

SALEM RETIREMENT BOARD
OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2021
12:00 P.M.

In attendance at this regular meeting of the Salem Retirement Board (“the Board”), via zoom webinar, were Dominick Pangallo (Chair), Laurie Giardella, Sarah M. Hayes, and Marcia A. Pelletier. Also in attendance were Board Treasurer Kathleen McMahon, Board Attorneys Thomas Gibson, Esq., and Gerald McDonough, Esq., as well as Executive Director Paul Findlen.

Remote Participation Announcement

Mr. Pangallo announced that, “pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Salem Contributory Retirement Board is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. Persons who would like to listen or view this meeting while in progress may do so by visiting <https://zoom.us/join>, entering meeting ID # ‘825 0136 4638’ as directed on the webpage, and clicking ‘Join’. Follow the on-screen instructions to join the meeting. You can also dial a toll-free phone number at 877-853-5257 to join the meeting. When prompted, enter meeting ID # ‘825 0136 4638’ and then follow the instructions to join the meeting. All votes taken by this body shall be by roll call vote. To offer public comment, participants may click the ‘Raise Hand’ button or, if on the phone, may press *9 to raise their hand to speak.”

I. Executive Session

A motion was made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 7 of the Open Meeting Law and in compliance with 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. On roll call, the vote was as follows:

VOTED:	Laurie Giardella	Yes
	Sarah M. Hayes	Yes
	Marcia Pelletier	Yes
	Chair Dominick Pangallo	Yes

At approximately 12:03 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session. The Chair stated that the Board would return to Open Session.

At approximately 12:15 p.m. the Board reconvened in Open Session and the Chair announced the Board’s actions during Executive Session on the following items:

ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY RETIREMENT

1. John E. Roth, Jr.

The Board reviewed an application for accidental disability retirement benefits, submitted on behalf of John E. Roth, Jr., together with a treating physician's statement, a statement submitted by Mr. Roth's employer, and a recommendation made by Board Attorney Thomas Gibson. On a motion to accept the application submitted on behalf of John E. Roth, Jr., firefighter for the City of Salem, request the appointment of a regional medical panel, and pursue any additional documents that may have been omitted from Mr. Roth's pre-employment physical, made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the roll call vote was as follows:

VOTED:	Laurie Giardella	Yes
	Sarah M. Hayes	Yes
	Marcia Pelletier	Yes
	Chair Dominick Pangallo	Yes

VOTED: The application submitted on behalf of John E. Roth, Jr., for accidental disability retirement benefits was accepted and the Board will petition PERAC to convene a regional medical panel and pursue any additional documents that may have been omitted from Mr. Roth's pre-employment physical

VI. New Business (taken out of order)

Ms. Pelletier asked Attorney Gibson if the term for the first elected member, which had been amended so as not to expire in the same year as the expiration of the term of the fifth member of the Board, should be amended as the new fifth member's term will no longer expire in the same year as the term of the first elected member. Attorney Gibson recommended that the Board wait until a fifth member has been appointed to the Board and the term of the fifth member is defined before any action is taken on reverting the term of the first elected member to the original term of 6/3/2019 – 6/3/2022. Attorney Gibson also discussed bill proposal HD.1794, which proposes an addition of 3 years to a member's age or years of service, if they volunteered or had been required to work anywhere other than their personal residence during the period of 3/10/2020 through 12/31/2020. There appears to be a significant amount of support for the bill, however, the funding source for the added credit has yet to be identified. Attorney Gibson also discussed the Board's interest in adopting supplemental regulations that would help shore up the enrollment process, specifically as it relates to the City's school department. Attorney Gibson also recommended an annual January review of the prior year's Executive Session minutes to determine if a need for secrecy still exists, and if it does not, those minutes are to be disclosed to the public. Attorney Gibson also commended the Board and the Board administration, for their work during the pandemic. Ms. Hayes posed a question to Attorney Gibson regarding elected officials and the legal mechanism that allows them to enroll into a retirement system at the start of a new term, even if they have not elected to join the retirement system in prior terms of elected service.

Attorneys Gibson and McDonough left the meeting at approximately 12:25 p.m.

II. Regular Matters of Business

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous Board meeting, held on January 27, 2021, were reviewed and, on a motion made by Ms. Hayes and seconded by Ms. Giardella, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to approve the January meeting minutes as submitted.

Monthly Warrants

The warrants for the month of February were reviewed. On a motion made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to approve the February warrants as submitted.

Applications to Purchase Service

The Board reviewed an application submitted on behalf of Josh Turiel who applied to purchase service pursuant to M.G.L. c. 32 § 4(2)(c). On a motion made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to approve the application as submitted.

Recent Enrollments

The Board continued All recent new enrollments were reviewed. On a motion made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to acknowledge the new enrollments as submitted.

Benefit Calculation Results

All benefit calculation results for the month of February were reviewed and, on a motion made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to approve the February benefit calculation results for Barbara Andrews; Robert J. Cook; Kevin M. Koen; Michael P. Leonard; and John J. Morrison, as submitted.

III. Treasurer's Report

The Board reviewed the reconciliation report for the month of January, prepared by Board Treasurer, Kathleen McMahon. On a motion made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Findlen presented the Board with a report on all cash receipts for the month of January, a trial balance for the month of January, for the Board's review. Mr. Findlen also presented the Board with a monthly expenditure report for the month of January for the Board's review. The Board reviewed monthly statements of the SCRB's investment in the PRIT Core Fund, prepared by the MA PRIM Board. The PRIT Core Fund experienced a .03% loss in the month of January. On a motion made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to acknowledge the Executive Director's Report.

V. PERAC Memos

The Board reviewed a recent PERAC newsflash detailing the appointment of Richard D. MacKinnon, Jr to PERAC, as well as other recent PERAC news.

VII. Old Business

There were no old business matters that required the Board's attention.

The Board confirmed the scheduling of the next regular meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, March 24th, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

On a motion made by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Pelletier, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Giardella, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Ms. Pelletier, yes, to adjourn the meeting at 12:52 p.m.

Dominick Pangallo, Chair

Laurie Giardella

Sarah M. Hayes

Marcia A. Pelletier

Documents used in SCRB Board meeting of February 24, 2021

- Agenda for January 27, 2021 SCRB Board meeting
- Open Session minutes of January 27, 2021 SCRB Board meeting
- February Cash Disbursements Warrant
- New Member Enrollment Report
- Benefit Calculations Results report
- January Treasurer's Report
- January Cash Receipts
- January Trial Balance
- January monthly expenditure report
- PRIT Fund December Statement
- PRIM Performance Update
- PERAC Newsflash