



**CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA
ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING – POLICE
NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

A meeting of the Public Safety Local Police Pension Board of Mesa, Arizona, was held in Conference Room 170, 20 E. Main Street, 1st Floor, November 16, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dee Ann Mickelsen, Chair*
Stephen Lentz (Police)*
Ryan A. Russell (Police)
Jenny Sheppard (Citizen Member)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chris Brady, City Manager

STAFF PRESENT

Holly Moseley, City Clerk
Vanessa Liristis, Sr. Program Asst.

OTHERS PRESENT

Melissa Green
Nitra Hawkins
Tori Kace
Cynthia Kelley
Kenneth Kratzer
Alicia Martinez
Pantaleon Martinez (Applicant)
Gregory McClellan (Applicant)
Teri Overbey
Crystal Parks

(*Participated telephonically.)

Acting Chairperson Sheppard excused Boardmember Brady from the meeting.

POLICE PENSION BOARD

1. 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 Samuel Curl, Francisco Franco, Tyler Johnson, Christian LaSanska, Alexander Mount, Ethan Parker, Nicholas Quihuis, Nicolas Stelle, Anthony Szeneri, and Kimball Williams have pre-existing medical conditions.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that Law Enforcement applicants Samuel Curl, Francisco Franco, Tyler Johnson, Christian LaSanska, Alexander Mount, Ethan Parker, Nicholas Quihuis, Nicolas Stelle, Anthony Szeneri, and Kimball Williams be certified subject to the pre-existing medical conditions as noted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Lentz-Mickelsen-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Acting Chairperson Sheppard declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Discuss and take action on the rehire of retired PSPRS member Cory Hultz to Real Time Crime Center Operator.

Human Resources Director Teri Overbey stated that Cory Hultz retired effective 03/01/2023 and recently competed in an open, competitive recruitment process for the civilian, non-supervisory, non-PSPRS position of Real Time Crime Center Operator.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that the rehire of retired PSPRS member Cory Hultz to Real Time Crime Center Operator, effective 12/11/2023, be approved as within the statutory requirements and that no alternate contribution will need to be paid.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Lentz-Mickelsen-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Acting Chairperson Sheppard declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

(The Local Police Pension Board recessed at 11:03 a.m. in order to convene an Executive Session and reconvened the meeting at 11:24 a.m.)

3. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Jeffrey Covington.

Acting Chairperson Sheppard advised the Local Board that Police Officer Jeffrey Covington is not in attendance. She encouraged Boardmembers to discuss Officer Covington's pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Boardmember Russell advised that the documentation provided to the Local Board lacks a medical doctor diagnosis and does not state Officer Covington's condition is permanent and stationary. He added that he does not believe the documentation is sufficient for the Local Board to send Officer Covington for an Independent Medical Evaluation (IME) at this time.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Jeffrey Covington be continued to allow additional documentation to be submitted to the Local Board.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Lentz-Mickelsen-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Acting Chairperson Sheppard declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of retired Police Officer Kevin Gillis.

Acting Chairperson Sheppard advised the Local Board that retired Police Lieutenant Kevin Gillis is not in attendance. She encouraged Boardmembers to discuss Lieutenant Gillis' pending Accidental Disability Retirement application.

Boardmember Russell stated that he spoke with Lieutenant Gillis previously about his injury, treatment timeline, and his current condition. He added that the documentation provided to the Local Board is conflicting as some documents state permanent and stationary while others list no work restrictions. He suggested that the Local Board physician could resolve any conflict while making a medical determination during an IME.

It was moved by Boardmember Russell, seconded by Boardmember Lentz, that Accidental Disability Retirement applicant, retired Police Lieutenant Kevin Gillis, be sent for an independent medical evaluation.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Lentz-Mickelsen-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Acting Chairperson Sheppard declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Pantaleon Martinez.

Acting Chairperson Sheppard welcomed Police Officer Pantaleon Martinez to the meeting. She stated that the Local Board has reviewed the IME of Dr. Stewart. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding the IME report.

Boardmember Russell indicated that Dr. Stewart is in agreement with the findings of Officer Martinez's attending physician, that Officer Martinez's condition was incurred in the performance of his duty, and that his condition totally and permanently prevents him from performing a reasonable range of duties within his job classification. He added that there was one conflict in the IME questionnaire, which was Dr. Stewart's response of yes to question five which asks: During your examination of all medical evidence, did you discover any pre-existing conditions or injuries that contributed to the claimed disability? He stated that Dr. Stewart was asked the supplemental question: To what extent did the daily wear and tear of being a patrol officer from 2009-present exacerbate Officer Martinez's previous ACL surgery from 1999 resulting in the current condition? He advised that due to Dr. Stewart's response, that it is more probable than not

that the physical activity associated with being a Police Officer played a significant role in the development of Officer Martinez's present condition, any conflict is considered resolved by the Local Board.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Lentz-Mickelsen-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Acting Chairperson Sheppard declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

6. Discuss and take action on the Accidental Disability Retirement application of Police Officer Gregory McClellan.

Acting Chairperson Sheppard welcomed Police Officer Gregory McClellan to the meeting. She stated that the Local Board has reviewed the IME of Dr. Makarawo. She encouraged the members to pose any questions they may have regarding the IME report.

Boardmember Russell indicated that Dr. Makarawo is in agreement with the findings of Officer McClellan's attending physician, that Officer McClellan's condition was incurred in the performance of his duty, and that his condition totally and permanently prevents him from performing a reasonable range of duties within his job classification. He advised that there was one conflict in the IME questionnaire that can be resolved by the Local Board using the IME report. He said that Dr. Makarawo responded yes to question five which asks: During your examination of all medical evidence, did you discover any pre-existing conditions or injuries that contributed to the claimed disability? He stated that the IME report indicates that although it is possible that non-work-related events contributed to the condition, the condition is primarily duty-related.

Boardmember Lentz agreed 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 Officer Gregory McClellan be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Lentz-Mickelsen-Russell-Sheppard

NAYS - None

ABSENT – Brady

Acting Chairperson Sheppard declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting of the Local Police Pension Board adjourned at 11:40 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 16th day of November 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK