

# OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CITY OF LANSING POLICE AND FIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

March 21, 2023  
Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Trustee Kirkland, Kreft, Moore, Taylor (8:32), Wilcox, Wohlfert – 6.  
Absent: Excused: Schor, Wood.

Others present: Karen E. Williams, Human Resources Department, Attorney Joseph Abood, City Attorney's Office; Attorney Aaron Castle, VanOverbeke.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and supported by Trustee Moore to approve the official minutes of the Joint Employees' Retirement System and the Police and Fire Retirement System Board Meeting of February 21, 2023.

Adopted by the following vote: 5 – 0.

There were no public comments for items on the agenda.

## Secretary's Report:

0 new sworn fire member(s), 0 new sworn police members, 0 reinstatement(s), 0 refund(s), 0 transfers, 0 retired. Total: Active membership: 372. 2 death(s), Ronald R. Middaugh, Police, died 11/25/2022, age 78, spouse to receive 50%, Marie Ray, died 2/24/2023, age 92, spouse of Fire retiree. Refunds made since the last regular meeting amounted to \$0.00. Reimbursements to the System year-to-date amount to \$0.00. Retirement allowances paid for the month of February 2023, amounted to \$3,150,475.98. Total retirement checks printed for the P&F System: 791. Total retirement checks printed for both systems: 1,715. Domestic relations order received: 0. Domestic relations orders pending: 0. Eligible Domestic Relations Order Certified: 1.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and supported by Trustee Moored to approve the following Applications for Regular Age & Service Retirement:

Damian T. Manson (Police – Supervisory), 25 years of service credits, age 52, effective 4/15/2023 (Sworn Date 5/18/1998)

Robert J. McBride (Police NonSupervisory), 25 years of service credits, age 50, effective 4/15/2023 (Sworn Date 5/18/1998)

Brian A. Rendon (Police – NonSupervisory), 25 years of service credits, age 55, effective 3/31/2023. (Sworn Date 3/30/1998)

Richard L. Thomas (Police – Supervisory), 25 years of service credits, age 52, effective 4/15/2023 (Sworn Date 5/18/1998)

Adopted by the following vote: 6 - 0.

Karen Williams reported that the Police and Fire Retirement System received a request from Applicant #2022-F0720 to be reconsidered for duty disability. Karen Williams indicated that applicant contacted the retirement office and stated that they were gathering further documents.

Trustee Wohlfert inquired if we had a timeline for the applicant to submit materials.

Attorney Castle indicated that the Board could set a deadline for submission for the medical director when reconsidering a request.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and supported by Trustee Kirkland to approve the following request for refund of accumulated contributions:

Paul O. Antonie, IAFF, not vested, \$5,097.62.

Adopted by the following vote: 6-0

There were no requests for refund of accumulated contributions.

Ms. Williams notified the Board of NCPERS Annual Conference, May 20 -23, 2003 in New Orleans, Louisiana, and MAPERS Spring Conference, May 20 -23, 2023 in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Karen Williams reported that Trustee Schor and Trustee Wood had informed the Retirement Office that they would not be able to attend the January retirement meeting and requested to be excused.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and supported by Trustee Taylor to excuse Trustee Schor and Trustee Wood from the Police and Fire Retirement Board March meeting.

Adopted by the following vote: 6 -0.

There were no public comments for items not on the agenda.

Ms. Williams provided the following invoices for approval: from Northern Trust, \$13,425.44, Boomershine, \$1,302.50, Western Asset, \$20,515.33.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and supported by Trustee Moore to approve the Police and Fire Retirement System Board invoices for payment for the month of March.

Adopted by the following vote: 6 - 0.

Attorney Aaron Castle provided an update to the Police and Fire Retirement System Board regarding the Michigan Pension Tax Changes, Public Act 4 of 2023. Attorney Castle reported that on March 7, the Governor signed into law Public Act 4 that phases in a state income tax reduction for retirees over the course of four years. Public Act 4 was not given immediate effect and will not take effect until 2024.

Attorney Castle updated the Police and Fire Retirement System regarding the Protecting Michigan Pension Grant Program. Attorney Castle reported that the Michigan Department of Treasury released additional information regarding program on its website and includes a preliminary list of qualified local retirement systems. Attorney Castle stated that the program was for underfunded pension funds under 60% funded. He indicated that the City of Lansing Police and Fire Retirement System would not be eligible to apply. Attorney Castle provided a preliminary timeline for the application process.

Karen Williams distributed the Segal renewal information for the Fiduciary Liability Insurance Coverage. Attorney Castle explained that the Board would need to provide the updated trustee list and the most recent actuarial report for the renewal.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and Trustee Kirkland to proceed with the Fiduciary Liability Insurance Coverage renewal process.

Adopted by the following: 6 – 0.

Karen Williams reported that Trustee Kirkland, Karen Williams, and Finance Staff met with Clayton Robinson of Northern Trust regarding custodial banking services. Northern Trust stated the first step would be to set up cash accounts to receive contributions and pay expenses. Mr. Robinson provided options to pay expenses either through submitting invoices or with the Cash Web Management system.

Trustee Wohlfert inquired if the Board submitted invoices, would there be additional authorization required or just Board approval.

Trustee Kirkland stated that Northern Trust stated that authorization would be needed for the invoices to be paid.

Attorney Castle indicated that the Board would approve the invoices to be paid and then either the invoice would be signed by an authorized signer or a letter of direction.

Karen Williams provided the Police and Fire Retirement System Board with listing of medical specialties for MES Solution and MMRO Medical Services for review. The Board discussed that some retirees live out of state, discussed a medical panel or medical director, and the current fees for MES solutions.

Trustee Wohlfert inquired if the review of the two organizations would meet the requirements of vendor review policy.

Attorney Castle stated the Board has the discretion on how the vendor reviews are conducted. He indicated the Police and Fire Retirement System has reviewed the medical survey from 2018 and reviewed the services of MES Solution and MMRO Medical Services. Attorney Castle indicated that the Board's review satisfies the vendor review policy.

The Police and Fire Retirement Board discussed a two-doctor system.

Attorney Castle would not have recommended the two- doctor system because the Board may get competing opinions and then the Board would need a third medical opinion. The two-doctor system would involve more costs and additional time for disability to move through the process.

Trustee Taylor inquired if the Board could get an outside opinion other than the medical director.

Attorney Castle indicated that the Board could get additional opinions through MES or with other medical professionals if needed.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and supported by Trustee Taylor to retain the current medical director.

Adopted by the following vote: 6 – 0.

Ms. Williams reviewed the Monthly Investment Report for the month ending February 28, 2023. Ms. Williams also reviewed a report from Asset Consulting Group regarding the Silicon Valley bank failure.

It was moved by Trustee Wilcox and supported by Trustee Moore to adjourn the Police and Fire Retirement System March meeting.

Adopted by the following vote: 6 - 0.

The meeting ended at 9:05 a.m.

Minutes approved on 4/18/2023.

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*Desiree Kirkland, Secretary*  
*Police and Fire Retirement System*

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*Eric P. Wohlfert, Chairperson*  
Police and Fire Retirement System