

MINUTES FOR THE 1226th BOARD MEETING
STATE BOARD OF RETIREMENT

DATE: March 26, 2020

TIME: 10:28 A.M.

PLACE: One Winter Street – 8th Floor, Boston, MA

Pursuant to the Commonwealth’s Open Meeting Law Massachusetts General Law chapter 30A, §20, and subject to the Executive Order issued by Governor Baker on March 12, 2020, *Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law*, the meeting of the State Board of Retirement was called to order with the following Members participating remotely for all or part of the meeting: Treasurer & Receiver General Deborah B. Goldberg; Patricia Deal, Appointed Member; Francis Valeri, Elected Member; Theresa McGoldrick, Elected Member; Archie Gormley, Chosen Member.

Board staff present or participating remotely for all or part of the meeting were: Nicola Favorito, Deputy Treasurer/Executive Director; Melinda Troy, Senior Board Counsel; Lori Krusell, Assistant Board Counsel; Janice Coen, Executive Assistant; Kathryn Kougias, Finance Director; Mohammed Ali, Assistant Director of Finance; Kimberly Griffin, Manager of Information Systems; Paula Daddona, Communications & Outreach Manager; Chanese Brown, Disability Unit Manager; Glenn Aissis Training Manager; Thomas Mancini, Training Coordinator; Zachary Pierce, Communications Coordinator; Diana Reyes, Refund Manager.

Treasury staff participating remotely for all or part of the meeting were: James MacDonald, First Deputy Treasurer; Sarah Kim, Treasury General Counsel / Designee; Chandra Bork, Treasury Chief of Staff; Liz Gomes, Deputy Chief of Staff; Karen Guida, Treasury Internal Auditor; Elizabeth Zelnick, Treasury Legislative Affairs; Alethea Harney, Treasury Director of Communications; Emily Kowtoniuk, Deputy Legislative Director.

Members of the public were provided access to the meeting via a call-in number and also electronically. Other parties participating remotely for all or part of the meeting were: Brian Frese, KPMG; Manoj Punwani, Sagitec; Aline Brouillette, member of the public.

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 10:28 A.M.

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. No person indicated that he/she was making a recording.

Minutes of the 1225th Board Meeting

On a motion by Ms. McGoldrick and seconded by Mr. Valeri the Board voted unanimously to approve the Regular and Executive Session Minutes of the 1225th Board Meeting, February 27, 2020.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. MSRB Operations

Mr. Favorito updated the Board on the status of operations in light of the ongoing COVID-19 emergency and as a result of Treasury closing the offices of its various departments as of Monday March 23, 2020 until currently April 6, 2020.

MSRB staff are working remotely with approximately thirty-five having full vpn access to execute the various benefit requests received. All staff are responding to emails and phone calls daily. Limited senior staff have been coming into the Winter Street office for brief periods 1-2 days per week to ensure anything that needs to be acknowledged, mailed, etc. is addressed. Mail delivery has temporarily been suspended as its security could not be assured in the absence of daily on-site staff.

Mr. Favorito added that the entire staff should be commended for maintaining and in some cases exceeding typical weekly and monthly production levels despite having to work remotely. He noted that more than 340 new retirees and survivors were added to the pension payroll for the month of March.

Extra efforts were being put in by staff to ensure that the items generated by Treasury operations in Chelsea at the end of the month will get out on time. These included pulled benefit checks, payments to DOR, etc.

Additionally, Mr. Favorito informed the Board that the issuance of the 2020 retiree Benefit Verification Forms ("BVF's") to retirees would be held off at least until closer to the end of April or until there was assurance that retirees would be able to access notaries and be able to return them.

Mr. Favorito reported that PERAC over the past week extended the 2019 §91A filing deadline for disability retirees to July 15th due to the federal tax filing deadline being pushed back to that date. PERAC has also suspended medical panel examinations for pending disability applications. This is impacting approximately thirty MSRB applications that have reached that stage with the Disability Unit. Those members and their attorneys are being contacted.

Mr. Favorito indicated that the municipal legislation filed by the Governor on Tuesday March 24, 2020 included a section that would exclude from the 2020 earnings limitations for public retirees any earnings and service provided during the state of emergency. Disability retirees' limitations would remain. The legislation will be monitored.

Lastly, Mr. Favorito reminded the Board that its next meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2020. Due to the current circumstances Ernst & Young which had hoped to make its presentation today on the completion of the organizational assessment was asked to present at the April Board meeting if feasible. The presentation will require about an hour.

2. PERAC Update

Mr. Favorito updated the Board that PERAC's final Audit Report, including the Board's responses, for the period July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2017 had been reviewed by the Commission at its February meeting.

Also, at its meeting the Commission approved the State Actuary's recommendation to use an investment rate of return assumption of 7.15% (down from 7.25%) for the upcoming MSERS, MTRS and Commonwealth January 1, 2020 valuations

PERAC had also set a date for its next Emerging Issues Forum, September 17, 2020. Due to ongoing construction at Holy Cross the forum would be held in Marlborough.

3. State Police Update

Mr. Favorito provided the Board a copy of the correspondence issued to the State Police Superintendent as a result of the Board's direction from the February meeting regarding the fourteen matters previously forwarded. The Board has not received any response from the Department or any additional matters for its consideration.

4. YTD Fiscal 2019 Operating & Capital Spending Plans

Mr. Favorito referred the Board to the YTD Fiscal 2020 Operating and Capital Spending Plans vs. actuals reports (through February 29, 2020) which were included as part of the Agenda materials. He noted that the Board should see a slight increase moving forward in the rent line item since the MSRB took over a portion of the seventh floor of One Winter Street in February.

5. PRIM Update

Performance results through February 2020 were reviewed related to the MSERS and former Turnpike Retirement System. Also included was PRIM's fourth quarter newsletter and a statement from March 19, 2020 from Executive Director / CIO Michael Trotsky. Net asset values for the MSERS were \$28.5b and \$162.3m respectively.

6. MARIS Implementation

The Board reviewed the updated memo provided by Ms. Griffin which noted the remote work now in place by the MSRB's vendors.

7. Board Legal Update

Recent DALA / CRAB decisions that have been received were reviewed.

8. Board / Staff Communications

Mr. Favorito updated the Board on recent member communications. He also noted that PERAC had authorized educational Credits for those members that wished to view a recently posted webinar by PRIM related to ongoing investment developments.

(The Board then moved on to individual agenda items)

All items considered unanimous:

1. RETIREMENT OPTION SELECTION

Albert Sherman

- **Approved to change to Option C subject to repayment;** Motion to approve subject to repayment by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

2. ANTI-SPIKING REVIEW REQUEST

Paula J. DeGiacomo

- **Tabled;** Motion to table by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

3. REQUEST FOR WAIVER UNDER G.L. c.32, §20(5)(c)(3)

Darlene Murphy

- **Tabled;** Motion to table by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Ms. Deal.

4. MILITARY SERVICE PURCHASE

John P. Freeman, III

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

GROUP CLASSIFICATIONS

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

1. **Anthony Abbatessa** – Social Worker, Suffolk County Sheriff's Department
2. **Kim Banville** – First Asst. Chief Probation Officer, MA Trial Court
3. **Kevin Beschi** – DSW 3, Wrentham Developmental Center, DDS

4. **James Brennan** – Chief of Probation, MA Trial Court
5. **Charlotte Cameron** – Social Worker 2, DCF
6. **Julee Colella** – Social Worker 2, DCF
7. **JoAnne Copeland** – Social Worker 3, DCF
8. **Mark DeSilva** – Mechanic Supervisor, Bristol County Sheriff’s Department
9. **Mary Frieburger** – Social Worker D, DCF
10. **Gwen Gilcrest** – LPN 1, Templeton Community Services, DDS
11. **Silvana Graham** – Probation Officer, MA Trial Court
12. **Daniel Green** – Caseworker 2, Fitchburg District Office, DYS
13. **Ricky Hymon** – Probation Officer 2, MA Trial Court
14. **Dana Leach** – Physical Therapy Assistant, Cape Cod Collaborative (posthumously)
15. **Linda McCarthy** – Paraprofessional, Pilgrim Area Collaborative
16. **Doreen Mendes** – Social Worker 2, DCF
17. **Sylvia Monteiro** – Social Worker 3, DCF
18. **Deborah Tagliente** – Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Pilgrim Collaborative
19. **Martin Wallace** – Senior Community Correction Probation Officer, MA Trial Court

GROUP 2 TO BOARD

1. **Karen Buffum** – Work Release Finance Assistant, Middlesex Sheriff’s Office
 - **Denied**, Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Valeri
2. **Linda Feeney** – RN 2, Taunton State Hospital, DMH (deferred)
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.
3. **John Giglio** - RN 4, Lemuel Shattuck, DMH
 - **Approved**, Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
4. **William King** – RN 3, Worcester Recovery Center Hospital, DMH
 - **Approved**, Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Valeri.
5. **Elaine Lefebvre** – LPN 2, Tewksbury Hospital, DPH
 - **Tabled**, Motion by Mr. Valeri, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
6. **Maureen Marotte** – RN/Nurse Supervisor, Hampden County Sheriff’s Department
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick
7. **Donna Marques** – RN 3/On-Grounds Program Nurse, Adult Residential Program, DMH
 - **Tabled**, Motion by Mr. Valeri, seconded by Mr. Gormley.

8. **Anne Nialetz** – Hearing Officer 3/Social Worker 3, DCF
 - **Tabled**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

GROUP 2 TABLED

1. **Todd Batchelder** – MHW 3, Brockton Multi-Service Center, DMH
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Valeri, seconded by Ms. McGoldrick.
2. **Steve Leclerc** – Residential Supervisor C, Central West Region, DDS
 - **Approved**, Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Valeri.
3. **Lisa Morris** – LPN 2, Specialty Care Clinic, Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children (Tabled in January)
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Mr. Valeri.
4. **Donna Peacott** – RN 3, Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital, DMH
 - **Approved**, Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
5. **Jose Rivas** – Groupworker 3, DYS
 - **Approved**, Motion by Ms. McGoldrick, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

Ms. McGoldrick indicated she needed to temporarily step away from the meeting and would return

GROUP 2 RECONSIDERATION

1. **Melinda Consuegra** – RN 2, Western MA Hospital (Denied January Board)
 - **Motion to Reconsider tabled**, Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
2. **Lee Gartenberg** – Director of Inmate Legal Services, Middlesex Sheriff's Office (Denied January Board)
 - **Motion to Reconsider denied**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Ms. Deal.

GROUP 2 HSC A/B

1. **Karen Cormier** – HSC A/B, Metro North Area Office, DDS
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Ms. Deal.

GROUP 2 ASSOCIATE COURT OFFICER

1. **Robert O’Handley** – Associate Court Officer, MA Trial Court
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

Pursuant to the Board’s Classification Policy the following is reported as approved for Pro-Rated Group 2 Classification:

1. **Susan Galvin** **Department of Mental Health**
LPN I, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital - 9/7/82 – 9/9/2000

2. **Michelle Mainguy** **Department of Children & Families**
Social Worker I – 11/2/86 – 7/22/89
Social Worker 3 – 7/23/89 – 4/4/98
Social Worker 4 – 4/5/98 – 12/15/01
Social Worker D – 12/16/01 – 1/23/16
Social Worker 3 – 1/24/16 – 1/24/18

GROUP 2 PRO RATE

1. **Timothy Tierney** **Department of Mental Health**
MHW I, Gaebler Children’s Center – 12/1/85 – 11/29/92
MHW 4 – Medfield State Hospital – 11/30/92 – 1/1/03
MHW 4 – Westborough State Hospital – 3/30/03 – 1/16/10
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

GROUP 2 HSC A/B PRO RATE TABLED

1. **Teresa McNally** **Department of Developmental Svcs. (DMR)**.....Page 353
Human Service Coordinator A/B – 7/1/82 – 1/1/00
 - **Tabled**, Motion by Mr. Valeri, seconded by Mr. Gormley.

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

1. **Christopher Acres** - CO, Middlesex Sheriff’s Office (Posthumously)
2. **Aline Brouillette** – Parole Officer A/B, MA Parole Board
3. **James Casey** – CO, Worcester Sheriff’s Department
4. **James Coleman** – Jail Officer, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department

5. **Gerard Farrington** – CO, Bristol Country Sheriff’s Office
6. **Donald Ferrara** – CO 3, DOC
7. **Peter Flynn** – Jail Officer, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department
8. **Dwayne Foisy** – Captain 2, Berkshire County Sheriff’s Office
9. **Paul Fontaine** – CO I, DOC
10. **Thomas Gorman** – CO/Captain, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department
11. **Jeffrey Grimes** – CO/Captain, DOC
12. **Daniel Hickey** – CO/Lieutenant, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department
13. **Eric Hill** – CO, Worcester County Sheriff’s Department
14. **John Hunter** – CO I, DOC
15. **Jessie Johnson** – CO I, DOC
16. **David Jordan** – CO I, DOC
17. **Victor Kelly** – CO/Corporal, Hampden County Sheriff’s Department
18. **Vincent Kotlarz** – CO I, DOC
19. **Anthony Lavigne** – CO I, DOC
20. **Gary Levesque** – CO, DOC
21. **Robert Lucas** – CO 3, DOC
22. **Joseph McGreevy** – CO I, DOC
23. **Robert McInnis** – CO I, DOC
24. **Joseph McLaughlin** – CO/Sergeant, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department
25. **Thomas Millett** – CO, Worcester County Sheriff’s Department
26. **Toby Mooney** – Assistant District Attorney, Bristol County D.A.’s Office
27. **Maribel Morales** – CO, Suffolk County Sheriff ‘s Department
28. **William Platt** – Sergeant, Bristol County Sheriff’s Department
29. **Thomas Quinlan** – Captain, DOC
30. **Paul Ramette** – CO 2, DOC
31. **Craig Rose** – Deputy Sheriff, Barnstable County Sheriff’s Department
32. **Paul White** – CO 2, DOC
33. **Thomas Wood** – Industrial Instructor 2, DOC
34. **William Yetman** – CO/Lieutenant, Plymouth County Sheriff’s Department

GROUP 4

1. **Andrew Crawford** – Captain, Middlesex Sheriff’s Department
 - **Tabled**, Motion by Mr. Valeri, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
2. **Sandra Paszko** – CO, Middlesex Sheriff’s Office
 - **Tabled**, Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Mr. Gormley.
3. **Keith Rogers** – CO/Food Service Manager, Hampden County Sheriff’s Department
 - **Tabled**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Mr. Valeri.

GROUP 4 TABLED

1. **Joseph Gunter** – CO, Middlesex Sheriff's Office – (Tabled in February)
 - **Approved**, Motion by Ms. Deal, seconded by Mr. Gormley.

GROUP 4 CORRECTIONAL PROGRAM OFFICER

1. **Daniel Macomber** – Correctional Program Officer C, DOC
 - **Approved**, Motion by Mr. Gormley, seconded by Ms. Deal.

Pursuant to the Board's Classification Policy the following is reported as approved for Pro-Rated Group 4 Classification:

1. **David Deignan** **Worcester County House of Correction**
CO – 1/1/85 – 11/15/95

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

1. **Wayne Beckwith** – CO 3, DOC
2. **Stephen Bridges** – CO I, DOC
3. **Daniel LeBlanc** – CO 1, DOC
4. **Karolyn Lyone-Prather** – CO, Suffolk County Sheriff's Department
5. **Richard Millis** – CO, Berkshire County Sheriff's Department
6. **John Perna** – CO I, DOC
7. **Marcherie Wooten** – Jail Officer/Sergeant, Suffolk County Sheriff's Department

OPEN SESSION ENDS

THE BOARD ENTERS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:50AM, 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 will adjourn the meeting at the conclusion of the Executive Session and will not return to Open Session.

(Roll Call Vote Required)

Mr. Gormley made a motion to enter Executive Session. Ms. Deal seconded the motion.

ON ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCLUDES & ADJOURNMENT
(Roll call required)

**ON A MOTION BY MR. VALERI AND SECONDED BY MR. GORMLEY, THE BOARD VOTED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.
THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:25PM.**

ON ROLL CALL THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

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

**THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE STATE RETIREMENT BOARD IS SCHEDULED TO BE
HELD ON Thursday, April 30, 2020 starting at 10:00 AM.**

Documents Used at the State Board of Retirement Meeting of March 26, 2020

- Agenda for the March 26, 2020 Board Meeting. Supporting documentation for Agenda items as referenced therein.
- Open Session and Executive Session Minutes of February 27, 2020 Board Meeting