



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

Thursday, August 8, 2024

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
Steve Springborn, Elected Member
Todd Cavner, Elected Member (Telephonic)

ABSENT: Robert Leavitt, Citizen Member (Resigned)

STAFF: Autumn Asmus, PSPRS Local Board Secretary
Darlene Granger, Sr. HR Benefits Analyst

GUESTS: Cindy Kelley, PSPRS Local Board Attorney
Kathryn Baillie, Attorney for Robert Chisholm

Call to Order

Chair Meraz called the meeting to order at 9:41 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 the Minutes of the Public Safety Local Fire Pension Board
 - a. Regular Meeting: July 11, 2024

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES FROM THE JULY 11, 2024, PSPRS FIRE LOCAL BOARD MEETING. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Approval of Fire Executive Session Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2024

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES FROM THE JULY 11, 2024, PSPRS FIRE LOCAL BOARD MEETING AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. Discussion and possible action on the Accidental Disability Retirement Application of Firefighter Robert Chisholm

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD FROM 9:45 A.M. TO 10:06 A.M.

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 ROBERT CHISHOLM. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Darlene Granger, Sr. HR Benefits Analyst, explained to Kathryn Baillie, Attorney for Robert Chisholm, that the IME will contact Firefighter Chisholm directly to schedule the appointment.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. BOARD MEMBER BOYD SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD FROM 10:08 A.M. TO 10:14 A.M.

4. Discussion and possible action on the Accidental Disability Retirement Application of Fire Captain Scott Caccavale

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF AN INDEPENDENT MEICAL 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 FIRE CAPTAIN SCOTT CACCAVALE. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

5. Discussion and possible action on the Catastrophic Disability Retirement Application of Fire Engineer Adam Shuckhart

Autumn Asmus, PSPRS Local Board Secretary, noted that Fire Engineer Adam Shuckhart is retiring with a catastrophic disability retirement after 22.168 years of service. All of his paperwork is in order.

Discussion ensued regarding a conflict between question number three in the narrative portion and the answer to a question on the P5 form. Board Members agreed that it appears that the doctor made a mistake when checking the boxes on the form, because the doctor clearly states in the narrative portion that Engineer Shuckhart has a disability that prevents him from performing his duties and that the injury was incurred in the performance of his duties as a fire engineer.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CATASTROPHIC DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATION FOR FIRE ENGINEER ADAM SHUCKHART. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION.

Board Member Springborn noted that this case is unique in the fact that the Board has never had a catastrophic disability before. He read through the P5-PBA form and answers checked by the doctor, noting that for question five, "Was the injury a result of an event that occurred in the performance of the employee's duty?" the doctor checked "No." However, in the narrative, under the question about whether the doctor feels the disabling condition or injury was incurred in the performance of Mr. Shuckhart's duty as a fire engineer, the physician clearly states, "My understanding is that this issue of casualty has already been litigated and found that exposures on the job are what caused this patient's illness. I have no reason to refute this." It has been determined that the disability is presumed to be job-related and is covered under the City's workers' comp. Board Members agreed that these statements clarify that the doctor made an error on the Form P5-PBA.

Board Members reviewed and agreed upon answers to questions on the P5-PBA form.

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CATASTROPHIC DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATION FOR FIRE ENGINEER ADAM SHUCKHART. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0).

CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

6. Induction of new City of Scottsdale Firefighters into PSPRS

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO APPROVE THE INDUCTION INTO PSPRS OF NEW SCOTTSDALE FIREFIGHTERS ZACHARY BILLIE, ERIC FLORES, TYLER FORBES, MORGAN GALLOB, TANNER HARMSSEN, TODD JOHNSON, JACK MCCANDLESS, JUSTIN PELOQUIN, BENJAMIN RUSEV, SAM SCHEOPF, JUSTIN TARGETT, CONNOR TERHAAR, RICK TERRELL, BEN VAZQUEZ, AND JAMES YAHNER, WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JULY 29, 2024. THEY WILL BE INDUCTED WITH PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS, IF ANY, AS NOTED ON THE LISTING THAT IS INCLUDED WITH THE BOARD PACKET, INTO PSPRS. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS BOYD, CAVNER, AND SPRINGBORN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

7. Suggestions for upcoming agenda items

There were no suggestions for upcoming agenda items.

Adjournment

BOARD MEMBER SPRINGBORN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. BOARD MEMBER CAVNER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR MERAZ AND BOARD MEMBERS 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 10:26 a.m.

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