

SALEM RETIREMENT BOARD
OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 24, 2021
9:00 A.M.

In attendance at this regular meeting of the Salem Retirement Board (“the Board”), via zoom webinar, were Dominick Pangallo (Chair), Anna E. Freedman, Sarah M. Hayes, and Matt Veno. Also in attendance were Board Treasurer Kathleen McMahon and 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, and the June 16, 2021 signing of An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, which includes an extension, until April 1, 2022, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020, Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, 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 # ‘863 5931 5475’ 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 833-548-0276 to join the meeting. When prompted, enter meeting ID # ‘863 5931 5475’ 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. Regular Matters of Business

Meeting Minutes

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

Monthly Warrants

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

Applications to Purchase Service

The Board did not take up any new applications to purchase service.

Recent Enrollments

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

Benefit Calculation Results

All benefit calculation results for the month of November were reviewed and, on a motion made by Mr. Veno and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Freedman, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Mr. Veno, yes, to approve the November benefit calculation results for Stanley J. Usovicz; Cynthia Carr; and Kevin D. Murray, as submitted.

II. Treasurer's Report

The Board reviewed the reconciliation report for the month of October, prepared by Board Treasurer, Kathleen McMahon. Ms. McMahon noted the deduction payments made on retroactive salary adjustments, which required benefit adjustments for eligible retirees. On a motion made by Ms. Freedman and seconded by Ms. Hayes, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Freedman, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Mr. Veno, yes, to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

III. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Findlen presented the Board with a report on all cash receipts for the month of October, as well as a trial balance for the month of October. Mr. Findlen also presented the Board with a monthly expenditure report for the month of October 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 grew by approximately 2.64% in the month of October, raising the fund's return to 17.26% growth for the calendar year. On a motion made by Ms. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Veno, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Freedman, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Mr. Veno, yes, to acknowledge the Executive Director's Report.

IV. PERAC Memos

The Board discussed PERAC memos 31, as well as other recent PERAC news, including PERAC Pension News No. 58. Mr. Findlen discussed Memo 31, which addressed PERAC's 2021 Pension Fraud Prevention Campaign. In their most recent newsletter, PERAC reported on the favorable returns enjoyed by public pension systems throughout Massachusetts, as well as the work that PERAC has done to assist systems in establishing assumed rates of returns that are "responsible, measured, and consistent with public projections." The newsletter also provided a Legislative Update, which detailed the amendment to M.G.L. c. 32 § 91, which, as of July 1, 2021, allows retirees of the public sector to work up to 1,200 hours per calendar year within the public sector in Massachusetts.

V. 2021 Board Election Update

Mr. Findlen updated the Board on the simultaneous election set to take place on Monday, November 29th. Mr. Findlen informed the Board that, at the request of Ms. Hayes, the voter lists maintained by the SCRB to track ballots returned by eligible were made available to the candidates. Two of the candidates, Sally Hayes and Ronald Michaud, took the opportunity to view the lists.

VI. Powers & Sullivan Audit

The Board reviewed the audited financial statements of the Salem Contributory Retirement Board, in a report prepared by Powers & Sullivan. The Board discussed the actuarial assumptions noted in the report, as well as the pension plan's total liability. The Board commended the SCRB staff on resolving the prior year comments noted in the 2019 report issued by Powers & Sullivan. On a motion made by Mr. Veno and seconded by Ms. Freedman, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Freedman, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Mr. Veno, yes to acknowledge the Powers & Sullivan audit reports.

VII. Old Business

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

VIII. New Business

The Board scheduled its next regular meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, December 28th, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. Mr. Findlen informed the Board of his plans to use vacation time on December 29th and December 30th.

On a motion made by Mr. Veno and seconded by Ms. Freedman, the Board voted by roll call: Ms. Freedman, yes, Ms. Hayes, yes, Mr. Pangallo, yes, Mr. Veno, yes, to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

Dominick Pangallo, Chair

Anna E. Freedman

Sarah M. Hayes

Matthew Veno

Documents used in SCRB Board meeting of November 24, 2021

- Agenda for November 24, 2021 SCRB Board meeting
- Open Session minutes of October 27, 2021 SCRB Board meeting
- November Cash Disbursements Warrant
- New Member Enrollment Report
- Benefit Calculations Results Report
- October Treasurer's Report
- October Cash Receipts
- October Trial Balance
- October monthly expenditure report
- PRIT Fund October Statement
- PRIM Performance Update
- PERAC Memo 31.2021
- PERAC Pension News No. 58
- Powers & Sullivan CY2020 Financial Statements
- Powers & Sullivan CY2020 Internal Control Letter
- Powers & Sullivan CY2020 Management Letter