



**CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA
ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING – FIRE/POLICE
OCTOBER 20, 2022**

A meeting of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards of Mesa, Arizona, was held in Conference Room 170, 20 E. Main Street, 1st Floor, October 20, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dee Ann Mickelsen, Chairperson
Chris Brady, City Manager
Kurt Castaneda (Fire)
Stephen Lentz (Police)
Jenny Sheppard (Citizen Member)
David Silides (Fire)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ryan A. Russell (Police)

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayra Araujo
Will Biascochea
Eric Butler (Applicant)
Marisa Butler
Nicole Fazzio
Scott Figgins
Nitra Hawkins
Chris Hayes
Dave Hicks
Cynthia Kelley
Teri Overbey
Scott Peloquin (Applicant)
Erin Pierce
Jane Rainey (Applicant)
Tina Rogers
Donald Rudd (Applicant)
Danna Taylor (Applicant)
Richard Taylor
Christy Trevino

1. Approval of the minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire and Police Pension Boards meeting of September 15, 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 September 15, 2022 be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Castaneda-Lentz-Mickelsen-Sheppard-Silides

NAYS - None

ABSENT - Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Discuss updated PSPRS Request for Retirement Estimate & Application form.

Chairperson Mickelsen indicated that the PSPRS Request for Retirement Estimate & Application form has been updated to include a selection for request type, a required employer signature, and verbiage stating dates to participate in DROP are irrevocable once the form is signed by the member and employer.

Senior Program Assistant Vanessa Wisneski asked the Local Board if there were any objections to either the Local Board Secretary or herself signing off as the employer. After hearing no objections, she thanked the Local Board.

3. Discuss employer approvals and denials for DROP extensions.

Boardmember Brady stated that all questions regarding approval or denial of DROP extensions should be directed to Human Resources.

(The Local Fire Pension Board recessed at 11:06 a.m. in order to convene an Executive Session and reconvened the meeting at 11:24 a.m.)

(The Local Police Pension Board recessed at 11:25 a.m. in order to convene an Executive Session and reconvened the meeting at 11:34 a.m.)

FIRE PENSION BOARD

4. Discuss and take action on the Ordinary Disability Retirement application of Firefighter Blu Caton.

Chairperson Mickelsen indicated that Firefighter Blu Caton was absent from the meeting. She stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed the IME report and clarification from Dr. Jody Reiser. She encouraged Boardmembers to pose any questions they may have regarding Mr. Caton's pending Ordinary Disability Retirement application.

Boardmember Castaneda advised that Dr. Reiser was asked by the Local Board to explain to what extent the pre-membership injury contributed to his current disability. He stated that her response indicated that due to there being no further history or imaging related to the pre-membership injury, she cannot determine whether the pre-membership injury was the absolute cause of his current disability. He added that due to there being no proof that Mr. Caton's pre-membership injury contributed to his current disability, the Local Board considers this conflict resolved.

Chairperson Mickelsen stated that with all conflict resolved by the Local Board, she would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Silides, that the Ordinary Disability Retirement application of Firefighter Blu Caton be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Castaneda-Mickelsen-Sheppard-Silides

NAYS - None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

5. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Fire Captain Scott Peloquin.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Fire Captain Scott Peloquin to the meeting. She stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Mr. Peloquin's application and medical records. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Mr. Peloquin's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Chairperson Mickelsen indicated that in view of the absence of questions from the Board, she would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Silides, seconded by Boardmember Castaneda, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant, Fire Captain Scott Peloquin, be sent for an Independent Medical Evaluation.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Castaneda-Mickelsen-Sheppard-Silides

NAYS - None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

6. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Firefighter Danna Taylor.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Firefighter Danna Taylor to the meeting. She stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Ms. Taylor's application and medical records. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Ms. Taylor's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

In response to questions posed by Boardmember Castaneda, Ms. Taylor stated that she does receive a disability benefit from the military for several injuries; however, she believes she does not receive any monetary benefit for the specific injury listed in her Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Boardmember Castaneda advised Ms. Taylor that by state statute the Local Board cannot approve a disability benefit for a military injury. He stated that the Local Board will need proof of what injuries her military disability benefit covers in order to move forward with the process. He also indicated that her medical records do not state permanence at this time and advised Ms. Taylor that she could choose to apply for a Temporary Disability Retirement while the permanence of her injury is undetermined.

Chairperson Mickelsen indicated that in view of the absence of further questions from the Board, she would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Castaneda, seconded by Boardmember Silides, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Firefighter Danna Taylor be continued until documentation of her military disability benefit is provided to the Local Board.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Castaneda-Mickelsen-Sheppard-Silides

NAYS - None

ABSENT – None

Carried unanimously.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Fire Pension Board adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

POLICE PENSION BOARD

7. 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 Albert Bustamante, Cade Harrop, Landon Lawson, Morgan Leon, Sonia Nevis, Sean Pelletier, Jonathan Salgado, Freya Schalla, Hallie Searles, and Ethan Young have pre-existing medical conditions.

It was moved by Boardmember Lentz, seconded by Boardmember Sheppard, that Law Enforcement applicants Albert Bustamante, Cade Harrop, Landon Lawson, Morgan Leon, Sonia Nevis, Sean Pelletier, Jonathan Salgado, Freya Schalla, Hallie Searles, and Ethan Young be certified subject to the pre-existing medical conditions as noted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brady-Lentz-Mickelsen-Sheppard

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

8. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Eric Butler.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Police Officer Eric Butler to the meeting. She stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Officer Butler's updated medical records. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Butler's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Boardmember Lentz thanked Officer Butler for returning with a diagnosis from a medical doctor for the claimed disability.

Chairperson Mickelsen indicated that in view of the absence of further questions from the Board, she would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Lentz, seconded by Boardmember Brady, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant, Police Officer Eric Butler, be sent for Independent Medical Evaluations.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Mickelsen-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

9. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Jane Rainey.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Police Officer Jane Rainey to the meeting. She stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Officer Rainey's application and medical records. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Officer Rainey's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to Officer Rainey's injuries, subsequent treatments, and current condition.

Chairperson Mickelsen indicated that in view of the absence of further questions from the Board, she would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Lentz, seconded by Boardmember Brady, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant, Police Officer Jane Rainey, be sent for Independent Medical Evaluations.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Mickelsen-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

10. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Lieutenant Donald Rudd.

Chairperson Mickelsen welcomed Police Lieutenant Donald Rudd to the meeting. She stated that the members of the Local Board have reviewed Lieutenant Rudd's application and medical records. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding Lieutenant Rudd's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Discussion ensued relative to Lieutenant Rudd's injuries, subsequent treatments, and current condition.

Chairperson Mickelsen indicated that in view of the absence of further questions from the Board, she would entertain a motion relative to this case.

It was moved by Boardmember Lentz, seconded by Boardmember Brady, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant, Police Lieutenant, be sent for an Independent Medical Evaluation.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Brady-Lentz-Mickelsen-Sheppard

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Russell

Chairperson Mickelsen declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

11. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Police Pension Board adjourned at 12:06 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 20th day of October 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

VW