



NORTHWEST FIRE/RESCUE DISTRICT LOCAL PENSION BOARD

Administration/Life Safety Services • 5225 W. Massingale Rd. • Tucson, AZ 85743
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MINUTES OF THE NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING December 30, 2009

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Lee C. Mellor called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. The meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Northwest Fire District Administration/Life Safety Services Building, 5225 W. Massingale Rd., Tucson, Arizona.

TAKE ATTENDANCE AND DETERMINE IF A QUORUM EXISTS:

Present: Lee C. Mellor, Chairman
Fire Chief Jeff Piechura
Captain Roger Moore, Vice Chairman
Engineer Pat Pettigrew
Dr. John Pedicone
Georgeann Hackenbracht, Secretary (not a voting member)

Absent: No absentees

A quorum existed with five of five voting members present. Attorney Steve Bosse', Debbie Metzger and Dottie Sollars were also present.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Lee C. Mellor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review, Amend and Approval of the October 1, 2009, Local Pension Board Minutes

Lee C. Mellor made the following motion, seconded by Dr. Pedicone and approved unanimously:

Move to approve the Minutes of the November 4, 2009, Local Pension Board Minutes as presented.

BUSINESS

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Paramedic Clint Green's Retirement Following Participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) effective December 31, 2009

Captain Moore made the following motion, seconded by Dr. Pedicone and approved unanimously:

Move to accept Paramedic Clint Green's retirement following participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) effective December 31, 2009.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Northwest Fire District Arizona Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2009; Discussion of Contribution Rates

A copy of the report was provided in the packet. Mr. Mellor noted the report was discussed; no action was taken.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Consolidated Financial Report and PSPRS CAFR as of June 30, 2009

A copy of the report was provided in the packet. Mr. Mellor noted the report was discussed; no action was taken.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Northwest Fire District Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Independent Auditors Report – Portion Related to Public Safety Personnel Retirement System for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

A copy of the report was provided in the packet. Mr. Mellor noted the report was discussed; no action was taken.

Discussion about New PSPRS Legislation Effective September 30, 2009, including Re-Employment of Retired Members

Mr. Bosse' reported that changes were made this past September to A.R.S. § 38-849 pertaining to re-employment of retirees who are re-hired by the same employer. Discussion pursued about the retiree returning to work in a different position but having similar duties that were performed in the previous position prior to retirement. A copy of the statute was provided in the packet.

Information about PSPRS Local Board Conference – February 4, 2010, at the Town of Marana Municipal Complex

Ms. Hackenbracht explained there is usually a small fee to attend the conference that includes lunch, and there is budget capacity for anyone who would like to attend, Captain Moore and Engineer Pettigrew indicated they would be attending; Ms. Hackenbracht also plans to attend and will RSVP.

Executive Session Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) & (4) for Discussion and Consultation with the Local Board's Attorney for Legal Advice and Possibly to Instruct the Board's Local Pension Board Attorney Regarding the Following Agenda Item

An executive session was not held.

Discussion and Possible Action about Adopting a Procedure or Policy for Requiring Members on Disability Retirement to Undergo Physicals to Determine Eligibility to Continue Disability Retirement

Steve Bosse' explained that NWFD does not have a mechanism in place to monitor the status of individuals who are on disability. Once they are in the current system, they would remain on disability even if they were no longer disabled. In response to Dr. Pedicone asking if there was a liability to NWFD, Mr. Bosse' explained the liability would be to funding disability benefits for individuals who are no longer disabled. A question was raised about whether the district would have to offer re-employment if an individual was determined to no longer be disabled. Mr. Bosse' noted that procedures were received from other Pension Boards that could be used as models.

Ms. Hackenbracht discussed the costs involved in providing physicals for persons residing outside of Tucson or in other states and the costs of travel and lodging to bring them to Tucson for the physicals. Mr. Bosse' felt that physicals should be given in the states they are located, and the occupational doctors of those states should make the disability determinations.

Discussion pursued that a draft policy and procedure will be developed and presented at the March meeting that is needed to approve the participation in PSPRS of the new employees planned to be hired early in April for the academy. A copy of the statute pertaining to disability pension was provided in the packet.

Dr. Pedicone made the following motion, seconded by Captain Moore and approved unanimously:

Move to direct staff to develop a draft policy within 60 days for disability retirement.

Recognition of Local Pension Board Members for 2010 Reappointed by the Governing Board – Governing Board Lee Mellor, Dr. John Pedicone, Member and Chief J. Piechura

Mr. Mellor remarked that it is a mandatory requirement for a Governing Board member and the Fire Chief to serve on the Local Pension Board. At the December Governing Board meeting, Mr. Mellor was reappointed to serve as Chairman, and Dr. Pedicone and Chief Piechura were reappointed as members. There was discussion that new officers are elected once a year.

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on election of Local Pension Board Officers for 2010 – Vice Chairman, Secretary and Recognition of Governing Board Designation of Lee C. Mellor as Chairman

Chief Piechura made the following motion, seconded by Engineer Pettigrew and approved unanimously:

Move to elect Roger Moore as Vice Chairman.

Chief Piechura made the following motion, seconded by Dr. Pedicone and approved unanimously:

Move to have Georgeann Hackenbracht continue serving as a non-voting secretary for the Pension Board.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Mellor thanked everyone for their years of participation on the Local Pension Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Captain Moore made the following motion, seconded by Engineer Pettigrew and approved unanimously:

Move to adjourn.

The Local Pension Board meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

The Local Pension Board Minutes were approved at the March 30, 2010, Local Pension Board meeting.