COUNTY REGIONAL RETIREMENT BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING
July 8, 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 10:01 A.M.

THOSE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Karl J. Schmaelzle, Chairman/Treasurer- present in office
Robert Taylor, Member – present via phone
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
Alahna Seymour, Assistant Executive Director- present in office

Also, in attendance was:
Brett Yvon-in office
Gary Naroff- in office
Attorney Peter Moran- in office

1. **INVOLUNTARY ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY-** Brett Yvon/ Town of Agawam. The board voted to approve the Involuntary Accidental Disability Benefits submitted by the Town of Agawam for Brett Yvon after the review of all 3 medical panels. Mr. Castelli motioned to approve the accidental disability benefits and 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.

2 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY-. Gary Naroff / Town of Agawam. The board voted to move Agenda Item #2 to the end of the agenda due to waiting for the member. Mr. O'Neil motioned to approve the move of Agenda Item #2 and 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. The board voted to approve the Accidental Disability Benefits submitted by Gary Naroff after the review of all 3 medical panels. Mr. Castelli motioned to approve the accidental disability benefits 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.

3. MINUTES: Mr. O'Neil motioned and Mr. Castelli seconded the motion to table the minutes from the June 10, 2026, Board Meeting, 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.

4.WARRANTS: Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the warrants issued June 30, 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.

#26 Salary 1-4	$29,996.42
#27 Board Member's Compensation	$2,833.33
#28 Refunds and Transfers to Other Systems	$623,873.19
#29 Monthly Expenses	$ 40,654.92
#30 A Monthly Retirement Allowances	$ 5,005,738.07
#30 B 3(8)(c) Payments	$104,678.86

5. **<u>BALANCES:</u>** 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 June 30, 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.

BEACON BANK Vote to accept the reconciled balances as of June 30, 2026	
Money market ACH Account Bal as of June 30, 2026	$ 140,934.26
Money market Account Bal as of June 30, 2026	$ 2,237,571.20
Checking Account Bal as of June 30, 2026	$ 2,030,471.29

6. **<u>TRANSFER:</u>** Mr. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm the transfer amount for the warrants for June 30, 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.	**Needed for warrants:**	$ 5,807,774.79
B.	**<u>Transfer for warrants:</u>**	$ 6,600,000.00
	From Beacon M.M. to Beacon Ckg	

7. **<u>NEW ALLOWANCES:</u>** Mr. Castelli made a motion to reaffirm the new retirement Allowances paid on 06/30/2026. 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>SUPERANNUATION -</u>		
<u>NAME</u>	**<u>TOWN</u>**	**<u>DATE OF RETIREMENT</u>**
Lovechio, Diane M.	Agawam	4/24/2026
Goncalves, Alexander	Ludlow	5/4/2026
Von Hollander, Fritz	Longmeadow	4/30/2026
<u>DISABILITY RETIREMENT-</u>		
Miller, Kelly	Southwick	6/26/2025
<u>ACCIDENTAL DEATH-</u>		
Moriarty, Thomas (Survivor Katherine Moriarty)	County of Hampden	8/29/2025

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

APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT -		Vote to consider new Applications for Retirement			
Name	**Unit**	**Date of Retirement**	**Group**	**Age**	**Service**
Cygan, Michael J.	Wilbraham	7/11/2026	4	57-07	30-09
Fernandes, Maria D.	Ludlow	8/28/2026	1	62-11	38-06
Messier, Michael F.	HWRSD	8/19/2026	1	65-00	28-05
Humason, Jr., Donald F.	Chester	7/31/2026	1	59-00	34-07
Marganti, Helen	Agawam	8/28/2026	1	65-10	26-00
Fallon, Laura F.	Agawam	8/31/2026	1	63-07	11-06
Rintala, Cara	Ludlow	9/2/2026	4	60-00	10-01

9. **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.

10.**PRIT FUND TRANSFER:** This month there was a transfer of $3,000,000.00 . Mr.Castelli made a motion to approve the transfer amount for the warrants for June 30, 2026. 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.

11. **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.

Name	Unit	Department	Injury Date
Churchill, Ryan	Ludlow	Police	6/15/2026
Baldwin, Shawn	Palmer	Police	6/10/2026
Branch, Quashawn	Ludlow	Police	6/12/2026
Garceau, Anthony	Wilbraham	Highway	6/4/2026

12. **NEW MEMBERS**: Mr. Castelli 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.

Unit/Name	Group		Start Date
AGAWAM			
Sandra Cortes	1		4/28/2026
Kelly A. Jendza	1		5/4/2026
Lauren Wood	1		5/4/2026
April Lewis- Krol	1		5/4/2026
Michelle Chechile	1		5/5/2026
EAST LONGMEADOW			
Matthew K. Goodchild	1		6/1/2026
Yue Boyd	1		6/1/2026
HAMPDEN/WILBRAHAM			
Irma C. Oquendo	1		5/4/2026

LUDLOW			
Antonio Goncalves	4		4/27/2026
GRANVILLE			
Ian T. Brown	1		5/29/2026
PALMER			
Joshua D. Fuller	1		4/27/2026
Kory C. Kelley	1		5/4/2026
Emmett A. Bumpus	1		5/4/2026
PATHFINDER			
Lisa A. Gray	1		4/21/2026
PATHFINDER REGIONAL			
Kristina M. Hawley	1		5/11/2026
SOUTHWICK			
Nicole M. LaFogg	1		4/27/2026
TOLLAND			
Steven J. Leonard	1		4/29/2026
WILBRAHAM			
Diane M. Fradette	1		5/4/2026
Barbara Valentine	1		5/20/2026
Holly Boyle	1		5/21/2026

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

14. **DIRECTORS REPORT** – The items reviewed by Ms. Martin for the month of June were: Mrs. Seymour has been taking on extra duties since we were down one staff member. Letters went out on three disability retirees for not sending in their Annual Statement of earned income to PERAC. They were on our Agenda for this month but sent in the documents needed to PERAC in time. HCRB will be advertising the open position in July. SEGAL sent the final Actuarial Valuation and GASB. CBIZ is still working on the 12/31/2025 audit, we are hoping they will finish it buy the August board meeting. Mr. Lafayette withdrew his accidental disability application along with the Town of Agawam withdrew their application for his Involuntary Disability. Mr. Francesco Danielle would like to attend one of our fall board meetings to give us the annual update. Lastly we have been fixing many errors that have been found from when Mr. Hayden was employed with us.

15. **TRIAL BALANCE** – Mr. O'Neil made a motion to approve May 2026 trial balance. 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.

16. **IPADS-** Mr. Castelli made a motion to table the Ipad discussion until the August Board Meeting. Ms. Fonte second 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.

17.**SEGAL-** Ms. Fonte made the motion to approve the 12/31/2025 GASB 67/68 with the correction on page 5 to change the 5% to 3%. Ms.Martin spoke to Lisa Vandermark and she agreed to correct the error. Mr. O'Neil second 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.

18. **PERAC MEMOS** – The board reviewed the PERAC memo #19.

18. **HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD COMMENTS** – Mr. Schmaelzle would like to let everyone know that he sent everyone an email that he received from Tom Shea along with his response to Tom Shea. Secondly our IT Mr. Hulbert sadly passed away. MIIA our insurance company, needed paperwork completed by an IT company for us to stay enrolled with them. Due to this we hired Entre Technology for our IT.

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

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

21. **LEGAL UPDATE** –Attorney Pikula informed the Board that the past several months involved more legal work than usual, on employment related matters as well as a forfeiture hearing. He expected the summer would see a slow down, to help conserve resources and speed up the time to complete legal assignments. Attorney Vivenzio would be available if there was an increase. However, Attorney Vivenzio has been busier than usual handling Springfield Retirement matters. There has been filing of any appeal on the forfeiture matter that Attorney Pikula was aware of at the time of the meeting. He would report back next month if there was an appeal, which would be to the District Court.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Castelli a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 A.M. Ms. Fonte 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.

Karl Schmaelzle

Fonte