

## MINUTES FOR THE 1,277<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING

### STATE BOARD OF RETIREMENT

**DATE:** June 27, 2024

**TIME:** 10:03 A.M.

**PLACE:** One Winter Street – 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA/Remote

There being a quorum, the June 27, 2024, meeting of the State Retirement Board (“Board”) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Treasurer & Receiver General Deborah B. Goldberg, Chair.

Treasurer Goldberg announced under the Commonwealth’s Open Meeting Law under Massachusetts General Law chapter 30A, §20, as amended by Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2023, that the meeting of the Board was being held via the Internet and was being called to order with the following Members who would be participating remotely for all or part of the meeting and who were identified at this time: Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer & Receiver General, Chair; Francis Valeri, Elected Member; Theresa McGoldrick, Elected Member; Archie Gormley, Chosen Member. Unless otherwise noted, all votes taken at the meeting were taken by roll call vote.

Board staff that were present or participated remotely for all or part of the meeting were Kathryn Kougias, Executive Director; Sandor Zapolin, Deputy Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer; Micalie Baptiste-Merisier, Office Manager/Executive; Jasmine Chasse, Disability Retirement Case Counselor; Joisei Horton, Senior Disability Retirement Counselor; Lisa Zale, Disability Unit Manager ; Yande Lombe, Associate Board Counsel; Andrew Dickey, Paralegal; Athila Soares-Nunes, Paralegal; Pamela Diggs, Paralegal; Robin Chu, Associate Board Counsel; John Durgin, Associate General Counsel; Brendan McGough, Associate General Counsel; Jennifer Hunt, Associate General Counsel; Paula Daddona, Director of Member Experience, Communications & Operations; Zachary Pierce, Communications Coordinator, II; Diana Reyes, Director of Disbursements and Survivor Benefits; Sharon L. Sullivan, Budget & Finance Manager; Stephanie Sicard, Assistant Director of Benefits Services; Tyler Williams, Constituent Service Liaison; Hana Hershey, MSRB Legal Summer Intern; Jessica Ashe, MSRB Legal Summer Intern. Joseph MacInnis; Assistant Director of Benefits Services; Kimberly Griffin, Director of Information Systems & Technology; Yves Sanon, Ben Calc QA Analyst/Disbursement.

Treasury staff that participated remotely for all or part of the meeting were: Chandra Bork, Chief of Staff; Sarah Kim, Deputy Treasurer/General Counsel; Emily Kowtoniuk, Legislative Director; Elizabeth Morrocco, Associate General Counsel/Procurement Director; Alexa Michon, Policy Associate; Stephen McIsaac, Chief Information Officer; Andrew Napolitano, Deputy Communications Director.

Members of the public were provided access to the meeting via a call-in number. Those registered as attending were as follows: Jennifer Wolson, Human Service Worker, DDS, SaraKate Matthews, Department of Correction, Personnel Officer I; Lynda Kelly; Lauren Iannelli – Assistant Superintendent II, Essex County Sheriff’s Department; Attorney Joseph Burke; Attorney Christine

Narcisse and John K. McGuire, Jr; Edward Nicosia; Janet Nicosia; Attorney Joseph Agnelli Jr.; Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger; Gina Carter; Attorney James H. Quick.

Treasurer Goldberg announced in accordance with the Commonwealth’s Open Meeting Law that any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting of a public body, and she was obligated to inform participants of any recording at the beginning of the meeting. She then asked that anyone who is making any recording identify themselves as doing so to Treasury staff monitoring the public access platform.

Treasurer Goldberg announced that for those members of the public accessing the open portion of the Board meeting, that access will conclude when the Board enters Executive Session and resume when the Board returns from Executive Session.

**MINUTES OF THE May 30, 2024 1,276<sup>th</sup> Board MEETING**

On a motion by Mr. Gormley and seconded by Ms. McGoldrick the Board voted to amend the Open Session minutes specifically to the 20/50 Board Review case of Lauren Iannelli. The sentence following the vote should read as follows:

“Since the motion to approve did not receive a majority of the vote, it failed.” Subsequently, a motion was made to approve the Open Session as amended and Executive minutes of the 1,276<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, held on May 27, 2024.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Treasurer Goldberg	Yes

**THE BOARD ENTERS EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 10:10 a.m. the Board entered Executive Session to review applications for disability retirement, associated benefits, litigation strategy, and to also consider the reputation, character, physical condition, or mental health of individuals with business before the Board. Treasurer Goldberg indicated the Board would reconvene in Open Session after the Executive Session.

Ms. McGoldrick made a motion to enter Executive Session, Mr. Valeri seconded the motion.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Treasurer Goldberg	Yes

**THE BOARD RECONVENES IN OPEN SESSION**

**TAB 2- GROUP CLASSIFICATIONS**

**GROUP 2**

**Pursuant to the Board’s Classification Policy the following are reported as approved for Group 2 Classification:**

1. **Bernice Asquith** – Probation Officer, MA Trial Court
2. **Paula Boudrot** – Social Worker II, DCF
3. **Kim Charette** – LPN II, Taunton State Hospital, DMH
4. **Berta Couto** – DSW III, Metro Region, DDS
5. **Diane Doherty** – Teaching Assistant, LABBB Collaborative
6. **David Joseph** – Rehabilitation Counselor A/B, DMH
7. **Joseph Loughman** – Court Officer, MA Trial Court
8. **Scott McConville** – Youth Services Caseworker, DYS
9. **Hugh Murphy** – Vocational Instructor C, DDS
10. **Rita Okafor** – LPN II, Metro Region, DDS
11. **Barry Sanders** – Clinical Social Worker A/B, BMSC, DMH
12. **Vuth Say** – Social Worker II, DCF
13. **Armando Silveira** – MHW III, Taunton State Hospital, DMH

**GROUP 2 (Board Review)**

1. **Patrick MacFarlane** – Classification Officer, Plymouth County Sheriff’s Department

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Mr. Valeri seconded by Mr. Gormley voted to approve this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

2. **Joseph Miranda** – Campus Police Officer I, Tewksbury State Hospital

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Ms. McGoldrick seconded by Mr. Gormley voted to deny this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

3. **Allison Ringuette** – DSW IV, Wrentham Developmental Center, DDS

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Mr. Gormley seconded by Mr. Valeri voted to deny this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**GROUP 2 (RECONSIDERATION) (Board Review)**

1. **Barbara Kos** – Certified Nurse Aide, Holyoke Soldiers' Home

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Mr. Gormley seconded by Ms. McGoldrick voted to approve the reconsideration.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

On a motion made by Mr. Gormley seconded by Ms. McGoldrick voted to approve this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**GROUP 2 PRO-RATE**

**Pursuant to the Board’s Classification Policy the following are reported as approved for Group 2 Pro-Rate Classification:**

**1. Okechukwu Anidi\***

**Department of Mental Health (RAP)**

Nurse Practitioner – 08/29/21 – 04/02/24

**Department of Mental Health  
(Corrigan Mental Health Center)**

RN III – 10/15/17 - 08/28/21

RN II – 09/19/11 - 10/14/17

\* Membership established after April 2, 2012, and so the member is required to pro-rate any position that they wish to classify, including the position that they currently hold.

**2. Gina Emanuel**

**Department of Children and Families**

Social Worker I – 11/06/88 - 03/17/90

Social Worker III – 03/18/90 - 04/18/98

Social Worker IV – 07/19/98 - 12/15/01

Social Worker D – 12/16/01 - 01/23/16

Social Worker III – 01/24/16 - 09/17/16

3. **Kevin Sandefer**

**Department of Mental Health**

Mental Health Coordinator – 03/15/98 - 12/26/98

**MA Trial Court**

Probation Officer – 12/28/98 - 11/22/13

4. **Janet Vaughan**

**Department of Mental Health**

**(Taunton State Hospital)**

Mental Health Worker I – 09/25/88 -  
11/03/07

**GROUP 2 PRO-RATE (Board Review)**

1. **Gina Emanuel**

**Department of Children and Families**

Program Manager V – 09/18/16 - 09/04/17

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Ms. McGoldrick seconded by Mr. Valeri voted to deny the request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

2. **Janet Vaughan**

**Department of Mental Health**

**(Taunton State Hospital)**

Clerk III – 11/04/07 - 03/03/15

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Ms. McGoldrick seconded by Mr. Valeri voted to deny this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**GROUP 4**

**Pursuant to the Board’s Classification Policy the following are reported as approved for Group 4 Classification:**

1. **Luis Arroyo** – Corporal, Hampden County Sheriff’s Department
2. **Gregory Barrett** – Correction Officer III, DOC
3. **David Bolduc** – Correction Officer I, DOC
4. **John Calcagni** – Correction Officer I, DOC
5. **Enrique Chavez** – Corporal, Hampden County Sheriff’s Department
6. **Mark Fantasia** – Correction Officer, Middlesex Sheriff’s Office
7. **John Gillen** – Correction Officer II, Barnstable County Sheriff’s Office
8. **Michael Gallagher** – Industrial Instructor III, DOC
9. **Luis Hernandez** – Captain, Hampden County Sheriff’s Department
10. **Michael Kemp** – Field Parole Officer C, MA Parole Board
11. **George Kennedy** – Correction Officer II, DOC
12. **Richard Ketchie** – Correction Officer I, DOC
13. **Paul Kilroy** – Correction Officer, Norfolk County Sheriff’s Office
14. **Joseph Kitterick** – Correction Officer, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department
15. **Stephen Lydon** – Correction Officer II, DOC
16. **Daniel Medeiros** – Correction Officer III, DOC
17. **William Poitras** – Industrial Instructor II, DOC
18. **John Salvie** – Captain, Berkshire County Sheriff’s Office
19. **Michael Santos** – Correction Officer/Captain, Plymouth County Sheriff’s Department
20. **Ryan Sauve** – Captain of Inmate Discipline, Bristol County Sheriff’s Department
21. **Kevin Scales** – Correction Officer II, DOC

**GROUP 4 (Board Review)**

1. **Robert Bettencourt** – Captain - Task Force, Bristol County Sheriff’s Department  
After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Ms. McGoldrick seconded by Mr. Valeri voted to deny this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**GROUP 4 CPO (Board Review)**

1. **Christine Dodd** – CPO D, DOC

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Mr. Gormley seconded by Mr. Valeri voted to approve this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**GROUP 4 PRO-RATE**

**Pursuant to the Board’s Classification Policy the following are reported as approved for Group 4 Pro-Rate Classification:**

1. **Wayne Mailloux\*** **Franklin County Sheriff’s Office**  
Correction Officer – 06/10/12 - 08/03/24

\* Membership established after April 2, 2012, and so the member is required to pro-rate any position that they wish to classify, including the position that they currently hold.

**20/50**

**Pursuant to the Board’s Classification Policy the following are reported as approved for Group 20/50 Classification:**



1. **John Fallon** – Sergeant, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department
2. **Jaret Foley** – Correction Officer, Middlesex Sheriff’s Office
3. **Lyle Rucker** – Correction Officer, Middlesex Sheriff’s Office

**20/50 (Board Review)**

1. **Jennifer Holley** – Corporal, Hampden County Sheriff’s Department

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Ms. McGoldrick seconded by Mr. Valeri voted to approve this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**20/50 (Reconsideration (Board Review))**

1. **Lauren Iannelli** – Assistant Superintendent II, Essex County Sheriff’s Department

Discussion ensued among Board Members Valeri and McGoldrick and Board staff. There was reference to other cases that have come before the Board and case law. Each case is evaluated based on the facts available. Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger addressed the Board on behalf of Ms. Iannelli’s case. Sheriff Coppinger referred to the Affidavit he submitted in support of the 20/50 benefit that was reviewed by the Board at the May 30, 2024, meeting. Board staff will follow up and provide the Board with case law and any other relevant information for their review.

Following the discussion, the Board, on a motion made by Mr. Valeri seconded by Ms. McGoldrick voted to reconsider the matter and voted to table this request.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

Subsequently, Ms. McGoldrick motioned, and Mr. Gormley seconded to table the Lauren Iannelli case.

**ON THE ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**TAB 3: REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Kougias informed the Board of the **HERO Act**, a veteran’s bill first filed by the Governor. The bill includes buyback language with a one-year grace period for veterans in public service who have not executed a military service buyback. It is anticipated that, after conference, it will be signed by the Governor.

Ms. Kougias has discussed with Bill Keefe, Executive Director of PERAC regarding each retirement board’s responsibility. PERAC will prepare a memo with guidance and draft language to use in the member communication. The Board’s staff’s early assessment has revealed that a notice will need to be sent to all members since the MARIS recordkeeping system does not have sufficient data to identify all veterans. The Board will provide written notice to its active members of the buyback opportunity within 90 days of the Act’s effective date.

Further, the bill removes the 180-day notice, and the Board will inform members of the military buyback upon entry into public service. The member would have the opportunity to enter into a military buyback agreement up to one year after vesting.

Ms. Kougias reviewed the payments to other Boards for the annual **3(8)(c) Reimbursements**, the semiannual **COLA reimbursements** to other Boards.

**3(8) (c) Payments**

- 2022 3(8)c payments (bills received in 2023) were made to 11 Boards in the amount of \$2,568,415.02. The payments were processed on 6/13/2024.
- 2023 3(8)c payments (bills received in 2024) were made to 43 Boards in the amount of \$2,253,103.97. The payments were processed on 6/18/2024.

**COLA Reimbursement**

- 108 eligible contributory and non-contributory boards received COLA Reimbursement in the total amount of \$5,305,708.29. The payments were processed on 6/17/2024.

Since the last **Benefit Adjustment Update** in March and closing out with the June payroll, 172 State Police adjustments have been completed. There are approximately 20 State Police adjustments that remain and are subject to the Qualified Domestic Relations Orders (QDRO). There are 50 disability cases from 2023 and it is anticipated they will be processed through the July payroll. The remaining 39 post-retirement deduction letters should be completed in the July 2024 payroll.

Since the start of 2024, 316 post-retirement deduction letters have been received. The processing of this batch will begin with the July payroll.

The **Member Annual Statement** file was reviewed and finalized and returned to Standard Modern for production. Ms. Kougas reports that the statements will be mailed no later than the first week of July. The project is on time and within budget.

Ms. Kougas informed the Board of the **Workforce Update**. In summary, there was one new hire and four terminations/resignations impacting the Benefit Calculation, Member Services, and Mailroom units.

Offers were extended to candidates to fill the manager positions for the Benefit Calculation and Refunds teams. Other details were summarized to backfill positions across SRB.

Of importance, the business lead position has been posted for the Member Self-Service project and other business needs as they relate to MARIS and OnBase.

Ms. Kougas reviewed the **Monthly Operations Reports** included in the Board materials on P. 423 for the month ending May 2024 along with information where available for June 2024. The Monthly May warrant was \$247,535,442 and the June warrant was \$248,070,256. The first pay for May was 187 and June's first pay was 211 including 36 and 63 Estimated Initial Benefit Payments respectively. The disbursement warrants for May totaled over \$7.7 million that resulted in 329 payments. There were also consistent accelerated payments made in May.

Ms. Kougas summarized the **telephone calls, in-person visits, and outreach information** for May 2024 as presented on Page 424. May telephone calls were down a bit and other data was consistent with the prior month.

The **Operating Expenses** for May were \$1,369,782 and with one month remaining in FY2024, we are at 62.08% of total spending when compared to the approved budget.

The **Capital Expenses** for May were \$210,928 and when compared to FY2024 we are at 20.39% of spending.

The PRIT Investment summary was highlighted by Ms. Kougias and reports over \$104b in total assets. Performance shows a 2.65% rate of return for one month and 9.23% rate of return for 5 years. The complete PRIT Fund statement as of May 31, 2024, was provided in the Board materials.

### **Member Self-Service Procurement and Vendor Selection Process**

Ms. Kougias and Attorney Morrocco presented the MSS procurement and vendor selection process based on the report provided in the board materials on Page 440 – 446. Ms. Kougias acknowledged the Procurement Management Team of Kimberly Griffin, SRB Director of Information Systems; Stephen McIssac, Chief Information Officer; Sandor Zapolin, SRB Deputy Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer and Angela Olszewski, SRB Business Support. Other SRB principals including Kathryn Kougias, Executive Director, and two consultants from System Custom Consultants participated in various capacities with the process. Elizabeth Morrocco, Associate General Counsel and Director of Procurement managed the procurement process.

This multi-year, multi-million-dollar project's purpose is to provide members (active and retirees) with direct access to their retirement account and benefit information. Members will have the ability to access and update demographic data, initiate various benefit transactions, and update certain account data. The portal will ensure transparency of data and operational compliance with the appropriate security, privacy, controls, and risk management. Over time, additional functionality will be added. MSRB will be able to better manage workflow, leverage contact and case management capabilities through the software, and provide service through the customer relationship management (CRM) platform. It will allow MSRB to eliminate administrative inefficiencies such as redundancy and manual and paper-based processes. Automated workflows to manage the lifecycle tasks will benefit the process, and it will provide visibility into MSRB work that will improve customer communication and satisfaction.

The Procurement Team worked under the MSS Systems Planning Project that was developed by MSB and Gartner, Inc. in 2021. The Project included deliverables to provide the team with the framework.

The Team defined the multi-phased MSS use cases, documented the current business workflows, and designed and optimized the MSS portal to develop an MSS Implementation RFR. In collaboration with Legal, a comprehensive MSS Implementation RFR was developed. It included a timeline, the goals and scope of services to be provided, and a template informing bidders of expectations and how to respond based on the typical use cases.

The Procurement process resulted in four vendors who met requirements as outlined in the RFP that was posted on December 27, 2023, with a deadline of March 8, 2024. The following four bidders submitted quality proposals and proceeded to the next phase of the evaluation process:

- Application Software Technology, LLC (AST)
- MTX Group, Inc. (MTX)

- Nagarro GS, Inc. (Nagarro)
- Sagitec Solutions, LLC (Sagitec)

Ms. Morrocco continued with the presentation and explained the Evaluation Rating process that started on P. 442 based on the seven categories of the RFR and the criteria. Ms. Morrocco prepared the Technical Proposal Scoring based on the technical response and related materials submitted by each bidder excluding the cost proposal. The PMT met in April to evaluate and score the technical proposals. The PMT reached a consensus of the technical scoring. The information is provided on P. 444 of the Board materials. Following that, the cost proposals were distributed to the PMT. Each vendor’s cost was broken down as follows: Implementation, Hosting, Support, and Subscriptions. Costs were based on the total cost in Year One. Points were awarded based on a bidder’s cost over the minimum bid. The lowest bidder received the full 20 points, each bidder received a proportionate percentage of the total points.

Pre-presentation total score was as follows:

Bidder	Technical Score	Cost Score	Pre-Presentation
AST	52.00	7.19	56.19
MTX	52.00	11.27	62.27
Nagarro	58.00	3.16	75.16
Sagitec	24.00	20.00	44.00

All bidders were invited to present on-site the week of May 6, 2024. Each bidder was allotted four hours. There was feedback and questions from the PMT. A debrief session was held on May 10, 2024, to discuss the presentations. A Best and Final Offer (BAFO) was requested from each bidder. This was an opportunity to make changes to the technical proposal based on the feedback from the presentations.

A final template was prepared with the year one cost for Implementation, Hosting, Support, Subscriptions and the Total Cost.

Ms. Morrocco explained the Final Valuation scores as provided in the Board Material, Page 445, and as follows:

	Solution / Product Fit 30%		Implementation Plan Score 10%		Support Plan Score 10%		Business Evaluation Score 20%		Cost Score 20%	Invest in MA 5%	Diversity 5%	Total Points	Final Weighted Score
Sagitec Solutions	1.00	6.00	2.00	4.00	3.00	6.00	2.00	8.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	28.00	44.00
MTX Group Inc	4.00	24.00	4.00	8.00	4.00	8.00	3.00	12.00	8.54	0.00	5.00	28.54	65.54
Nagarro, Inc	4.00	24.00	4.00	8.00	5.00	10.00	4.00	16.00	3.30	5.00	5.00	30.30	71.30
AST Corp	4.00	24.00	3.00	6.00	3.00	6.00	4.00	16.00	4.77	0.00	5.00	23.77	61.77

In conclusion, the PMT unanimously chose MTX Group, Inc. as the winning bidder. As included in the Board memorandum, Nagarro received the most points overall. PMT determined that, in the best interest of financial prudence and cost-effectiveness, MTX represents the best overall value for the Commonwealth. PMT agrees that MTX satisfies the requirements outlined in the RFR, possesses extensive experience in the implementation CRM and low-code platforms, and will provide an effective and cost-conscious solution.

Ms. Morrocco requested that based on the PMT’s vote, the Board staff seeks the Board’s approval to negotiate with MTX to finalize a contract for the Member Self-Service portal implantation and ongoing support services.

After discussion of the available information, the Board on a motion made by Mr. Valeri and seconded by Ms. McGoldrick voted to approve that the Board staff enter negotiations with MTX Group, Inc. for purposes of finalizing a contract for the Member Self-Service portal implementation and ongoing support services.

**ON THE ROLLCALL VOTE THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormely	Yes
M. Kim	Yes

**Information Systems & Technology Update**

Ms. Kim Griffin addressed the Board and provided an update on Information Systems matters. A summary of the Estimated Initial Benefit Payment Phase 1 was delivered as well as defining the scope and implementation of Phase 2. Phase 2 modifies eligibility criteria so to increase the number of members being paid within 60 days of their retirement date. Phase 2 modifications will include differential contributions, spiking and 20/50 benefit calculations.

Ms. Griffin reviewed other operational tasks that have been successfully executed during Q2 of 2024.

The infrastructure tasks as noted in the Board memorandum include an upgrade to MARIS to the latest version of Sagitec’s Neospin Framework 6.23 with the user acceptance testing scheduled for July. In May, Planning and preparation were initiated for MARIS, OnBase, CMS Disaster Recovery mock testing. MSRB executed and completed the testing in conjunction with Sagitec personnel, DataBank personnel, and Treasury IT.

Ms. Griffin provided the at-a-glance Project Schedule that captures all projects from July 2023 to June 2024, FY2024.

## **Sagitec 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Maintenance and Support Agreement**

Through the efforts of SRB/Treasury Teams, work is underway to execute an Amendment for the Maintenance and Support Agreement with Sagitec for July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, period. Board staff is seeking the Board's approval to negotiate with Sagitec and finalize the Amendment. The recently approved budget includes \$4.8m for the MARIS annual product services fee, MARIS and OnBase CMS hosting in Microsoft Azure Government cloud with outsourced MARIS application labor, and outsourced OnBase infrastructure labor.

After discussion of the available information a motion was made by Ms. McGoldrick and seconded by Mr. Gormley to approve the negotiation of services with Sagitec and to finalize an Amendment to the Maintenance and Support Agreement based on the staff request.

### **ON THE ROLLCALL VOTE THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent
Mr. Gormely	Yes
M. Kim	Yes

## **Periodic Review of Executive Session Minutes**

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, M. G. L. c. 30A §§ 18-35, the Board reviews matters in executive session under certain circumstances. The Board is required to keep minutes of executive sessions but is not required to disclose them if their disclosure could defeat the lawful purposes for which the executive session was entered. If disclosure would no longer defeat the purposes of the executive session, the minutes must be disclosed. Disclosure of medical files is prohibited.

Ms. Kougias presented the memorandum prepared by Jennifer Hunt and Pamela Diggs that included a detailed breakdown of the executive session business for the calendar year 2023.

After discussion of the available information, a motion was made by Mr. Valeri and seconded by Ms. McGoldrick to approve the Periodic Review of Executive Session Minutes memorandum of June 2024 and maintain such records are not subject to release as presented.

### **ON THE ROLLCALL VOTE THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Goldstein	Absent

Mr. Gormely	Yes
M. Kim	Yes

### **Legal Update Memorandum**

Ms. Kougias presented two cases based on the memorandum prepared by Attorney Yande Lombe as follows:

- Julio DeFigueiredo v. State Board of Retirement, a group classification case for the 20/50 retirement benefits as a correction officer. Mr. DeFigueiredo appealed to DALA. DALA reversed the Board’s decision and found that the member is entitled to retire under the 20/50 criteria. Mr. DeFigueiredo met the 20 years of service requirement. As part of his job at the Sheriff’s Office he worked with various law enforcement agencies, including Homeland Security. The magistrate ruled that this work counted towards his being eligible for benefits since he held the title of correction officer during the relevant period.

The Board's legal staff does not plan to appeal.

- Michael Horan v. State Board of Retirement, a group classification case for Group 4 retirement benefits. Mr. Horan appealed to DALA. Mr. Horan held the title of A. D. A. and he served for more than 10 years even though his job responsibilities were mostly focused on running the District Attorney’s Office. The magistrate concluded that Mr. Horan was eligible for Group 4 classification because the two statutory requirements were satisfied. The issue of “in such capacity” is in question, but the magistrate determined that it is not required that the A. D. A.s directly prosecute cases, appear in court, or have active caseloads.

The magistrate indicated that DALA may revisit whether the words, “in such capacity” are significant should there be a case where the A. D. A. is assigned duties unrelated to the core function of the District Attorney’s Office

### **MSRB Retiree eNews Bulletin, June 2024**

The June edition was enclosed in the board materials. It is electronically sent to retirees each month with articles of interest. Routinely, the 3% COLA information is included. At publication the FY2025 COLA provision was before the Conference Committee. We will update retirees as the information becomes available.



On a motion by Mr. Gormley and seconded by Mr. Valeri the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

**On the Roll Call the Vote was as follows:**

Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Absent
Ms. Goldstein	Yes
Mr. Gormley	Yes
Ms. Kim	Yes

**The next meeting of the State Board of Retirement is scheduled for Thursday, July 25, 2024.**