

November 17, 2021

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Notice of Remote Participation

The meeting of the Middlesex County Retirement Board convened at 11:05 A.M. Present at the Board's offices were Chairman Thomas Gibson and Board members John Brown, Brian Curtin, Joseph Kearns, and Robert Healy. Lisa Maloney, Chief Administrative Officer, and Nancy O'Neil, Board Secretary, were also present. Members of the public were required to access today's meeting via the GoToMeeting platform.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Next, there being no requests by any Board member to remove items from the Consent Agenda,

On motion duly made by Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Brown, it was moved to approve Consent Agenda items #3a.-3#n.

The motion passed.

At this time, the Board discussed Robert Bracey's request to change the group classification of his position as Director of Public Health for the Town of North Reading from Group 1 to Group 2 or Group 4.

The Chairman reminded the Board that public employees' group classifications are set by statute and are job title specific. In the absence of a legislative addition of Director of Public Health to the positions classified by statute in Group 2 or Group 4, the Board is compelled to deny his request.

After review,

On motion duly made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Curtin, it was moved to deny Robert Bracey's request to change his group classification, and to advise him of his right of appeal.

The motion passed.

At 11:10 A.M.,

On motion duly made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Curtin, it was moved to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 7 of the Open Meeting Law: "To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general ... law", that law being Exemption (c) of the Public Records Law (G.L. c. 4, s. 7(26)(c)) exempting personnel and medical files or information and other materials or data relating to a specifically

named individual, the disclosure of which may constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, following which the Board will reconvene in open session.

Roll Call Vote

John Brown	YES
Brian P. Curtin	YES
Thomas F. Gibson	YES
Robert W. Healy	YES
Joseph Kearns	YES

The motion passed.

At 11:52 A.M.,

On motion duly made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Kearns, it was moved to come out of Executive Session

Roll Call Vote

John Brown	YES
Brian P. Curtin	YES
Thomas F. Gibson	YES
Robert W. Healy	YES
Joseph Kearns	YES

The motion passed.

At 11:53 A.M.,

On motion duly made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Kearns, it was moved to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 7 of the Open Meeting Law: "To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general ... law", that law being Exemption (n) of the Public Records Law (G.L. c. 4, s. 7(26)(n)) exempting records which relate to cyber security or other infrastructure located within the Commonwealth, the disclosure of which is likely to jeopardize cyber security, following which the Board will reconvene in open session.

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Roll Call Vote

John Brown	YES
Brian Curtin	YES
Thomas F. Gibson	YES
Robert W. Healy	YES
Joseph W. Kearns	YES

The motion passed.

At 12:33 P.M.,

On motion duly made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Curtin, it was moved to come out of Executive Session and recess for lunch.

Roll Call Vote

John Brown	YES
Brian P. Curtin	YES
Thomas F. Gibson	YES
Robert W. Healy	YES
Joseph Kearns	YES

The motion passed.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 1:10 P.M. without the Board Secretary

Chief Administrative Officer's Report

At this time, Ms. Maloney delivered the Chief Administrative Officer's report. She referred the Board members to her written summary of the System's activities since the last Board meeting.

Ms. Maloney reported that PERAC completed its biennial review of the benefit calculation waiver process and determined that all is in order. The System's waiver remains in place.

Accidental disability retirees Daniel Gaynor and Michael Phillips have been scheduled for show cause hearings on December 8th due to their failure to file an Annual Statement of Earned Income with PERAC.

Ms. Maloney reported that two virtual employer training programs were held this year. Sixty-five people from 34 units participated. The program was well-received by the employer units' payroll and human resources staff.

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With respect to the System's fiduciary insurance policy, Ms. Maloney noted that Paul Shanley of Amity Insurance is warning retirement systems of the likelihood of higher than usual premium increases next year. He stated increased litigation costs have caused significant premium increases in the defined contribution plan sector. He expects the same impact in the defined benefit plan sector. After discussion, the Board directed the Chairman to contact Mr. Shanley to discuss the System's insurance coverage options.

Ms. Maloney reported Mammoth Fire Alarms proposal to replace the current Masterbox system with cellular fire alarm system monitoring expires November 30th. To take advantage of current pricing, the Board directed Ms. Maloney to move forward with the installation now rather than wait until spring 2022.

With respect to the HVAC system, Burnell Controls submitted two options for its maintenance contract for 2021-2022. The first option is a contract in the amount of \$2,192.00 per year which provides two visits per year at eight hours per visit. The second option is a contract that provides two visits per year at four hours per visit. The annual cost would be \$1,208.00.

After review,

On motion duly made by Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Curtin, it was moved to accept the contract that provides two, four-hour visits per year in the amount of \$1,208.00.

The motion passed.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Gibson updated the Board on recent legislative activity which had been reported at PERAC's November 10th meeting, including the proposed disposition of ARPA funds as bonuses for public and private sector workers.

Recent PERAC Memoranda was reviewed, including PERAC's alert of recent investment fraud occurring at another retirement system. The Chairman brought this to the attention of PRIM, which, in turn, has provided updated information pertaining to PRIM's cybersecurity and cash processing protocols.

Mr. Gibson reviewed the monthly litigation report, noting activity at DALA and CRAB, and additional appeals that had been filed since the October report.

The Board set the following Board Meeting dates: January 19, 2022, February 16, 2022, and March 16, 2022.

The Board announced the following votes which were taken in Executive Session:

5(c.) The Board voted to conduct an investigation and application review on January 19, 2022, in the matter of Jared Yanis' application for accidental disability retirement.


5(b.) The Board voted to approve David Christianson's application for accidental disability retirement.

5(a). The Board voted to deny Erik Easton's application for accidental disability retirement based on the medical panel's findings, and to advise him of his right of appeal.


The Board voted to accept Martin Technical Services' proposal to support unified messaging with Office 365.

The Board voted to accept one year of hardware and software support for the System's telephone system from Martin Technical Services.


There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion duly made by Mr. Healy seconded by Mr. Curtin it was moved to adjourn at 2:10 P.M.




Thomas F. Gibson, Chairman




Brian P. Curtin, Vice Chairman



John Brown, Elected Member



Joseph W. Kearns, Elected Member



Robert W. Healy, Appointed Member

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Regular Session Documents

1. Consent Agenda – Items #3(a) - #3(n)
2. Robert Bracey's request for Group Classification Change
3. Chief Administrative Officer's Report
4. State Street Performance Summary
5. PRIM Performance Report
6. Pension and Investments Article on Fiduciary Premium Increase