

**HAMPDEN COUNTY REGIONAL
RETIREMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
September 10, 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 – attended via-zoom
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. Edward Pikula -present in office
Karen Martin, Executive Director-present in office

Mr. O’Neil made a motion to take out item #1 out of order 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. Castelli made a motion to approve and sign the regular board meeting minutes from the August 6, 2025, 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 – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

3. **WARRANTS:** Mr. O’Neil made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued Aug 29, 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.

#36 Salary 1-4					\$ 28,703.45
#37 Board Member's Compensation					\$ 2,833.33
#38 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems					\$ 348,199.20
#39 Monthly Expenses					\$ 95,092.87
#40 A Monthly Retirement Allowances					\$ 4,914,907.06

4. **BALANCES:** The Board members reviewed copies of the checking & savings account statements from Peoples Bank and Berkshire 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 July 31, 2025. 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.

BERKSHIRE BANK: Vote to accept the reconciled balances as of July 31,2025					
Money market ACH Account Bal as of July 31, 2025					\$ 10,016,840.67
Money market Account Bal as of July 31, 2025					\$ 13,912,330.63
Checking Account Bal as of July 31, 2025					\$ 1,113,620.67
PEOPLES BANK: Vote to accept the reconciled balances as of July 31, 2025					
Money market Account Bal as of July 31, 2025					\$ 396,050.36
Checking Account Bal as of July 31, 2025					\$ 243,661.34

5. **TRANSFER:** Ms. Fonte made a motion to reaffirm the transfer amount for the warrants for Aug 29, 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.

TRANSFER:	Vote to reaffirm transfer amount for Warrants	
A.	Needed for warrants:	\$ 5,389,735.91
B.	Transfer for warrants:	\$ 5,389,735.91

6. **NEW ALLOWANCES:** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the new retirement Allowances paid on 8/29/2025. 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.

Condon, Gail E.	East Long	6/30/2025	
Costa, Linda M.	East Long	6/30/2025	
Emirzian, Cary J.	East Long	6/30/2025	
Frappier, Lynne E.	East Long	6/30/2025	
Goguen, Diane E.	East Long	6/30/2025	
Hutchinson, Cynthia M.	East Long	6/30/2025	
LaFountain, Elizabeth J.	East Long	6/30/2025	
Pietroniro, Margaret N.	East Long	6/30/2025	
McMahon, Lorraine	HWRSD	6/30/2025	
Phinney, Leis	Wales	6/5/2025	
Reed, Carolyn R.	Agawam	6/27/2025	
Rheault, April L.	Agawam	6/13/2025	
Summers, Suzanne M.	Agawam	6/30/2025	
Taliceo, Holly M.	Agawam	6/30/2025	
Murphy Jr., Richard	HWRSD	6/30/2025	
Bray, William	Palmer	6/10/2025	
Mayock, Corine	HWRSD	6/30/2025	
Anderson, Suzanne	Southwick	5/29/2025	
Dane, Herta	Wilbraham	7/6/2025	
Vital, Lisa J.	Ludlow	6/30/2025	
Gates, Richard D.	Ludlow	6/30/2025	
Lennehan, Angela	HWRSD	6/30/2025	
Dittrich, Lois	SWTRSD	6/30/2025	
Mahoney, Sheila K.	Monson	6/18/2025	
Hope, Lynn C.	Monson	6/18/2025	
O'Connor, Dianna M.	Monson	6/18/2025	
Harrington, Kim	Holland	6/30/2025	
Wolcott, Susan	HWRSD	6/30/2025	
Rene, Denise	HWRSD	6/30/2025	
McMaster, Kathleen	HWRSD	6/30/2025	
Colson, Charles	Southwick	6/30/2025	
Corcoran, Paula	Palmer	6/30/2025	
Burns, Michele	Longmeadow	6/30/2025	
Mailman, Marla	Longmeadow	6/30/2025	
Deming, James L.	Agawam	5/1/2025	Paid on 7/31/2025 P/R

7. APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT: Mr. Castelli made a motion to approve the new retirement applications. 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.

Name	Unit	Date of Retirement	Group	Age	Service
Herron, Gregory	HWRSD	10/10/2025	1	62-00	21-04
Ford, Michelle	Palmer	8/22/2025	1	65-02	31-05
Georgantas, Dianne	Longmeadow	7/25/2025	1	64-04	30-02
Fillault, Tammy	Longmeadow	9/29/2025	1	64-02	18-03
Pappas, Lenise A.	Russell	9/12/2025	1	69-03	33-05
Gates, Debora M.	Ludlow	10/3/2025	1	68-03	28-06
Royce, James R.	Wilbraham	10/16/2025	4	51-06	30-00
Kozloski, Jr., Stephen (Revised date)	Monson	9/26/2025	4	60-07	32-07
Yacovone, Danell A.	East Long	10/17/2025	1	59-08	17-08
Baines, Denise J.	Ludlow	9/15/2025	1	60-00	10-00
Von Flatern, Neil F.	East Long	8/29/2025	1	64-05	22-00
Pagliaro, Lawrence J.	Ludlow	10/31/2025	1	65-01	12-09
Zampiceni, Cheryl K.	Agawam	11/28/2025	1	55-00	17-03
Knox, Yvonne K.	Wales & Brimfield	9/2/2025	1	67-00	32-07
Bussolari, Bernard R.	Longmeadow	9/12/2025	1	70-03	10-00
Ducharme, Sharon	Agawam	10/24/2025	1	68-01	24-09
Ferrier, Robert S.	Agawam	11/1/2025	4	53-01	30-06
Bulger, Karen	Pathfinder	9/2/2025	1	76-07	20-05
Pittsinger, Eva M.	Brimfield	9/30/2025	1	69-04	10-02

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: Mr. Castelli made a motion to vote to reaffirm the transfer from Berkshire Money Market to PRIT Fund for \$10,000,000.00. 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.

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. Castelli – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

Name	Unit	Department	Injury Date
Saraiva, Darian	Ludlow	Police	8/13/2025
Anderson, Ovtavia	Ludlow	Police	8/16/2025
Tobiasz	Ludlow	Police	8/13/2025
Carvalho Paul	Ludlow	Police	8/23/2025

Mr. O'Neil made a motion to go to item #1 that was taken out of order 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.

1. ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY- Kelly Miller/Town of Southwick/Police, Board to Vote to consider the application for Accidental Disability submitted by Kelly Miller and request PERAC convene a medical panel.

Ms. Miller and her Attorney appeared at the hearing remotely to speak in favor of the request that the Board vote to continue the process by asking PERAC to convene a medical panel.

Chair read into record lengthy portions of Independent Medical Exam (IME) explaining that Ms. Miller was not able to return to work, but should have a course of treatment, and that once she has that treatment, it should be reevaluated. He then read lengthy portions of a follow-up IME indicating Ms. Miller had the treatment and was able to return to work. He questioned Attorney as to why there was no medical report from a specialist similar to the specialist who provided the IME's? supporting the ADR claim?

Attorney indicated that the physicians statement provided sufficient evidence to move it forward for a panel, but an additional medical report from a specialist to rebut the IME indicating a return to work would be obtained and provided to the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. O'Neil made a motion to continue the matter to the October meeting to allow time for additional medical 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.

11. **NEW MEMBERS**: Ms. Fonte made a motion to approve and file the new members. Mr. Castelli seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O'Neil- Yes; Mr. Taylor – Abstained; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 4-1.

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<u>LUDLOW</u>				
Pinto, Cody		1		7/7/2025
Beaumier, Brittany		1		8/11/2025
Manijak, Bryan		1		6/20/2025
Smythe, Rachel		1		8/4/2025
Obuchowski, Tessa		1		6/9/2025
Shepard, Merrill		1		7/10/2025
<u>PALMER</u>				
Goodrich, Tammy		1		8/25/2025
Pardo, Jeffrey		1		8/25/2025
Lynch, James		1		8/25/2025
Roberts, Ethan		4		7/21/2025
Lang, Lauren		1		8/25/2025
Stebbins, Hailey		1		8/25/2025
Pinney, Summer		1		8/25/2025
Coffin, Adam		1		7/1/2025
<u>SOUTHWICK/TOLLAND</u>				
De Leon, Grace		1		8/19/2025
Tran, Thu		1		8/25/2025
Dellagiustina, Madison		1		8/25/2025
Casey, Erin		1		8/25/2025
Hevy, Eric		1		6/6/2025
Shwachman, Greta		1		8/20/2025
<u>SOUTHWICK</u>				
Greene, Christopher		4		7/7/2025
McCarthy, Michael		4		7/1/2025
Perez, Tyler		4		7/7/2025
Talaia, Michael		4		7/14/2025
Hudon, Renee		1		7/23/2025
Allen, Alvin		1		6/2/2025
Grady, Jax		4		7/7/2025
Vdovichenko, Julianna		1		7/21/2025
Seymour, Kristin		1		5/19/2025

<u>LONGMEADOW</u>				
Pinto, Cody		1		7/7/2025
Morales, Karen		1		6/5/2025
Kanelong, Waverly		1		8/27/2025
McKee, Lindsey		1		8/13/2025
Nardi, Melanie		1		8/25/2025
Perry, Meaghan		1		8/21/2025
Smith, John		1		6/2/2025
Welcome, Tammy		1		6/2/2025
Ali, Hassan		1		8/15/2025
McCarthy, Maura		1		8/21/2025
<u>MONSON</u>				
Smith, Jessica		1		7/28/2025
Harris, Caitlyn		1		8/25/2025
Talbot, Veronica		1		4/28/2025
Amsden, Cynthia		1		8/25/2025
Kenyon, Danielle		1		8/25/2025
Proctor-Morris, Chelsea		1		9/2/2025
<u>TOLLAND</u>				
Bergeron, Scott		4		7/1/2025
<u>BRIMFIELD</u>				
Fagan, Christian		4		6/3/2025
Moreno, Christopher		1		6/25/2025
<u>HAMPDEN/WILBRAHAM</u>				
Lewis, Molli		1		8/26/2025
Ptaszkiewicz, Karli		1		8/26/2025
Djavi, Omid		1		8/26/2025
Bermudez, Jayden		1		8/26/2025
Walker, Mya		1		8/26/2025
Patterson, McKenna		1		8/26/2025
Adams, Rachel		1		8/26/2025
Fortin, Melina		1		8/26/2025
Duffany, Aaron		1		6/30/2025

<u>WESTCOMM</u>				
Lynch, Jailene			1	6/18/2025
Martins , Keith			1	6/18/2025
Melero, Alyssa			1	6/18/2025
Kielbania, Virginia			1	6/18/2025
Smart, Matthew			1	6/18/2025
Rodriguez, Michaela			1	6/18/2025
Paquin, Christina			1	7/7/2025
Vargas, Mirelia			1	6/18/2025
Ward, Grace			1	6/18/2025
<u>WILBRAHAM</u>				
Harter, Melissa			1	8/25/2025
Mackle, Tramaine			1	8/26/2025
O'Connor, Gina			1	8/26/2025
Bletsos, Sophia			1	7/14/2025
<u>HAMPDEN COUNTY RET</u>				
Seymour, Alahna			1	8/18/2025

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

13. **STAFF PAYROLL** – Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the weekly payrolls issued to the staff for Sept 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.

14. **DIRECTORS REPORT** – The items reviewed by Ms. Martin for the month of Aug were: The staff and I have been very busy taken on extra duties and training the new staff member.

15. **TRIAL BALANCE** – Mr. O’Neil made a motion to approve the trial balance for July 31, 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. **PERAC MEMOS** – No PERAC memos to review

17. **HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS** – No new comments

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

19. **NEW BUSINESS** – No new business was discussed.

20. **LEGAL UPDATE** – Attorney Pikula advised the Board there were no legal updates.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Castelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 P.M. Ms. Fonte 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 Schmaelzle

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Mr. Castelli