



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
FIRE LOCAL BOARD OF THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PSPRS)**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, October 21, 2021**

**Meeting Held Electronically**

**PRESENT:** Hugo Meraz, Chairperson/Mayoral Designee  
Donna Brown, Citizen Member/Merit Head  
Ken Strobeck, Citizen Member  
Steve Springborn, Elected Member

**ABSENT:** Todd Cavner, Elected Member

**STAFF:** Alena Sampson, PSPRS Local Board Secretary, Senior HR Analyst-Fire  
Darlene Ganger, Senior HR Benefits Analyst

**GUESTS:** Cindy Kelley, PSPRS Local Board Attorney

**Call to Order**

Chair Meraz called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Board Member Strobeck chaired the meeting.

**Roll Call**

Members present as listed above.

**Possible Executive Session**

**1. Review and approval of regular session meeting minutes – August 19, 2021**

BOARD MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 19, 2021 PSPRS FIRE LOCAL BOARD

MEETING. BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**2. Induction of new City of Scottsdale Firefighters into PSPRS, if any**

BOARD MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE THE INDUCTION OF NEW SCOTTSDALE FIREFIGHTER RECRUITS RUAIRI KEENAN, BRANDON RUIZ, TRISTEN WATMORE AND ZANE WEBSTER, WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2021. THEY WILL EACH BE INDUCTED WITH PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS, IF ANY, AS NOTED ON THE LISTING THAT IS INCLUDED WITH THE BOARD PACKET. BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**3. Discussion and vote on the Accidental Disability Retirement Application of Firefighter Jason J. Jones**

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF AN INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXAMINATION THROUGH ONE OF THE BOARD'S CONTRACTED MEDICAL PROVIDERS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A MEDICAL SPECIALIST TO SERVE AS THE MEDICAL BOARD FOR THE ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATION OF FIREFIGHTER JASON J. JONES. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**4. Discussion and vote on the Accidental Disability Retirement Application of Fire Engineer Danny J. Ramirez**

Ms. Sampson noted that Fire Engineer Danny J. Ramirez will retire on October 29, 2021 with 16.331 years of service. His monthly benefit is \$4,210.02. All of his paperwork is in order.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATION OF FIRE ENGINEER DANNY J. RAMIREZ SINCE HE DOES MEET THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS, SUBJECT TO FINAL PAYROLL CALCULATIONS AND QUALIFIED DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDERS. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Board Member Strobeck wished Engineer Ramirez good health in the future.

Board Member Springborn thanked Engineer Ramirez for his years of service and wished him well.

**5. Discussion and vote on the Normal Retirement Application of Fire Captain Jeff R. Perry**

This item was tabled because the application was not received from PSPRS in time for today's meeting.

Ms. Ganger assured the Board that postponing approval until November will not affect Captain Perry's payments.

**6. Discussion and vote on the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) Application of Firefighter James W. Harris**

Ms. Sampson noted that Firefighter James W. Harris entered the DROP on September 11, 2021 with 25.523 years of service. His monthly benefit is \$4,810.02. All of his paperwork is in order.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP APPLICATION OF FIREFIGHTER JAMES W. HARRIS. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**7. Discussion and vote on the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) Application of Fire Engineer Jeffrey T. Jensen**

Ms. Sampson noted that Fire Engineer Jeffrey T. Jensen entered the DROP on June 19, 2021 with 20.055 years of service. His monthly benefit is \$4,258.99. All of his paperwork is in order.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP APPLICATION OF FIRE ENGINEER JEFFREY T. JENSEN. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**8. Discussion and vote on the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) Application of Fire Engineer Karl R. Michel**

Ms. Sampson noted that Fire Engineer Karl R. Michel entered the DROP on June 19, 2021 with 26.803 years of service. His monthly benefit is \$5,628.32. All of his paperwork is in order.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP APPLICATION OF FIRE ENGINEER KARL R. MICHEL. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**Discussion and vote on the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) Application of Fire Captain Peter J. Earls**

Ms. Sampson noted that Fire Captain Peter J. Earls entered the DROP on July 31, 2021 with 20.627 years of service. His monthly benefit is \$4,854.83. All of his paperwork is in order.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP APPLICATION OF FIRE CAPTAIN PETER J. EARLS. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**10. Discussion and vote on the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) Application of Fire Engineer Scot A. Stetson**

Ms. Sampson noted that Fire Engineer Scot A. Stetson entered the DROP on July 31, 2021 with 26.086 years of service. His monthly benefit is \$5,156.98. All of his paperwork is in order.

BOARD MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP APPLICATION OF FIRE ENGINEER SCOTT A. STETSON. BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**11. Discussion and vote on the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) Application of Fire Chief Assistant Eric A. Valliere**

Ms. Sampson noted that Fire Chief Assistant Eric A. Valliere entered the DROP on June 19, 2021 with 29.604 years of service. His monthly benefit is \$9,849.86. All of his paperwork is in order.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP APPLICATION OF FIRE CHIEF ASSISTANT ERIC A. VALLIERE. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**12. Report to the Board on recently completed service transfers, if any**

Ms. Sampson reviewed recently completed service transfers.

**13. Board suggestions for upcoming agenda items**

Board Member Springborn suggested that in the future when there are multiple DROP applications, they be placed on a consent agenda.

Ms. Kelley indicated that it is acceptable with PSPRS for larger jurisdictions to use a consent agenda format.

## **Adjournment**

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. BOARD MEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS BROWN, STROBECK, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

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