

**HAMPDEN COUNTY REGIONAL  
RETIREMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
March 4, 2026**

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 10:04 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 via office  
Steven Castelli Member – present in office

**BOARD STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Atty. Edward Pikula -present in office  
Karen Martin, Executive Director-present in office  
Alahna Seymour, Assistant Executive Director- present in office

Also, in attendance was:

John Fitzpatrick- in office  
Brett Yvon- via zoom  
Anthony Mcgrath- via zoom  
Gary Naroff- in office  
Cameron Prosperi- in office  
Chief Lennon- in office  
Attorney Jason Ortiz- in office

**1. SEGAL:** : Lisa VanDermark from Segal gave a presentation to the board and listened to the board’s input regarding a funding schedule.

**2. INVOLUNTARY DISABILITY:** Mr.Castelli motioned to move forward with sending the involuntary disability for Mr. McGrath to PERAC to initiate the start of the medical panel. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

**3. INVOLUNTARY DISABILITY:** Mr.Castelli motioned to move forward with sending the involuntary disability for Mr. Yvon to PERAC to initiate the start of the medical panel. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

**4. INVOLUNTARY DISABILITY:** Mr.Taylor motioned to move forward with sending the involuntary disability for Mr. Naroff to PERAC to initiate the start of the medical panel, and to allow until March 11,2026 for Mr. Naroff to complete the ADR form and to bring in his physician statement .Mr. Castelli seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

**5. ACCIDENTAL/ VIOLENT ASSAULT DISABILITY:** Mr.Taylor motioned to move forward with sending the accidental disability for Mr. Prosperi to PERAC to initiate the start of the medical panel. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

**6. MINUTES:** Mr. O’Neil motioned and Mr. Castelli seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the Feb 4, 2026, Board Meeting.

**7. WARRANTS:** Ms. Martin made the board aware that there was an error in typing the warrants on the agenda, the date should have been February 27, 2026. Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued February 27, 2026. Mr. Castelli seconded the motion, and the roll call was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

#6 Salary 1-4	\$ 35,597.49
#7 Board Member's Compensation	\$ 2,833.33
#8 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems	\$ 294,224.57
#9 Monthly Expenses	\$ 34,388.92
#10 A Monthly Retirement Allowances	\$4,978,179.85
#10 B 3(8)(c) Payments	\$ 246,899.88

**8. BALANCES:** The Board members reviewed copies of the checking & savings account statements from Beacon Bank that were provided in their packets. Mr. O'Neil made a motion to approve the account balances for January 31, 2026 and February 28, 2026. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte - Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

**BEACON BANK** Vote to accept the non -reconciled balances as of Jan 31, 2026

Money market ACH Account Bal as of Jan 31, 2026	\$1,559,395.03
Money market ACH Account Bal as of Feb 28, 2026	\$ 288,119.64
Money market Account Bal as of Jan 31, 2026	\$2,818,831.73
Money market Account Bal as of Feb 28, 2026	\$2,618,807.66
Checking Account Bal as of Jan 31, 2026	\$1,856,435.35
Checking Account Bal as of Feb 28, 2026	\$2,064,907.85

**9. TRANSFER:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to reaffirm the transfer amount for the warrants for February 28, 2026. Mr. Castelli seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte - Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes and Chairman Schmaelzle - Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

A.	<b>Needed for warrants:</b>	\$5,592,124.04
B.	<b>Transfer for warrants:</b>	\$6,000,000.00
	From Beacon M.M. to Beacon Ckg	

**10. NEW ALLOWANCES:** Mr. Taylor made a motion to reaffirm the new retirement Allowances paid on 02/28/2026 and 12/31/2025. Ms. Fonte seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O'Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

**NEW ALLOWANCES** Vote to reaffirm the following New Retirement Allowances paid on 2/28/2026**SUPERANNUATION -**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TOWN</b>	<b>DATE OF RETIREMENT</b>
Daley, Timothy F.	East Long	12/20/2025
Sprinthall, Karen S.	Longmeadow	12/21/2025
Planzo, Kathleen E.	Agawam	12/23/2025
Quaglietti, Jeanne R.	East Long	12/26/2025
Braga, Tina M.	Ludlow	12/31/2025
Bush, Jr., Curtis C.	Montgomery	12/31/2025
Thomas, Mary K.	Agawam	1/7/2026
Bishop, Diane E.	East Long	1/9/2026
Hill, Michael J.	East Long	1/9/2026

**NEW ALLOWANCES** Vote to reaffirm the following New Retirement Allowances paid on 12/31/2025

<i>Bussolari, Bernard</i>	<i>Longmeadow</i>	<i>9/12/2025</i>
<i>Kozloski, Jr, Stephen</i>	<i>Monson</i>	<i>9/26/2025</i>
<i>Pittsinger, Eva M.</i>	<i>Brimfield</i>	<i>9/30/2025</i>
<i>Drainville, William J.</i>	<i>Longmeadow</i>	<i>10/13/2025</i>
<i>Krol, James P.</i>	<i>Wilb. Housing</i>	<i>10/24/2025</i>
<i>Ducharme, Sharon</i>	<i>Agawam</i>	<i>10/24/2025</i>
<i>Marques, Carla J.</i>	<i>Ludlow</i>	<i>10/31/2025</i>
<i>Bradway, Deborah J.</i>	<i>Monson</i>	<i>10/31/2025</i>
<i>Pagliaro, Lawrence J.</i>	<i>Ludlow</i>	<i>10/31/2025</i>
<i>Ferrier, Robert S.</i>	<i>Agawam</i>	<i>11/1/2025</i>

**11. 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. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Date of Retirement</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Service</b>
Sedelow, Tricia E.	Southwick	4/3/2026	1	57-03	27-00
Kramer, Angela	Ludlow	2/18/2026	1	71-04	14-00
Von Hollander, Fritz W.	Longmeadow	4/30/2026	1	64-08	14-03

**12. 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.

**13. PRIT FUND TRANSFER:** Mr. Castelli made a motion to approve the transfer from PRIT to Money Market for \$5,000,000.00 and Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

**14. 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. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes; Motion approved 5-0.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Injury Date</u>
Reuben Baker	Monson	Fire	2/19/2026
Amber DUBY	Monson	Fire	1/26/2026
Brian Allenberg	Monson	Fire	2/19/2026
Brian Ethier	Monson	Police	8/5/2025
Derek Bedard	Monson	Police	2/19/2026

15. **NEW MEMBERS**: Ms. Fonte 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. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – 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>		
Sydney Ferri	1	2/23/2026
Reilly McLaughlin	1	2/13/2026
Liezl Bortolussi	1	1/13/2026
Jace LaBlanc	1	12/9/2025
Tyler Benjamin	1	2/9/2026
Monica Peterson	1	1/20/2026
<b><u>BRIMFIELD</u></b>		
Adrienne Zimmerley	1	1/1/2026
<b><u>EAST LONGMEADOW</u></b>		
Kaylin Hadley	1	1/16/2026
Candice Pomnarski	1	2/9/2026
Jessica Dion	1	2/2/2026
<b><u>EAST LONGMEADOW HOUSING</u></b>		
Tanner Theoclis	1	1/12/2026
<b><u>GRANVILLE</u></b>		
<b><u>HAMPDEN/WILBRAHAM</u></b>		
Lora Jean Kasten	1	2/2/2026
Ashley Tracy	1	1/12/2026
Alexander Milles	1	1/20/2026
<b><u>HAMPDEN COUNTY</u></b>		
John Hayden	1	1/20/2026
<b><u>LONGMEADOW</u></b>		
Christopher Pope II	1	1/5/2026
Nathan Labonte	1	1/5/2026
Ryan Paxton	1	12/1/2025
Andrew McCoubrey	4	1/12/2026
Samuel Corriveau	1	1/20/2026

<b><u>LUDLOW</u></b>		
Beth Markham	1	1/26/2026
Donald Napolitan	1	1/5/2026
Desiree Rivera	4	1/19/2026
Eric Medawar	1	1/5/2026
Zoe Tomkunas	1	1/5/2026
Larry Brace	1	1/21/2026
Megan Charter	1	1/26/2026
Sheila Rubin	1	1/5/2026
<b><u>MONSON</u></b>		
Tianna Proulx	1	1/15/2026
Cornine Thibodeau	1	1/5/2026
Nicholas Langlitz	4	3/9/2026
Erica Pascale	1	1/20/2026
<b><u>WILBRAHAM</u></b>		
Genesis Melendez	1	1/6/2026
Anthony Moreno	1	1/8/2026
<b><u>SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND</u></b>		
Jessica Douthwright	1	1/12/2026
<b><u>PALMER</u></b>		
Phillip Hale	4	12/7/2025
Daniella Pelletier	1	1/5/2026
Daniel Richard	1	11/10/2025
Edward Nadle III	1	1/5/2026
Dennis Clarke	1	1/5/2026
<b><u>PALMER FIRE</u></b>		
Grace Leone-Forgette	4	12/29/2025
<b><u>WEST COMM</u></b>		
Jailyne Rivera	1	2/2/2026
Lee Surette	1	2/2/2026
<b><u>WILBRAHAM HOUSING</u></b>		
Catherine Kietzman	1	1/26/2026

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

17. **DIRECTORS REPORT** – The items reviewed by Ms. Martin for the month of February were: Tiffany Partridge is no longer an employee with Hampden County Retirement Board. Along with that we are working diligently on balancing the year end. Berkshire Bank has merged with Beacon Bank.

18. COLA INCREASE- Board will be discussing and voting on granting a cost-of-living increase at the next board meeting April 1, 2026.

19. MIA INSURANCE PREMIUM RATE- - Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept the new health insurance rates with the dental and vision rates. 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.

20. TRIAL BALANCE – Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the trial balance for December 31, 2025. Mr. O’Neil seconded the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil- Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor – Yes and Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

21. PERAC MEMOS – The board reviewed the PERAC memos #9 and #10.

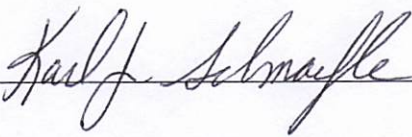
22. HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS – Mr. Schmaelzle would like to let the board know that the hotel they usually use for MACRS in spring that is in Hyannis Cape Code has been sold. They are holding MACRS in June, and it will be Springfield Ma, they are still looking for a hotel, and he will keep us updated. We have received multiple applications for the Administration Assistant position that we have open and will be holding interviews Thursday and Friday this week.

23. OLD BUSINESS – No old business was discussed.

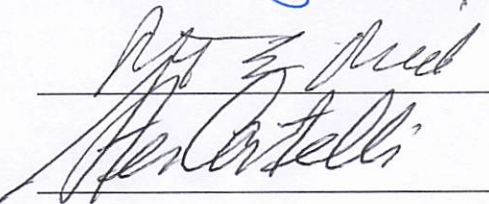
24. NEW BUSINESS – No new business was discussed.

25. LEGAL UPDATE – Attorney Pikula’s legal update for this morning was that he advises that the unemployment decision is to not be appealed.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. O’Neil made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 A.M. Mr. Castelli second the motion, and the roll call vote was Ms. Fonte – Yes; Mr. O’Neil – Yes; Mr. Castelli – Yes; Mr. Taylor - Yes; Chairman Schmaelzle – Yes. Motion approved 5-0.

  
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