

**ARIZONA FIRE & MEDICAL AUTHORITY
LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS / AFFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Board Chairman Gueltzow called the meeting to order on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Arizona Fire & Medical Authority Administrative Office, 18818 N. Spanish Garden Drive, Sun City West, Arizona. The meeting was held in person and telephonically.

Members Present: Board Chairman Karen Gueltzow, Board Members, Diane Price, Shawn Holcomb and Jared Randall (via teleconference).

Members Absent: Sharon Hettick

Staff Present: Assistant Chief Mary Dalton, Human Resources Director Shauna Fisher, Human Resources Specialist Yvonne Lopez.

Legal Counsel: None

Guests: None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Local Board Public Session Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2023.

Board Member Price moved that the Local Board approve the minutes of the Pension Board Meeting of May 25, 2023. Board Member Holcomb seconded the motion.

No further discussion. Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

AYES: Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price, Randall

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Hettick

B. Approve Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Local Board Public Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2023.

Board Member Holcomb moved that the Local Board approve the Executive Session

minutes of the Pension Board Meeting of May 25, 2023. Board Member Price seconded the motion.

No further discussion. Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

AYES: Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price, Randall
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Hettick

4. CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARIES AND REPORTS

- A. Secretary updates – reports any updates, actions, confirmations, or correspondences in which the board should be aware.

The Board Secretary stated for the record, notification of meeting was given within the required time to Dryk Welty, Robert Corcoran, Joseph Hester via email, First Class Mail, and certified mail.

- B. Buckeye Valley Fire District JPA updates – reports any updates, actions, confirmations, or correspondences in which the board should be aware regarding BVFD.

No updates to report.

5. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. Discuss Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Annual Actuarial Report to include Buckeye Valley Fire District.

Board Member Price moved that the Local Board approve the minutes of the Pension Board Meeting of May 25, 2023. Board Member Holcomb seconded the motion.

No further discussion. Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

AYES: Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price, Randall
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Hettick

- B. Enter into record and discuss, the list of participating PSPRS employee membership as of July 1, 2023.

Board Member Randall moved to approve the list of participating PSPRS employee membership as of July 1, 2023. Board Member Holcomb seconded.

No further discussion. Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

AYES: Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price, Randall
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Hettick

- C. Discussion regarding annual review of previously accepted accidental disability recipients pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-844€

Board members request to defer this item to seek legal advice.

- D. Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of the review of medical examination and the acceptance of one (1) new firefighter (recruit) with a preexisting condition: Garcia, Andres from Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Firefighter into the PSPRS pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859.

Board Member Randall moved that the Local Board accept one (1) new firefighter (recruit) with a preexisting condition: Garcia, Andres from Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Firefighter into the PSPRS pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859. Board Member Holcomb seconded the motion.

No further discussion. Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

AYES: Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price, Randall
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Hettick

- E. Discussion and possible action pertaining to the rehire of City of Glendale retiree, Joseph Hester.

Shauna Fisher, Human Resources Director stated that the Local Board is required to decide as to whether an alternate contribution rate (ACR) is payable to the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) when an employee (who has already retired from PSPRS) is rehired, and if that position is considered a public safety eligible position. She also provided an explanation to the Governing Board on the Arizona State Statutes that govern the ACR determination for rehired retirees.

In response to an inquiry, Ms. Fisher stated that individuals who have already retired from PSPRS and then choose to re-enter the workforce, are entitled to continue to collect their pension benefits from PSPRS (without change) and would be required to participate in a separate state pension system if determined that they qualify to do so. However, if they are rehired into a public safety eligible position, they would stop receiving their pension benefit while employed.

The Local Pension Board reviewed the following facts:

1. Joseph Hester originally retired July 31, 2020.
2. Joseph Hester did not originally retire from the Arizona Fire & Medical Authority but retired from the City of Glendale.
3. Joseph Hester was rehired by the Arizona Fire & Medical Authority on July 1, 2023.
4. There was not more than 12 months between the retirement date and the rehire date.
5. Joseph Hester was rehired into Assistant Chief position, which is different than his original position of Fire Captain.

The Local Pension Board reviewed the job description of the Assistant Chief position and found that this position is not considered a hazardous duty assignment, making it ineligible for membership in the PSPRS.

Board Member Randall moved that the Local Board approve the rehire of City of Tempe PSPRS retiree Joseph Hester into the Assistant Chief position, as non-hazardous position and therefore not eligible for the ACR. Board Member Price seconded the motion.

No further discussion. Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

AYES:	Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price, Randall
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Hettick

- F. Discussion pertaining to the PSPRS Board Elections and administer Oath of Office member elected candidate.

Board Member Holcomb moved to accept Chief Spencer Snyder as the newly elected PSPRS Board Member. Board Member Price Seconded.

No further discussion. Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

AYES:	Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price, Randall
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Hettick

Oath was administered to Chief Snyder.

6. POSSIBLE VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Discussion and Possible Action regarding annual review of previously accepted accidental disability recipients pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-844€

Board members request to defer this item to seek legal advice.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding acceptance of the review of medical examination and the acceptance of one (1) new firefighter (recruit) with a preexisting condition: Garcia, Andres from Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Firefighter into the PSPRS pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859.

7. RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

- A. Discussion and Possible Action regarding annual review of previously accepted accidental disability recipients pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-844€Discussion and Possible Action regarding annual review of previously accepted accidental disability recipients pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-844€

- B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding acceptance of the review of medical examination and the acceptance of one (1) new firefighter (recruit) with a preexisting condition: Garcia, Andres from Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Firefighter into the PSPRS pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859.

8. **SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR FUTURE PSPRS LOCAL BOARD MEETING AGENDAS**

- A. Overview of AFMA’s resiliency program.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Yvonne Lopez, Secretary

APPROVED