

# Minutes

## Tempe Police Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board

### February 3, 2022

Minutes of the Tempe Police Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board meeting hosted virtually via Cisco Webex on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Rob Ferraro  
Steven Methvin  
Alex Moreno  
Johnny Tse  
Bill Goodman

**Board Members Absent:**

**City Staff Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Rebecca Strisko, Human Resources Director  
Tammy Milhon, HR Specialist  
Matt Quick, HR Specialist  
Sarah Jenkins, Management Assistant II  
Chris Hansen, Risk Manager  
Nichole Martinez, Worker's Compensation Program Specialist

**Legal Counsel Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Lesli Sorensen

*Chair Steven Methvin called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.*

**1. Consideration of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Rob Ferraro to approve the January 6, 2022 Police PSPRS Board Meeting Minutes; second by Bill Goodman. Motion passed on a voice vote 5-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Moreno and Tse  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

**2. Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session, if necessary:**

Motion by Rob Ferraro to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Board's Legal Counsel; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 5-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman and Tse  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 2:14 p.m. The Board meeting reconvened at 2:25 p.m.

**3. Applications to enter the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)**

Motion by Rob Ferraro to approve the applications to enter DROP of **Lateef Hampton** and **Tyler Watkins**; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 5-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman and Tse  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

#### 4. Applications to Retire from the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)

Motion by Rob Ferraro to approve the applications to retire from DROP for **Jeffrey Millen** with a retirement date of January 27, 2022 and **Michael Pooley** with a retirement date of January 22, 2022; second by Bill Goodman. Motion passed on a voice vote 5-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: None

#### 5. Re-Hearing on the Application for Accidental Disability Benefits (continued from September 2, 2021) for Jordan Redd

Chair Methvin said this is a continuation of the re-hearing on the application for accidental disability benefits for Jordan Redd. Mr. Redd's Application for Accidental Disability Benefits was denied by the Board at the June 3, 2021 meeting based upon information received in the IME report. Mr. Redd's legal counsel, Dale Norris, submitted a request for rehearing and provided additional information for the Board's consideration. On September 2, 2021, the Board directed that Mr. Redd's entire medical file be sent for either a documentary or in-person review of the new information provided as well as his entire file, including the IME by an Arizona licensed medical professional. The Board has received the report from the additional review. At today's hearing, the Board must determine whether the documentation submitted is sufficient to make a determination on Mr. Redd's application.

Chair Methvin asked if anyone wished to address the Board at the hearing. Mr. Redd's legal counsel Mr. Norris addressed the Board. Mr. Norris stated that they disagreed with the outcome of the additional review. Mr. Norris understands the Board's limited ability to deal with this issue but believes these types of situations will continue to occur creating inequity between veterans that are hired and non-veterans. Mr. Norris hopes that the Board will continue to participate in future opportunities to find a solution.

Motion by Rob Ferraro to deny the Application for Accidental Disability for Jordan Redd based on the information provided in application and the Independent Medical Examination; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 5-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: None

The following questions from the Accidental Disability Questionnaire, Form P5-LB-A, previously completed on June 3, 2021 were read out loud and verbally affirmed by the Board:

1. Did the employee file the application after the disabling incident, or within one year of ceasing to be an employee? **Yes**
2. Did (or will) the employee terminate by a reason of disability? **Yes**
3. Did employment terminate based on a disciplinary action? **No**
4. If the member's period of DROP has ended, if applicable, did (or will) the employee terminate by a reason of disability? **Not Applicable**
5. Is the employee still working a position within their job classification that the Local Board considers a reasonable range of duties position? **No**
6. Has the employee refused a position within their job classification that the Local Board considered a reasonable range of duties? **No**
7. Did the injury or condition occur prior to the current PSPRS membership date? **Yes**
8. Was the injury or condition the result of an event incurred during the performance of the employee's duty? **No**

## 6. Hearing on the Application for accidental Disability Benefits (continued from November 4, 2021) for Ronald Kerzaya

Chair Methvin said this is a continuation of the hearing on the application for accidental disability benefits for Ronald Kerzaya. At the November 4, 2021 meeting, the Board approved moving Mr. Kerzaya forward to an Independent Medical Examination (IME). The Board has received the results of the IME. At today's hearing, the Board must determine whether the documentation submitted is sufficient to make a determination on Mr. Kerzaya's application.

Chair Methvin asked if anyone wished to address the Board at the hearing. Mr. Kerzaya's legal counsel Dale Norris addressed the Board. Mr. Norris said that he believes the Board can follow the outcome of the IME.

Motion by Alex Moreno to approve the Application for Accidental Disability for Ronald Kerzaya based on the information provided in application and the Independent Medical Examination; second by Bill Goodman. Motion passed on a voice vote 5-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Ferraro and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: None

The following questions from the Accidental Disability Questionnaire, Form P5-LB-A, were read out loud and verbally answered by the Board:

1. Did the employee file the application after the disabling incident, or within one year of ceasing to be an employee? **Yes**
2. Did (or will) the employee terminate by a reason of disability? **Yes**
3. Did employment terminate based on a disciplinary action? **No**
4. If the member's period of DROP has ended, if applicable, did (or will) the employee terminate by a reason of disability? **Not Applicable**
5. Is the employee still working a position within their job classification that the Local Board considers a reasonable range of duties position? **No**
6. Has the employee refused a position within their job classification that the Local Board considered a reasonable range of duties? **No**
7. Did the injury or condition occur prior to the current PSPRS membership date? **No**
8. Was the injury or condition the result of an event incurred during the performance of the employee's duty? **Yes**

## 7. Future Meeting Date:

The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2022.

## 8. Future Agenda Items:

Boardmember Ferraro asked staff to research the following two questions and present its findings to the Board: 1. Does the Police Department use the same pre-employment screening process for veterans and non-veterans, specifically, what efforts are being made to identify pre-existing conditions related to PTSD. 2. What does the Police Department do to support veterans after they are hired?

Board Legal Counsel Lesli Sorensen said that the PSPRS Board has issued new Model Rules regarding Local Boards. Local Boards will need to either adopt the Model Rules or make their own edits or adjustments. Chair Methvin proposed that revisions be presented at the next meeting and final revisions be adopted at the following meeting. Ms. Sorensen said that she and staff will review the Model Rules to compare to existing procedures and note differences where the Board might want to focus. Chair Methvin asked staff to send out the new Model Rules to Boardmembers and ensure that this item appeared on the agenda at the next scheduled meeting.

Chair Methvin announced that this was Boardmember Goodman's last meeting and thanked him for his five years of service to the PSPRS Boards. Council is set to vote on a new member, appointed by the mayor, at the February 10, 2022 Regular Council Meeting. Chair Methvin announced that he will be retiring from city service in August 2022. The mayor will appoint a new Chair.

#### **9. Public Appearances:**

There were no public appearances.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Alex Moreno; second by Bill Goodman. Motion passed on a voice vote 5-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Ferraro and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.



Rebecca Strisko, Local Board Secretary