

## **MINUTES FOR THE 1218<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING STATE BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

**DATE:** July 25, 2019

**TIME:** 10:06 A.M.

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

The meeting of the State Board of Retirement was called to order with Members present for all or part of the meeting: Deborah Goldberg, Treasurer & Receiver General; Theresa McGoldrick, Elected Member; Francis Valeri, Elected Member; Patricia Deal, Appointed Member; Archie Gormley, Chosen Member.

Board staff present for all or part of the meeting were: Nicola Favorito, Deputy Treasurer/Executive Director; Marianne Welch, Deputy Executive Director; Darrell Bright, Director of Member Services; Melinda Troy, Senior Board Counsel; Lori Krusell, Assistant Board Counsel; Janice Coen, Executive Assistant; Kathryn Kougas, Finance Director; Mohammed Ali, Assistant Director of Finance; Kimberly Griffin, Manager of Information Systems; Diana Reyes, MSRB Disbursement Manager; Paula Daddona, Communications Coordinator; Chanese Brown, Disability Unit Manager; Joisei Horton, Disability Unit; Marceline Vilmont, Disability Unit; Pamela Diggs, Paralegal; Diane Scott, Classification Coordinator; Glenn Aissis, Training Manager; Nidhi Garg, MARIS Support; Keaslee Sermeil, MARIS Support Temp; Geoffrey Scales, Legal Temp.

Treasury staff present for all or part of the meeting were: James MacDonald, First Deputy Treasurer; Sarah Kim, General Counsel; Kathi Reinstein, Director of Policy & Legislative Affairs; Elizabeth Zelnick, Legislative Affairs; Alethea Harney, Director of Communications.

*There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order.*

*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 attendees of any recording at the beginning of the meeting. She then asked that anyone present who is making any recording identify themselves as doing so. No person present indicated that he/she was making a recording.*

**MINUTES OF THE 1217<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING:** On a motion by Ms. Deal and seconded by Mr. Gormley the Board voted unanimously to approve the Regular and Executive Session Minutes of the 1217<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, June 27, 2019.

## **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

### **1. YTD Fiscal 2019 Operating & Capital Spending Plans**

Mr. Favorito referred the Board to the YTD Fiscal 2019 Operating and Capital Spending Plans vs. actuals reports (through June 30, 2019) which were included as part of the Agenda materials. He noted that while almost all outstanding invoices had been received not all had been processed through MMARS.

### **2. MARIS Support & Consulting Services RFQ**

Ms. Griffin updated the Board on the status of the MARIS Support & Consulting Services RFQ. Services are shifting from Oversight and IV&V services to Pension systems/processes, domain expertise and Project Management Office (PMO) services. The FY 2020 proposed MARIS support and consulting services were part of the FY 2020 capital budget submission process.

The MSRB in conjunction with Treasury Legal/Procurement drafted and posted an RFQ with responses due by end of June. The Procurement Management Team (PMT) expects to present a vendor recommendation at the September Board meeting.

*(Mr. Valeri arrives)*

The current Statement of Work ("SOW") with Gartner for oversight and consulting services expired June 30, 2019 with no remaining extensions. The MSRB in conjunction with Treasury Legal/Procurement and Gartner extended the SOW for a two-month term commencing on July 1, 2019 and ending on August 31, 2019 to provide support during the RFQ process. The MSRB may request an additional SOW extension, if needed, to ensure continued MARIS consulting services during the RFQ process and subsequent contract negotiations.

Ms. Kim asked for further detail around the differences between IV&V services and support and consulting services being sought. Ms. Griffin noted that with the goal for the MSRB to take on internally more of the daily technical aspects of MARIS' operations, there is an ongoing need for MSRB SME support for the identified projects such as in the RTM and for the long-term.

### **3. PRIM Update**

Mr. Favorito directed the Board's attention to the performance results provided by PRIM for the period concluding June 30, 2019 which was received after distribution of the meeting materials. The net asset value of the MSERS stood at \$28.374b from \$27.33b at the end of May. Calendar year performance to date gross of fees was 9.98%.

#### **4. Board Legal Update**

Attorney Troy summarized recent DALA / CRAB decisions that have been received involving the MSRB.

*(Ms. McGoldrick arrives)*

#### **5. Highlight on MSRB: Disbursement / Survivor Benefits Team**

Diana Reyes, Manager of the Disbursement & Survivor Benefits Teams reviewed the operation of the units with the Board. She outlined the Disbursement functions including refunds, rollovers, transfers to other retirement systems, as well as Survivor Benefit transactions retiree deaths, in-service deaths, Option C pop ups, and accidental deaths.

Board members commented on the volume of weekly disbursement amounts and transactions and thanked Ms. Reyes for the information.

#### **6. Board Election Update**

Mr. Favorito updated the Board with the upcoming activity related to the 2019 Board Election. Notice of the election would be issuing and nomination papers would be available starting August 16, 2019.

The Board reviewed the election rules which were consistent with those from the 2017-2018 election and allow for three types of voting options, electronic, by mail and telephone. Notice would be issued to retirees through a direct email as part of the monthly eNews Bulletin and post-cards for those members without email addresses. Active members would be notified via information on pay advices. Additional information and the rules would be posted on the Board's web site.

After further discussion and on a motion by Ms. Deal and seconded by Ms. McGoldrick the Board unanimously approved the proposed 2019 Election Rules.

#### **7. Benefit Processing**

Mr. Favorito updated the Board on the implementation of measures discussed at the June Board meeting related to retirement application processing. He noted that with the July warrant closing later in the day of the Board meeting he did not yet have July first pay numbers, but preliminary indications signaled a notable increase in new retiree first payments.

Mr. Favorito referenced the short-term measures that had been implemented which included:

- Reallocating resources from processing retiree adjustments;
- Overtime hours were being accessed by several staff members;
- Amending of the retirement acknowledgment letter to reference advance payments;
- Retirement applications and any accompanying group classification requests had been received have all been inputted into MARIS
- Content to the MSRB's on-line application and retirement checklist related to advances had been added.

Ms. Bright added that three advance payments had been approved thus far for July one of which was an accidental disability and a second was for a retiree who was going to receive her first payment at the end of July. Additionally, retiree adjustments have been de-emphasized temporarily more than 60 were able to be processed.

The Board expressed its gratitude to the staff for the additional efforts over the course of the past month. Mr. Favorito added that he would be reviewing data related to the timing of retirement applications and retirement dates to first payments and sharing results with the Board at the August meeting.

#### **8. Board / Staff Communications**

Mr. Favorito noted to the Board third quarter Training Opportunities recently issued by PERAC. He also reminded the Board that registration was open for PERAC's Emerging Issues Forum, September 12, 2019 at Holy Cross.

**THE BOARD GOES INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.** At 11:00 a.m. the Board entered Executive Session to review applications for disability retirement, associated benefits, and to also consider the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health of individuals with business before the Board. The Board indicated that it would return to Open Session after the Executive Session.

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

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

Treasurer Goldberg	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Ms. Deal	Yes
Mr. Valeri	Yes
Mr. Gormley	Yes

#### **BOARD RETURNS TO OPEN SESSION**

**(Roll call required)**

*Treasurer Goldberg departs*

**THE BOARD COMES OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 12:00 P.M., Ms. McGoldrick made a motion to come out of Executive Session and return to Open Session. Mr. Gormley seconded the motion.

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

Ms. Kim	Yes
Ms. McGoldrick	Yes
Mr. Valeri	Yes
Ms. Deal	Yes
Mr. Gormley	Yes

**(Unless otherwise noted all votes taken are unanimous)**

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE CONTRACT SERVICE**

1. Jasmine Vega
  - **Denied;** Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.

**REQUEST TO RESCIND RETIREMENT**

1. Joseph Stone
  - **Approved subject to payment over a period of no more than six months and with applicable interest;** Motion by Mr. Valeri; seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE OUT OF STATE TEACHING SERVICE UNDER GENERAL LAW CH. 32 SECTION 3(4)**

1. Karen Varieur
  - **Denied;** Motion by Mr. Valeri, seconded by Ms. Deal.

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE VETERAN'S SERVICE**

1. David Desley
  - **Approved;** Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.

**TAB 3: GROUP CLASSIFICATIONS**

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

1. **Brenda Fahey** – Para-Professional, Pilgrim Area Collaborative
2. **Wanda Gomes** – Court Officer, MA Trial Court
3. **Susan Jones** – Rehabilitation Counselor C, Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital, DMH
4. **Gina Laurent-Bernadin** – MHW 4, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, DMH (posthumously)
5. **Paul Miller** – Habilitation Coordinator A/B, Wrentham Developmental Center, DMH
6. **Arunee Moir-Ponpradit** – Social Worker 2, DCF
7. **Loretta Shea** – Social Worker 2, DCF

#### **GROUP 2 TO BOARD**

1. **Suzann Almiron** – Clinical Social Worker C, Western MA Hospital, DPH
  - **Tabled**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Ms. Deal.
2. **Patrick Burke** – HSC C, Brockton Area Office, DDS
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.
3. **Anne Cathcart** – LPN 2/House Manager, SE Area/On Grounds Program, DMH
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
4. **Francois Chatelain** – DSW 3, Fernald Center, DDS
  - **Tabled**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
5. **Paul Dyer** – RN 4/Nurse Manager, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, DPH
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
6. **Patricia Foster** – Head Teacher, /Teacher D, Pappas Rehabilitation, MA Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Ms. Deal.
7. **Ewa Preneta** – Physician I/Chief of Gastroenterology, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, DPH
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
8. **Joseph Ragona** – Facility Service Worker 2, Western MA Hospital, DPH
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
9. **Meikle Williams** – RN 3, Taunton State Hospital, DMH
  - **Approved**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.

## **GROUP 2 RECONSIDERATION TO BOARD**

1. **Deborah Bethel** – RN 2, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, DPH (Denied June 2019)
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.
2. **Susan Galvin** – RN 2, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, DPH (Denied June 2019)
  - **Tabled**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Ms. Deal.

## **GROUP 2 TABLED TO BOARD**

1. **Aldo Caira** – Patient Care Reimbursement Investigator, Tewksbury Hospital, DMH (Tabled June 2019)
  - **Denied**; Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

## **GROUP 2 ASSOCIATE PROBATION OFFICER TO BOARD**

1. **Melinda Dooley** – Associate Probation Officer, MA Trial Court
  - **Approved**; Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.

## **Pursuant to the Board's Classification Policy the following are reported as approved for Pro-Rated Group 2 Classification:**

1. **Cheryl Clayton**                      **Department of Mental Health**  
MHW I, Northampton State Hospital - 11/23/80 – 4/20/85
2. **Phoan Kim**                              **Dept of Children Youth & Families**  
Social Worker I – 7/18/93 – 2/8/97  
Social Worker 3 – 2/9/97 – 12/15/01  
Social Worker C – 12/16/01 – 1/23/16  
Social Worker 2 – 1/24/16 – 10/28/17
3. **Michelle Kitchen-Taraska**      **Department of Developmental Services**  
Recreation Therapist, Hogan Regional Center – 3/22/81 – 3/13/82  
Psychologist I – 3/14/82 – 4/1/00

#### **GROUP 2 PRO RATE HSC/AB & C TO BOARD**

1. **Leslie Hayes**

**Department of Developmental Services**

HSC I (AB), Central Middlesex Office - 4/1/86 – 8/5/06

- **Approved**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Ms. Deal.

HSC C, Charles River West Area Office – 8/6/06 – 8/24/13

- **Denied**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Ms. Deal.

#### **GROUP 2 PRO RATE HSC A/B TO BOARD**

1. **Michelle Kitchen-Taraska**

**Department of Developmental Services**

HSC A/B – 4/4/00 – 8/11/01

HSC A/B – 11/21/04 – 5/17/08

- **Approved**; Motion by Ms. Deal; seconded by Ms. McGoldrick

#### **GROUP 2 PRO RATE RECONSIDERATION TO BOARD**

1. **William Peter Lafferty**

**Department of Developmental Services**

Clinical Social Worker D, Wrentham Developmental Center

1/7/01 – 5/4/13

(Denied May 2016)

- **Denied**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

2. **Jay Potter**

**Department of Mental Health**

Human Service Coordinator D, Pocasset Mental Center

12/17/01 – 1/4/14

(Denied October 2018/Tabled April 2019)

- **Tabled**; Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.

#### **Pursuant to the Board's Classification Policy the following is reported as approved for Group 4 Classification:**

1. **Anthony Abdal-Khabir** – Deputy Chief/Captain, Program Manager 6, MA Environmental Police
2. **Helen Ackah** – CO 2, DOC
3. **Brian Bibeau**- CO 2, DOC
4. **Richard Brooks** – CO/Sergeant, Worcester County Sheriff's Department
5. **Timothy Caisse** – CO I, DOC
6. **Harlan Chaput** – CO 2/Sergeant, DOC
7. **John Chase** – CO, DOC



8. **Daniel Crowley** – Senior CO, Middlesex Sheriff's Office
9. **Robert Eklund** – CO 3, DOC
10. **Christopher Eldredge** – CO I, DOC (posthumously)
11. **Michael Hoey** – CO, DOC
12. **Kimberly Houlihan** – CO I, DOC
13. **Martha Hyland** – Transitional Parole Officer A/B, MA Parole Board
14. **Patrick Martin** – CO, Barnstable County Sheriff's Office
15. **Kevin Nolan** – CO, Essex County Sheriff's Department
16. **Charles Riley** – CO 3/Lieutenant, DOC
17. **John Riley** – CO, Worcester County Sheriff's Office
18. **Cindy Tripp** – CO 2, DOC
19. **Michael Vieira** – CO, Bristol County Sheriff's Department

#### **GROUP 4 TO BOARD**

1. **John Ellis** – Senior CO, Middlesex Sheriff's Office
  - **Approved;** Motion by Mr. Valeri, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.
2. **Michael Horan** – Chief of Staff/Chief Legal Counsel, Plymouth County DA's Office
  - **Denied;** Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick

#### **GROUP 4 CORRECTIONAL PROGRAM OFFICERS TO BOARD**

1. **Maureen Damiano** – Correctional Program Officer D, DOC
  - **Tabled;** Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
2. **Susan Lombardi** – Correctional Program Officer A/B, DOC
  - **Approved;** Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Mr. Gormley

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

1. **Alexander Baez** – CO, Essex County Sheriff's Department
2. **Andrew Conant** – CO/Lieutenant, Franklin County Sheriff's Office
3. **Craig Esperian** – CO I, DOC
4. **Timothy Flynn** – CO/Sergeant, Norfolk County Sheriff's Office
5. **Jason Gately** – Sergeant, Essex County Sheriff's Department
6. **Dennis Leonard** – CO, Bristol County Sheriff's Department
7. **Nayana McLaughlin** – CO, Middlesex Sheriff's Office

8. **David Medeiros** – CO 2, DOC
9. **Wallace Seward** – CO 1, DOC

**ON A MOTION BY MR. GORMLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. VALERI THE BOARD VOTED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:42 P.M.**

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**THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF RETIREMENT WILL BE HELD ON Thursday, August 29, 2019 starting at 10:00 a.m.**