

CHELSEA RETIREMENT BOARD

001081

Minutes from the meeting held Monday, February 22, 2021 at 9:10 AM

In accordance with Governor Baker's order, signed on March 12, 2020, suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, §20, this meeting was held via conference call using Webex. As indicated on the agenda, instructions on how to join the meeting were available by emailing the Executive Director @ [bobrien@chelseama.gov](mailto:bobrien@chelseama.gov) before or during the meeting.

Participating Remotely Were: Board Chairman, Mr. Joseph M. Siewko, Mr. Edward Dunn, Ms. Carolyn Russo, Ms. Cheryl Watson Fisher and Mr. Richard Carroccino

Also Participating Remotely: Mrs. Barbara A. O'Brien, Executive Director, and Mr. Brian P. Monahan, Esq., Board Counsel

Chairman Siewko opened the meeting at 9:09AM and all present stated their name and title.

Mark Lee's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement

At 9:10 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to table the matter relating to Mark Lee's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement on the basis of securing additional information from the Treating Physician. Ms. Russo noted that the Treating Physician listed body parts as opposed to providing a full diagnosis and regarding the issue of permanency, the Treating Physician stated that the member has not reached his medical end result.

At 9:11 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to enter Executive Session to discuss other items on the applications that he wanted to mention and outline. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:20 AM the Board returned to Regular Session.

At 9:21 AM after receiving approval from Chairman Siewko to amend her original motion relating to Mark Lee's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement, Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Dunn to request additional information as outlined in both the regular and executive sessions, specifically three items on the Member's Application, one item on the Employer's Statement and three questions on the Treating Physician's Statement. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:23 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the Regular Session Minutes from the January 21, 2021 Retirement Board meeting as written. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Francisco Pena -School - refund of retirement deductions erroneously withheld on snow overtime

At 9:26 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Mr. Dunn to approve the refund, in the amount of \$346.05, of the retirement deductions that were erroneously withheld on Mr. Pena's snow overtime payments. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Timothy J. Dunn - CHA - refund of retirement deductions erroneously withheld on vacation payout

Chairman Siewko agreed to the Executive Director's request to table the matter relating to a refund to Timothy J. Dunn of retirement deductions erroneously withheld on vacation payout since she is researching this payment further.

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Michael Thompson, Pedro Feliciano, Jose Torres, Sr. – City- refund of retirement deductions withheld on Vacation Buyback payments

At 9:28 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the above refunds. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

The following members have submitted an application for voluntary superannuation retirement benefits pursuant to M.G.L. c. 32 §5:

Name/Title/Group	DOR	Age	Years of Service	Estimated 3 Yr. Average
Nancy Slater/Legal Secretary/1	03/31/2021	65	14.0833	\$62,738.43
Robert Griffin/Police Lieutenant/4	02/28/2021	55	33.4167	\$124,898.86

At 9:29 AM Ms. Watson Fisher made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to approve the above retirements. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

The following Retirement Systems have requested the transfer of funds for the following members:

Name/Title/Group	Board Requesting Transfer	Accumulated Deductions	Total Service Credit / 3(8)c Liability	10/12 Month Basis
Nehemie St. Louis/ Paraprofessional/1	Medford Retirement Board	\$5,008.66	1.2500	12
Jose Ayala-Gonzalez/ Licensed.Public Works Specialist/1	MWRA Ret. Bd	\$1,888.38	.4167	12
Teresa McDermott/ Paraprofessional/1	Newton Retirement Board	\$4,748.70	2.5000/1.8300	12

At 9:31 AM Ms. Watson Fisher made a motion seconded by Mr. Dunn to approve the above transfers. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

The following members have requested a refund of their accumulated deductions:

Name/Title/Group	Accumulated Deductions	Age	Service Credit	Taxes Withheld
Alan Jussif/IT Technician/1	\$40,284.55	58	7.500	No-Rollover
Rebecca Parra/ Data Management/1	\$102,303.42	46	16.8333	Rollover-No Refund to Member-Yes

At 9:32 AM Ms. Watson Fisher made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to approve the above refunds. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Emerita Caballero's request for a refund of her accumulated deductions. The Board members were previously provided with the section of PERAC's Retirement Guide that explains that boards are prohibited from providing a refund to a member who has a Workers Compensation claim pending or who is currently receiving Workers Compensation due to total incapacity.

At 9:33 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to deny Emerita Caballero's request for a refund of her accumulated deductions since Ms. Caballero is receiving Workers Compensation benefits pursuant to M.G.L. c. 152, s. 34 and to advise the member of the Board's decision and of her right to appeal the Board's decision. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

**Attorney's Report:**

- Susan Sullivan matter – Board Counsel stated he has not received any responses.
- Michael McLaughlin matter – Board Counsel stated that there is a Status Update due to the Division of Administrative Law Appeals (DALA) by March 9, 2021 on which Board Counsel is expected to update DALA on the McLaughlin appeals and the M.G.L. c.32, s. 15(4) proceedings. Board Counsel stated he will also advise DALA that Attorney Boumil and Attorney Sacco have been instructed to file the Joint Pre-Hearing Memorandum (JPHM) to the Board by March 3, 2021. Board Counsel stated that the Board Members will receive the JPHM once it is submitted to the Board to allow ample time for the Board members to review the JPHM prior to the Board meeting/Status Conference scheduled for March 18, 2021. Board Counsel reminded the Board members that they are not to discuss the JPHM amongst each other until the scheduled March 18, 2021 Status Conference.

**Executive Director's Report:** The Executive Director had nothing further to report.

The February 2021 Accounts Payable Warrant, totaling \$258,535.18 and consisting of the following vouchers, was emailed to the Board on February 19, 2021 for their review:

Amity Insurance-Renewal 3/1/21-3/1/22	\$ 10,831.00
Berkshire County Retirement Board-3(8)(c)	\$ 9,072.16
Pedro Feliciano- Refund vac. buyback ret deds	\$ 730.11
Gloucester Retirement Board-3(8)(c)	\$ 3,644.07
Lynn Retirement System-3(8)(c)	\$ 8,663.03
Malden Retirement System-3(8)(c)	\$ 1,882.48
Medford Retirement System-3(8)(c)	\$ 22,968.47
Melrose Retirement Board-3(8)(c)	\$ 3,082.50
Brian P. Monahan, Esq.	\$ 4,500.00
Peabody Retirement System-3(8)(c)	\$ 33,177.04
Maria Pena-Refund of OT Deds for Francisco Pena	\$ 276.84
Ricoh USA, Inc.	\$ 135.25
The Law Offices of Michael Sacco, P.C.-Reimb for Express mailing	\$ 123.75
Michael Thompson-Refund vac. buyback ret deds	\$ 960.41
Jose R. Torres, Sr- Refund vac. buyback ret deds	\$ 225.93
W.B. Mason	\$ 30.99
Winchester Retirement Board 3(8)(c)	\$ 3,449.12
City of Chelsea Federal Taxes-Pedro Feliciano's refund	\$ 182.53
City of Chelsea Federal Taxes-Francisco Pena's OT ret ded	\$ 69.21
City of Chelsea Federal Taxes-Michael Thompson's refund	\$ 240.10
City of Chelsea Federal Taxes-Jose R. Torres, Sr.'s refund	\$ 56.48
Medford Retirement Board-Transf.-Nehemie St. Louis	\$ 5,008.66
MWRA-Transfer-Jose Ayala-Gonzalez	\$ 1,888.38
Newton Retirement System-Trans. Teresa McDermott	\$ 4,748.70
FIIOC FDO Alan Arzu Jussif-Rollover	\$ 40,284.55
Fidelity Investments FBO Rebecca Parra-Rollover	\$ 50,000.00
Rebecca Parra-Refund of Ret. Deductions	\$ 41,842.74
City of Chelsea Federal Taxes-Rebecca Parra refund	\$ 10,460.68

The following payroll and vendor warrants were emailed to the Board for their review on February 18, 2021:

Date	Retiree Payroll Warrant	Vendor Warrant
January 29, 2021	\$1,059,019.35	\$141,241.65

Date	Staff Payroll Warrant	Vendor Warrant
January 27, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$974.99
February 3, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$974.99
February 10, 2021	\$5,190.98 (includes Board Stipends)	\$1,320.74
February 17, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$974.99

Distribution of:

- December 2020 PRIT Balance Sheet
- November 2020 Cash Pages, Bank Statement, Bank Reconciliation
- PERAC's 1/15/2021 approval of Membership-Part Time Proration-Creditable Service Supplemental Regulation
- PERAC Pension Newsflash 1/28/2021
- PERAC Memo 8, 2021- Required Minimum Distribution-Now Age 72 for this Year's Distribution
- PERAC Memo 9, 2021 - Actuarial Data
- PERAC Memo 10, 2021-Forfeiture of Retirement Allowance for Dereliction of Duty by Members

At 9:43 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to adjourn. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara O'Brien  
Executive Director

Members' Approval:

  
Joseph M. Siewko, Chairman  
Richard Carroccino  
Cheryl Watson Fisher  
Edward M. Dunn, Ex Officio  
Carolyn M. Russo