

**HAMPDEN COUNTY REGIONAL  
RETIREMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
July 9, 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 10:05 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

1. **ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to continue the process and request PERAC convene a medical panel for the Accidental Disability application submitted by Teresa Turcotte. 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.

2. **MINUTES:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to approve and sign the regular board meeting minutes from the June 11, 2025, board meeting. 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.

3. **WARRANTS:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued June 30, 2025. Mr. Castelli seconded the motion, and the roll call was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

#26 Salary 1-4					\$ 31,486.77
#27 Board Member's Compensation					\$ 2,833.33
#28 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems					\$ 400,672.10
#29 Monthly Expenses					\$ 29,620.06
#30 A Monthly Retirement Allowances					\$ 4,725,361.74
#30 B 3(8)(c)'s Paid					\$ 47,521.85

4. **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. Castelli made a motion to approve the account balances for May 31, 2025. 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.

<b>PEOPLES BANK:</b> Vote to accept the reconciled balances as of May 30, 2025		
Money market Account Bal as of May 30, 2025		\$ 2,074,645.39
Checking Account Bal as of May 30, 2025		\$ 1,135,576.43

5. **TRANSFER:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the transfer of the warrants for June 30, 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.

A.	<b>Needed for warrants:</b>	\$ 5,237,495.85
B.	<b>Transfer for warrants: 6/30/2025</b>	\$ 5,230,000.00
	From Peoples Bank Money Market Account to	
	Peoples Bank Checking Account	

6. **NEW ALLOWANCES:** Mr. Castelli made a motion to reaffirm the new retirement allowances. 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.

Brennan, Patricia	Agawam	5/1/2025	
Ruccio, Donna	Agawam	4/30/2025	
Hersey, Dawn	Agawam	4/30/2025	
Booth, Lynn A.	E.L.H.A	4/1/2025	
Atherton, Darlene A.	East Long	5/31/2025	
White, Robert	STRSD	12/21/2024	RESUBMIT

7. **APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT:** Ms. Fonte made a motion to approve the new retirement applications. 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.

Wolcott, Susan	HWRSD	6/30/2025	1	64-03	14-01
Lennehan, Angela	HWRSD	6/30/2025	1	56-07	17-09
Mayock, Corine	HWRSD	6/30/2025	1	64-01	24-05
Fernandes, Kathleen	HWRSD	6/30/2025	1	61-03	25-10
Stierer, Marie Louise	Longmeadow	7/2/2025	1	74-08	35-06
Burns, Michele	Longmeadow	6/30/2025	1	66-04	18-06
Marra, Brenda	Ludlow	6/30/2025	1	60-00	10-04
Mahoney, Sheila K.	Monson	6/18/2025	1	66-08	24-00
Belisle, Rosalie	Palmer	7/3/2025	1	65-02	13-00
Corcoran, Paula	Palmer	6/30/2025	1	70-08	32-03
Ball, Karen M.	Wilbraham	8/29/2025	1	54-02	31-11

8. **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.

9. **PRIT FUND TRANSFER:** Ms. Fonte made a motion to vote to reaffirm the transfer from PRIT to Peoples Money Market account for \$3,000,000.00. 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.

10. **NOTICES OF INJURY:** Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the Notices of Injury reports. 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.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Injury Date</u>
Teixeira, Brandon	Ludlow	Police	6/1/2025
Noto, Nicholas	Wilbraham	Fire	6/15/2025

11. **NEW MEMBERS:** Mr. Castelli made a motion to approve and file the new members. Ms. Fonte 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>
<b><u>AGAWAM</u></b>		
Leone, Michael	1	5/12/2025
Pabon, Everlyn	1	5/5/2025
<b><u>EAST LONGMEADOW</u></b>		
Walsh, Samantha	1	3/31/2025
<b><u>HAMPDEN</u></b>		
Dutton, Laurie	1	4/7/2025
<b><u>HAMPDEN/WILBRAHAM</u></b>		
Czarnecki, Benjamin	1	6/9/2025
Hafner, Jacqueline	1	5/12/2025
Rosner, Amanda	1	5/12/2025
Yacovone, Frances	1	6/2/2025

<b><u>LONGMEADOW</u></b>			
Butler, Gillian	1		5/21/2025
Milar, Lynn	1		5/5/2025
Steiner, Christopher	1		5/20/2025
Syed, Dean	1		5/19/2025
<b><u>MONSON HSNG AUTH</u></b>			
Favreau, Aimee	1		5/1/2025
<b><u>PALMER</u></b>			
Ogoley, Lane	1		4/28/2025
Shea, Abigail	1		4/29/2025
<b><u>RUSSELL</u></b>			
Pappas, Mary	1		5/19/2025
<b><u>SOUTHWICK TOLLAND</u></b>			
Crosby, Meghan	1		4/29/2025
Maiorana-Bloniasz, Angela	1		5/14/2025
Pepper-Polon, Michelle	1		5/27/2025

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

13. **STAFF PAYROLL** – Mr. Castelli made a motion to approve the weekly payrolls issued to the staff for July 2025. 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.

14. **DIRECTORS REPORT** – The items reviewed by Ms. Martin for the month of June were: I attended the MACRS June conference and updated the staff on the information I learned. The staff have been working on calculations for retirees for the month of June which has been very busy.

15. **TRIAL BALANCE** – Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the trial balance for May 30, 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.

16. **IT** – Mr. Castelli made a motion to table the hiring of a new IT Consulting Service due to the estimates we received from the IT consulting services that presented the Board with quotes of more than 10,000.00 a year which would require an RFP to be done. Mr. Taylor 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.

17. **LABELLE, Kristine** – Mr. Taylor made a motion to grant Kristin Labelle one (1) free month of service credit for an approved unpaid leave of absence from July 30, 1992-Aug 29,1992, under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 32 §4 (1)(c). Ms. Fonte 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.

18. PERAC MEMOS – The Board reviewed and filed PERAC memo #16-18.
19. HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS – No new comments
20. OLD BUSINESS – No old business was discussed.
21. NEW BUSINESS – No new business was discussed.
22. LEGAL UPDATE – No legal update

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Castelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 P.M. Mr. Taylor 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 5-1.

*Karl J. Schmaelzle*

*Mr. E. O'Neil*

*Dawn Fonte*

*Mr. Castelli*