

CHELSEA RETIREMENT BOARD

001995

Minutes from the meeting held Thursday, May 20, 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 @ hobrien@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

At 9:05 AM Chairman Siewko opened the meeting, stated that the meeting was being recorded and then all present stated their names and titles.

Mark Lee's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement

The Executive Director explained that pursuant to the Board's request at its April 15, 2021 meeting, on April 16, 2021 she sent a detailed letter to Mr. Lee's treating physician requesting additional information and clarification. The Executive Director stated that since she did not receive a response she followed up with the Doctor's office and was advised that the Doctor at this time is not providing any additional information as he believes he has already provided sufficient explanation.

At 9:07 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to enter Executive Session to discuss the options available to the Board in the matter relating to Mark Lee's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea
At 9:25 AM the Board returned to Regular Session.

At 9:26 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Dunn to instruct the Executive Director , in conjunction with asking Mr. Lee to come to the Retirement Office, to write a letter to Mr. Lee explaining that the Board has not met the threshold requirement on permanency due to the statements made by the Treating Physician that he is refusing to clarify, that the Board will assist Mr. Lee in any way possible but that the Board needs a satisfactory and complete Treating Physician's Statement in order to move his Application for an Accidental Disability Retirement forward; further, explain that it is then Mr. Lee's option to either pursue this with his current physician or seek another physician who can sufficiently complete the physician's portion of the application. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA
2021 NOV 16 A 10:19

At 9:38 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the Regular Session Minutes from the April 15, 2021 Retirement Board meeting with the minor changes. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:42 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to approve the Executive Session Minutes from the April 15, 2021 Retirement Board meeting,transcribed by the Executive Director, with the minor changes discussed. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:44 AM the Executive Director left the meeting and will return after the Board discusses the Executive Session Minutes from the April 15, 2021 Retirement Board meeting,transcribed by the Assistant Director. The Assistant Director will host the meeting and transcribe the minutes in the Executive Director's absence.

At 9:46 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the Executive Session Minutes from the April 15, 2021 Retirement Board meeting,transcribed by the Assistant Director ,with minor changes, and to have the Executive Director return to the meeting. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:49 AM the Executive Director returned to the meeting and to hosting the meeting.

Calendar Year (CY) 2021 Budget

The Executive Director reviewed each line item of the CY2021 budget that she drafted for the Board's review and pointed out that since the Retirement Board staff has not yet had their annual review, that line item is subject to change. The Board pointed out that supplemental budgets can be submitted as well.

At 10:03 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the CY2021 Budget as drafted by the Executive Director. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Retirement Board Member Educational Credit Opportunity Fees

At 10:05 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Dunn to allow any interested Board member, Board Staff or Board Counsel to attend MACRS' 2021 Virtual Spring Conference being held June 7-June 8, 2021. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Mr. Dunn:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Ms. Watson Fisher:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Chairman Siewko stated that anyone interested in attending MACRS' 2021 Virtual Spring Conference being held June 7-June 8, 2021 should advise the Executive Director

At 10:10 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Watson Fisher to approve the above retirement. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko: Yea Mr. Dunn: Yea Ms. Russo: Yea Ms. Watson Fisher: Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

The following member has withdrawn 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
Julia Velazquez/Analyst/1	06/30/2021	65	19.4167	\$52,658.73

At 10:12 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to rescind the prior vote approving Ms. Velazquez' application for a retirement effective June 30, 2021. 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/Karelyn Sullivan matter – DALA Notice dated April 16, 2021- Board Counsel acknowledged the receipt of this notice of DALA's dismissal and suggested that the matter relating to the distribution of Susan Sullivan's annuity be placed on next month's agenda.

- Michael McLaughlin- M.G.L. c. 32, s. 15(7) matter- Board Counsel referenced the Board's recommendation to PERAC and PERAC's subsequent approval of that recommendation. Board Counsel suggested that the Board calculate the retirement deductions that are due to Mr. McLaughlin as a result of the 15(7) decision, notify PERAC of that figure and indicate to PERAC that absent any directive from PERAC otherwise, the Board will return those funds to Mr. McLaughlin. Board Counsel stated that there is a M.G.L. c. 32, s. 15(1) appeal that the Chelsea Housing Authority (CHA) is involved in at the Division of Administrative Law Appeal (DALA) that is being held in abeyance pending the M.G.L. c. 32, s. 15(4) hearing. Board Counsel stated that Magistrate Rooney has requested that he be provided with notification within two weeks of the final decision. Board Counsel stated that he is not certain if Magistrate Rooney will take action after the first 15(4) hearing or wait for the conclusion of all three 15(4) hearings. Board Counsel explained that these funds due to Mr. McLaughlin as a result of the 15(7) determination would not be available to the CHA even if the CHA were to prevail in the 15(1) appeal and have a hearing and have that hearing determine that restitution is in order. Board Counsel further explained that if PERAC advised the Board that they are authorized to return the funds to Mr. McLaughlin, then the Board upon returning the funds to Mr. McLaughlin should notify Mr. McLaughlin that should he prevail in his appeal of PERAC's 15(7) determination, he would be responsible for re-depositing the funds to the Chelsea Retirement System. Ms. Russo added that if PERAC advises that the Board is prohibited from releasing the funds, PERAC needs to advise on what basis that determination was made.

At 10:22 AM Ms. Watson Fisher made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo for the Executive Director to send the figures, as explained above by Board Counsel, to PERAC. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko: Yea Mr. Dunn: Yea Ms. Russo: Yea Ms. Watson Fisher: Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Executive Director's Report:

- Member Annual Statements mailed out on April 21, 2021

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

0 0 1 9 9 8

Date	Retiree Payroll Warrant	Vendor Warrant
April 30, 2021	\$1,116,521.76	\$155,877.46

Date	Staff Payroll Warrant	Vendor Warrant
April 21, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$999.94
April 28, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$996.99
May 5, 2021	\$3,190.98	\$996.99
May 12, 2021	\$5,190.98 (w/stipends)	\$1,342.74
May 19, 2021	\$3,190.98	999.94

At 10:26 AM Mr. Dunn made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo 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 Calendar Year Budget - Draft
- February 2021 and March 2021 PRIT Balance Sheet
- PERAC Memo #15,2021-Implementation of Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML)
- PERAC Pension News No. 57-April 2021
- Susan Sullivan/Katelyn Sullivan – DALA Conditional Order of Dismissal dated April 16, 2021
- MACRS 2021 Virtual Spring Conference Agenda and Registration information-June 7-June 8, 2021

Chairman Siewko announced that effective June 1, 2021, the Retirement Office will be open during regular City Hall hours with the Retirement Staff staggering their schedules.

Chairman Siewko also announced that he is looking forward to returning to in person Retirement Board meetings.

At 10:39 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Mr. Dunn 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: