encouraged Boardmembers to pose any questions they may have regarding Sergeant Gribble's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Boardmember Russell advised Sergeant Gribble that the Local Board has reviewed the IME reports of Lisa Jones, M.D. and Glenn Clouse, Psy. D. He indicated that while Dr. Jones and Dr. Clouse disagree with each other regarding whether the condition totally and permanently prevents Sergeant Gribble from performing a reasonable range of duties, the Local Board must rely on Dr. Jones' evaluation to be in accordance with statute requirements. He noted that Dr. Jones is in agreement with the findings of Sergeant Gribble's attending physician, that Sergeant Gribble's condition was incurred in the performance of his duty, that his condition totally and permanently prevents him from performing a reasonable range of duties within his job classification, and that any conflicts in the medical evidence have been resolved by the Local Board.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Sergeant Travis Gribble be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Raines-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

Chairman Raines thanked Sergeant Gribble for his service to the City.

7. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Frank Hermosillo.

Chairman Raines welcomed Police Officer Frank Hermosillo to the meeting. He stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Officer Hermosillo's application and medical records. He encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Hermosillo's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to Officer Hermosillo's injury and subsequent treatments.

Boardmember Russell noted that Officer Hermosillo was terminated from the City of Mesa for unexcused absences and violation of code of conduct. He added that there was no documentation provided to the Board of any incident causing his condition which could prove that his condition is work related. He advised Officer Hermosillo that his application is lacking information that may allow the Board to move forward with his application for Accidental Disability Retirement.

Chairman Raines indicated that in view of the absence of questions from the Board, he would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Frank Hermosillo be denied.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Raines-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

8. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Jose Montenegro.

Chairman Raines welcomed Police Officer Jose Montenegro to the meeting. He stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Officer Montenegro's application and medical records. He encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Montenegro's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to Officer Montenegro's injury and subsequent treatments.

Chairman Raines indicated that in view of the absence of questions from the Board, he would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Lentz, seconded by Boardmember Russell, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant Police Officer Jose Montenegro be sent for an Independent Medical Evaluation.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Raines-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

9. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Kari Savage.

Chairman Raines welcomed Police Officer Kari Savage to the meeting. He stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Officer Savage's application and medical records. He encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Savage's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to Officer Savage's injury and subsequent treatments.

Chairman Raines indicated that in view of the absence of questions from the Board, he would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant Police Officer Kari Savage be sent for an Independent Medical Evaluation.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Lentz-Raines-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairman Raines declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

10. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Christopher Williams.

Chairman Raines welcomed Police Officer Christopher Williams to the meeting. He encouraged Boardmembers to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Williams' pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Boardmember Russell advised Officer Williams that the Local Board has reviewed the IME reports of Lisa Jones, M.D. and Glenn Clouse, Psy. D. He indicated that while Dr. Jones and Dr. Clouse disagree with each other regarding whether the condition totally and permanently prevents Officer Williams from performing a reasonable range of duties, the Local Board must rely on Dr. Jones's evaluation to be in accordance with statute requirements. He noted that Dr. Jones is in agreement with the findings of Officer Williams' attending physician, that Officer Williams' condition was incurred in the performance of his duty, that his condition totally and permanently prevents him from performing a reasonable range of duties within his job classification, and that any conflicts in the medical evidence have been resolved by the Local Board.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Lentz-Raines-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Brady

Chairman Raines declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

Chairman Raines thanked Officer Williams for his service to the City.

11. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Police Pension Board adjourned at 10:39 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 Boards meeting of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 23rd day of February 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

VW