

**HAMPDEN COUNTY REGIONAL
RETIREMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
January 8, 2025**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hampden County Regional Retirement Board took place at the Agawam Corporate Center, 67 Hunt Street, Suite 202, Agawam, Massachusetts. The meeting was conducted in person at the Retirement Board office. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.

THOSE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Karl J. Schmaelzle, Chairman/Treasurer present in office
Robert Taylor, Member – present in office
Patrick E. O’Neil, Member – present in office
Dawn M. Fonte, Member – present in office
Steven Castelli Member – present in office

BOARD STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Atty. Alfredo ViVenzio -present in office
Karen Martin, Executive Director-present in office
Erica LeCours, Assistant Director - present in office

1. **MINUTES:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve and sign the regular board meeting minutes from the December 4, 2024, board meeting. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Abstained; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

2. **WARRANTS:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued December 31, 2024. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Abstained; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

#56 Salary 1-4					\$ 27,885.13
#57 Board Member's Compensation					\$ 2,583.33
#58 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems					\$ 236,881.38
#59 Monthly Expenses					\$ 50,996.99
#60 A Monthly Retirement Allowances					\$ 4,741,016.09

3. **BALANCES:** The Board members reviewed copies of the checking & savings account statements from Peoples Bank that were provided in their packets along with reconciled records for the checking account. Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the account balances for November 29, 2024. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte - Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Castelli – Abstained; and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

PEOPLES BANK: - Vote to accept the reconciled Checking Acct for Nov 29, 2024		
Money market Account Bal as of Nov 29, 2024		\$ 3,483,153.48
Checking Account Bal as of Nov 29, 2024		\$ 987,519.43

4. **TRANSFER:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to reaffirm the transfer of the warrants for December 31, 2024. Mr. O'Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte - Yes; Mr. O'Neil - Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Castelli - Abstained; and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

A.	Needed for warrants:	\$ 5,059,362.92
B.	Transfer for warrants: 12/31/2024	\$ 5,050,000.00
	From Peoples Bank Money Market Account to	
	Peoples Bank Checking Account	

5. **NEW ALLOWANCES:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to reaffirm the new retirement allowances. Ms. Fonte seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte - Yes; Mr. O'Neil - Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Castelli - Abstained; and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes; Motion approved 4-1.

NAME	TOWN	DATE OF RETIREMENT
MacCannell, Deborah	Agawam	11/19/2024
Martin, Wendy	Longmeadow	11/15/2024
Dearborn, John	Longmeadow	11/22/2024
Ouimette, Janice	Ludlow	Resubmit 12/16/2022
Pereira, Maria Georgina	Ludlow	10/27/2024
Siciliano, Lori	Monson	Resubmit 01/24/2022
Russo, Deborah	Palmer	11/8/2024

6. **APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to approve the new retirement applications. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte - Yes; Mr. O'Neil - Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Castelli - Abstained; and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes; Motion approved 4-1.

Name	Unit	Date of Retirement	Group	Age	Service
LaFrance, Robert J.	Agawam	2/14/2025	4	60-07	31-11
Goncalves, Maria A.	Agawam	1/31/2025	1	66-11	22-05
Blews, Leonard F.	Agawam	1/10/2025	1	67-00	19-06
Doyle, Kent	Ludlow	2/1/2025	4	55-02	31-02

7. **INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS:** The board reviewed statements provided by the PRIT fund cash account and general allocation account as provided in the monthly packet each board member received prior to this meeting.

8. **PRIT FUND TRANSFER:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to vote to reaffirm the transfer from PRIT to Peoples Money Market account for \$2,500,000.00. Ms. Fonte seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte - Yes; Mr. O'Neil - Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Mr. Castelli - Abstained and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes; Motion approved 4-1.

9. NOTICES OF INJURY: Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the Notices of Injury reports. Mr. O'Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Injury Date</u>
Caldwell, Alex	East Long	DPW	11/6/2024
Ryan, Daniel	Wilbraham	Police	12/10/2024

10. NEW MEMBERS: Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve and file the new members. Mr. O'Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O'Neil- Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

<u>Unit/Name</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
<u>AGAWAM</u>		
Anderson, Mark	1	11/4/2024
Bistany, Kristin	1	9/5/2024
Boyle, Gianna	1	9/5/2024
Farwell, Joseph	1	10/21/2024
Gizli, Meliha	1	11/4/2024
Mantis, Justin	1	10/28/2024
Robare, Eugene	1	10/21/2024
<u>EAST LONGMEADOW</u>		
Corl, Edward	1	9/12/2024
Lafortune, Patrick	1	11/12/2024
Normand, Chelsea	1	9/9/2024
Orta, Jorge	1	9/3/2024
Rawson, Candace	1	9/9/2024
Swienton, Enid	1	9/3/2024
Vazquez, Priscilla	1	9/3/2024
<u>GRANVILLE</u>		
Short, Timothy	1	9/30/2024
<u>HAMPDEN</u>		
Soares, Alexander	1	9/23/2024

Unit/Name	Group	Start Date
HAMPDEN/WILBRAHAM		
Abelin, Daniel	1	10/25/2024
Corsi, Jennifer	1	10/9/2024
Lape, Sharlene	1	11/4/2024
LONGMEADOW		
Alicea, Adam	1	11/6/2024
Batiz-Santiago, Heriberto	1	11/4/2024
Hall, Terron	1	9/25/2024
O'Connor, Heather	1	9/9/2024
Pignataro, Jonathan	1	9/9/2024
Santinello, Scott	1	9/16/2024
Stebbins, Beth	1	9/9/2024
Tavernier, Alexia	1	9/24/2024
Torrey, Alan	1	10/28/2024
Yarmowicz, Sean	1	10/15/2024
Winans, Mackenzie	1	9/10/2024
LUDLOW		
Barr, Mickey	1	11/4/2024
Charest, Nicholas	1	9/16/2024
Dantas, Lucas	4	7/8/2024
Dube, Luigina	1	11/4/2024
Kirkland, Stephanie	1	8/7/2024
MONSON		
Sheldon, Allison	4	9/30/2024
PATHFINDER		
Brousseau, Joshua	1	10/21/2024
Mallett, Sabrina	1	10/23/2024
Wright, Sonia	1	8/29/2024
PALMER		
Charette, Shauna	1	11/4/2024
Ladin, Jessica	1	10/7/2024
SOUTHWICK		
Noel, Julia	4	10/9/2024
SOUTHWICK/TOLLAND		
Wilson, Kimberly	1	10/15/2024
WILBRAHAM		
Mead, Branden	1	10/28/2024

11. **EXPENSE BREAKDOWN** – The Board reviewed and filed the expense breakdown.

12. **STAFF PAYROLL** – Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the weekly payrolls issued to the staff for January 2025. Mr. Castelli seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil- Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

13. **DIRECTORS REPORT** – Ms. Martin reviewed the monthly directors’ report which the board members received in their monthly packets prior to the meeting.

14. **TRIAL BALANCE** – Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the trial balance for November 29, 2024. Ms. Fonte seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil- Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Abstained; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

15. **PERAC MEMOS** – The Board reviewed and filed PERAC memos #31, 32, 33 and 34.

16. **HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS** – Chairman Schmaelzle and Mr. Taylor thanked the staff for their hard work.

17. **OLD BUSINESS** – No old business was discussed.

18. **NEW BUSINESS** – No old business was discussed.

19. **LEGAL UPDATE** – Attorney ViVenzio informed the board that he is waiting on the CRAB decision regarding the Carr appeal.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 A.M. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.







