



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

MINUTES

Thursday, June 15, 2023

North Corporation Yard
Anasazi Conference Room
9191 E San Salvador Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

PRESENT: Hugo Meraz, Chairperson/Mayoral Designee
Monica Boyd, Citizen Member/Merit Head
Ken Strobeck, Citizen Member
Steve Springborn, Elected Member
Todd Caverner, Elected Member

STAFF: Autumn Asmus, PSPRS Local Board Secretary

GUESTS: Cindy Kelley, PSPRS Local Board Attorney
Clinton Ewing (telephonic)

Call to Order

Chair Meraz called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

Possible Executive Session

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting: April 20, 2023

BOARD MEMBER STROBECK MOVED TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 20, 2023, PSPRS FIRE LOCAL BOARD MEETING. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS STROBECK, BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Discussion and vote on the Accidental Disability Retirement Application of Firefighter Cason Coyle

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 CASON COYLE. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS STROBECK, BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. Discussion and vote on the Accidental Disability Retirement Application of Firefighter Clinton Ewing

Firefighter Ewing was given an opportunity to speak. He mentioned that there has been a lack of communication regarding the status of his medical documents since he began treatment October 3, 2022 and he was unsure whether all of his records had been provided to the Board. Board Member Springborn assured him that the Board would make sure that all necessary documents were available for consideration.

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 CLINTON EWING. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS STROBECK, BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Board Member Springborn asked that a discussion be scheduled regarding the process for assigning PTSD IMEs and in particular the use of Dr. Joel Parker for future IMEs. He expressed concern about Dr. Parker's ability to provide adequate IME evaluations and his unwillingness to make himself available during a Board meeting to answer questions. He asked that Dr. Parker not be used for Firefighters Coyle and Ewing's IMEs.

Discussion ensued regarding concerns that arose during the Board's recent use of Dr. Parker. Board Member Boyd clarified that the Board voted that Dr. Parker be presented with a request

for a written response to questions. Board Members felt that the written response Dr. Parker provided was not adequate. Board Member Springborn clarified that he is requesting specifically to exclude Dr. Parker from Firefighters Coyle and Ewing, not asking for a permanent exclusion. He noted that depending on the outcome of the Board's discussion regarding the matter, he could support using Dr. Parker if additional IMEs are required for these two cases. Further discussion about the IME process for psychiatric PTSD evaluations and the use of Dr. Parker will be agendaized for a future meeting.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO EXCLUDE DR. JOEL PARKER FROM THE IME LIST FOR FIREFIGHTERS COYLE AND EWING. THE EXCLUSION CAN BE RECONSIDERED IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO SEND THEM FOR A SECOND IME. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS STROBECK, BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

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

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS STROBECK, BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD FROM 9:55 A.M. TO 10:06 A.M.

BOARD MEMBER STROBECK MOVED TO APPROVE THE INDUCTION OF NEW SCOTTSDALE FIREFIGHTERS ALLEX BARNO, JACKSON CROPPER, PATRICK DUFFY, MARAH GONZALES, DEREK KLUCKER, RYAN LARSEN, ELISHA MARTINEZ, MICHAEL MOLACEK, AND TYLER OVERSTREET WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF MAY 22, 2023. EACH WILL BE INDUCTED WITH PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS, IF ANY, AS NOTED ON THE LISTING THAT IS INCLUDED WITH THE BOARD PACKET.

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

There were no recently completed service transfers.

7. Board suggestions for upcoming agenda items

Future agenda items could include:

- Discussion about the IME process and doctor qualifications

Adjournment

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ, BOARD MEMBERS STROBECK, BOYD, CAVNER, 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 10:06 a.m.

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