

CHELSEA RETIREMENT BOARD

001075

Minutes from the meeting held Tuesday, January 21, 2021 at 9:00 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, Mrs. Cindy Donarumo, Assistant Director and Mr. Brian P. Monahan, Esq., Board Counsel

Agenda:

Chairman Siewko called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and all present stated their name and title including Shamus Murphy and his counsel, Attorney Grace Napolitano who were present for the matter relating to Mr. Murphy's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement.

Michael McLaughlin – M.G.L. c.32, s. 15(4) Status Conference

Chairman Siewko announced that the status conference was postponed until next month due to COVID-19 affecting Attorney Boumil's office and as a result, Attorney Boumil's ability to submit the joint Pre-Hearing Memorandum, in coordination with Attorney Sacco, to the Board by the January 14, 2021 deadline.

Shamus Murphy's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement – Medical Panel Certificate & Narrative received

Chairman Siewko received confirmation from all in attendance that there were no questions or concerns.

At 9:04 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to accept Shamus Murphy's Application for a Disability Retirement and to send to PERAC for their review. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:05 AM Shamus Murphy and his counsel, Attorney Grace Napolitano left the meeting.

At 9:08 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the Regular Session minutes from the December 8, 2020 Special Retirement Board meeting. The motion passed 4-0, Ms. Russo abstained and the votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:09 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the Executive Session minutes from the December 8, 2020 Special Retirement Board meeting. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:10 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the Regular Session Minutes from the December 15, 2020 Retirement Board meeting. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

RECEIVED  
CITY OF CHELSEA OFFICE  
CHELSEA, MA  
2021 NOV 18  
10:10:18

Vilma Colon – correction regarding the amount of creditable service the Chelsea Retirement Board will accept liability for upon proper repayment pursuant to M.G.L. c.32, s.3(8)(c)

At 9:17 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to accept 5 months of creditable service for Vilma Colon's employment from September 13, 1994-February 13, 1995. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Alfonso Velez, School Custodian – Refund of Retirement Deductions erroneously withheld on overtime

At 9:20 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Mr. Dunn to approve the above refund , in the amount of \$330.94, to Alfonso Velez. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Maria Pena, spouse of deceased member, Francisco Pena–Application for Option D benefit effective September 19, 2020

At 9:23 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to approve Maria Pena's Application for an Option D benefit effective September 19, 2020. 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	DOR	Age	Years of Service	Estimated 3 Yr. Average
Luis Prado/ Director of Health & Human Services	01/01/2021	72	20.0000	\$108,319.04
Kevin Crowley/Firefighter	01/12/2021	62	35.1667	\$100,960.63
Timothy Jude Dunn/CHA Electrician	01/14/2021	59	10.1667	\$49,433.98

At 9:30 AM Ms. Watson Fisher made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to approve the above applications submitted by Luis Prado and Kevin Crowley. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:31 AM Ms. Watson Fisher made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to approve the above application submitted by Timothy Jude Dunn. The motion passed 4-0, Mr. Dunn abstained and the votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

**Attorney's Report:**

- Susan Sullivan matter- Board Counsel stated that after the discussion at the Board's last Special Meeting, he sent notice to the Division of Administrative Law Appeals (DALA), with a copy to Katelyn Sullivan, stating that the Board would assent to an extension of the filing date. Board Counsel stated that Katelyn Sullivan would still have to file a motion with DALA for a continuance. Board Counsel confirmed that he has not received a response from Katelyn Sullivan or DALA as of this date.
- Vernava – Board Counsel stated that he expects that PERAC may issue an administrative memorandum advising whether or not they will be appealing the Superior Court decision.
- Michael McLaughlin-M.G.L. c.32, s.15 (4) Status Conference-Chairman Siewko stated that the parties were notified that the deadline for the submission of the joint Pre-Hearing Memorandum has been extended to February 11, 2021. After discussion regarding attorney and board member availability, it was decided that next month's

meeting would be changed from February 18, 2021 at 9 AM to February 22, 2021 at 9 AM and that the Status Conference would be scheduled for that date as well.

0019

**Executive Director's Report:**

- The Executive Director provided an update on the issuance of the 1099R forms and the staff W-2 forms.

The January 2021 Accounts Payable Warrant, totaling \$68,698.02 and consisting of the following vouchers, was emailed to the Board on January 20, 2021 for their review:

City of Chelsea – Postage	\$ 199.50
Lowell Retirement System	\$ 10,143.33
MACRS	\$ 600.00
MA Housing Retirement Board	\$ 12,343.27
Middlesex County Retirement System	\$ 20,374.92
Brian P. Monahan, Esq.	\$ 4,500.00
Newton Retirement System	\$ 913.84
Barbara O'Brien	\$ 172.13
Revere Retirement System	\$ 4,894.09
Ricoh USA, Inc.	\$ 135.25
Somerville Retirement Board	\$ 9,405.74
The Law Offices of Michael Sacco, P.C.	\$ 3,475.00
Alfonso Velez- Refund of Deductions	\$ 330.94
Waltham Retirement Board	\$ 874.76
W.B. Mason	\$ 71.02
COPRICO Printing	\$ 264.23
Alfonso Velez-Reversal/Void ck #14694	\$ -330.94
Alfonso Velez-Refund of Deductions	\$ 264.75
City of Chelsea-Federal Taxes Alfonso Velez	\$ 66.19

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

Date	Retiree Payroll Warrant	Vendor Warrant
December 18, 2020	\$1,037,937.93	\$106,840.70
Date	Staff Payroll Warrant	Vendor Warrant
December 23, 2020	\$3,190.98	\$974.99
December 30, 2020	\$3,190.98	\$974.99
January 6, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$974.99
January 13, 2021	\$5,190.98 (includes Board Stipends)	\$1,320.74
January 20, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$983.84

At 9:46 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to approve the above warrants. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

**Distribution of:**

- 2021 Mass Retirees Recruitment Request
- 2019 Independent Auditors Report
- October and November 2020 PRIT Balance Sheet
- October 2020 Cash Pages, Bank Statement, Bank Reconciliation
- PERAC Memo #34, 2020- Cost of Living Increase for Supplemental Dependent Allowance Paid to Accidental Disability Retirees and Accidental Death Survivors

- PERAC Memo #35, 2020-Post Retirement Work Waiver During the State of Emergency Extended to 2021
- PERAC Memo #36, 2020 2020- Disability Data
- PERAC Memo #37, 2020 -Mandatory Retirement Board Member Training 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021
- PERAC Memo #38, 2020- Questions Arising in the Wake of the Gomes Decision
- PERAC Memo #39, 2020 -Tobacco Company List
- PERAC Memo #1, 2021- 840 CMR 10:10(3) & 10:15(1)(c) – Annual Review of Medical Testing Fee
- PERAC Memo #2, 2021- 2021 Limits under Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2002
- PERAC Memo #3, 2021- 2021 Limits under Section 23 of Chapter 131 of the Acts of 2010
- PERAC Memo #4, 2021- COLA Notice

The Board did not enter Executive Session.

At 9:52 AM Ms. Watson Fisher made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino 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