

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

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

MINUTES

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

Board Chairman Gueltzow called the meeting to order on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 9:00 a.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, Sharon Hettick (late arrival), Diane Price and Shawn Holcomb (via teleconference).

Members Absent: Jared Randall

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

Legal Counsel: Nicolas J. Cornelius, Esq. (via teleconference).

Guests: Andrew Craker and Dryk Welty, (via teleconference).

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 January 31, 2023.

Board Member Price moved that the Local Board approve the minutes of the Pension Board Meeting of January 31, 2023. Board Member Holcomb seconded the motion.

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

AYES: Gueltzow, Holcomb, Price,

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Hettick, Randall

B. Approve Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Local Board Public Executive Session Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2023.

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

minutes of the Pension Board Meeting of January 31, 2023. Board Member Price seconded the motion.

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

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

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 Andrew Craker, Tyler Clark, Dyrk Welty, Raymond Franco, Robert Corcoran 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.** Discussion and Possible Action regarding annual review of previously accepted accidental disability recipients pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-844€

Attorney Nicolas Cornelius advised the Board that it would be best to enter into executive session to discuss the documents provided by the recipients.

- 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: Clark, Tyler from Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Firefighter into the PSPRS pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859.

- C.** Discussion and Possible Action regarding personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1) pursuant to the PSPRS Decision letter results and Accidental Disability Application submitted by Andrew Craker.

Attorney Nicolas Cornelius advised the Board that it would be best to enter into executive session to address the concerns of PSPRS, discuss IME Dr. Parker’s supplement to his report and offer legal advice re the status of the recipient under the Arizona Revised Statutes and guidance received from the State Board of Trustees. .

- D.** Enter into record and discuss, the list of participating PSPRS employee membership as of March 5, 2023.

- E. Discussion and Possible action pertaining to the PSPRS Annual Actuarial Report.

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 Member Price moved that the Local Board move into executive session to review personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1); for review of records exempt from public inspection pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(2); and for legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3). Board Member Holcomb second.

Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

The Local Board convened in Executive Session at 9:38 a.m.

Dyrk Welty entered the Executive Session Meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Dyrk Welty exited the Executive Session Meeting at 9:57 a.m.

- 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: Clark, Tyler from Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Firefighter into the PSPRS pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859.

Board Secretary request that this item be removed from the agenda as the FF Recruit has been reassigned and will no longer participate in PSPRS enrollment.

- C. Discussion and legal advice regarding personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1); for review of records exempt from public inspection pursuant to the PSPRS Decision letter results; and Accidental Disability Application submitted by Andrew Craker.

Board Member Sharon Hettick entered the executive Session Meeting at 9:37 a. m.

Chief Mary Dalton and HR Director Shauna Fisher entered the Executive Session Meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Andrew Craker entered the Executive Session Meeting at 10:46 a.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 11:09 a.m., with all members present.

7. **RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION**

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

Board Member Holcomb moved that the local Board to request for an Independent Medical Examination and the board deem there is insufficient medical evidence presented and orders Independent Medical examination to be conducted for Mr. Dyrk Welty; Board Member Price seconded the motion.

Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Board Member Holcomb moved that the local Board to approve the continuation of Mr. Raymond Franco’s disability retirement and deem there is sufficient medical evidence presented from Mr. Franco. Board Member Price seconded the motion.

Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Board Member Holcomb moved that the local Board allow Mr. Robert Corcoran thirty (30) days to provide additional medical documentation to support the continuation of his disability retirement. Board Member Price seconded the motion.

Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

- B. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Accidental Disability Retirement Application submitted by Andrew Craker; Independent Medical Examination regarding same; possible decision on the Craker application for accidental disability; possible approval of Board Resolution related to same or instructions to legal counsel and/or staff related to same.

After careful consideration and legal advice, the board has determined that there was sufficient information in both the original medical notes and amended notes from IME Dr. Parker to determine Mr. Craker’s claim. Mr. Craker terminated his employment by reason

of his disability, but the preexisting condition was the basis of the claimed disability and Dr. Parker opined that the condition is not permanent but treatable. The Board therefore moves to deny the disability application of Mr. Andrew Craker.

Board Member Holcomb moved that the Local Board deny Mr. Craker’s application for ordinary disability retirement. Board Member Hettick Seconded.

Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

- 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: Clark, Tyler from Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to Firefighter into the PSPRS pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859.

Board Member Price moved to remove item from the agenda due to reassignment. Board member Holcomb seconded the motion.

Vote conducted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

8. SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR FUTURE PSPRS LOCAL BOARD MEETING AGENDAS

- A. Overview of AFMA’s resiliency program.
- B. Approval of revised actuarial valuation
- C. Merging of BVFD PSPRS Board

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Yvonne Lopez, Secretary