

**Worcester Retirement Monthly Board Meeting
July 13, 2017**

The Worcester Retirement Board met at 8:30 A.M. in Open Public Session on Thursday July 13, 2017 in the Levi Lincoln Chamber City Hall Worcester, MA. Board members Stephen Wentzell, John Mahan, Thomas Wade and Elizabeth Early were present. Stephen Wentzell acted as the Chair for the meeting.

ALL BENEFITS APPROVED BY THE WORCESTER RETIREMENT BOARD ARE SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL BY P.E.R.A.C.

The Board accepted the minutes of the June meetings (with typos corrected) as presented.

Approved: Superannuation M.G.L. c. 32 § 5

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Option</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Bruno, Donna	Communications (SrDisp)	22	B	6/30/2017
Harvey, Patricia	School (IA)	22	B	6/30/2017
Lee, Jody	School (Interpreter)	29	B	6/30/2017
Lynch, William	Fire (Lt)	35	C	7/11/2017
McGrath, James	CMWrkFrc(PrStffAsst)	32	C	7/22/2017
O'Neil, Stephen	DPW (Ch ClkWrks)	28	C	6/20/2017

YTD June Office Budget, May C/R & C/D, Legal YTD 5/17, SSB&T and People's United Cash Flow 5/17 were provided to the Board. Filed.

Retiree Evaluations on Paul D. Cicero and Kevin MacDonnell were received. No action required. Filed.

The Board was provided with a list of Disabled retirees that failed to file with PERAC as required under c.32 §91A their Annual Statement of Earned Income. Follow up with them by John Mahan.

The following **PERAC MEMOs** were provided to the Board.

#19/2017 PROSPER System Changes
#20 A New Public Records Law

Approved collectively

Warrants:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
17-18	6/15/2017	Member Transfers	\$ 42,272.31
17-19	6/23/2017	Member Refunds	\$ 239,645.14
17-20	6/23/2017	June Bills	\$ 31,960.24
	6/02/2017	Office Employee P/R	5,792.80
	6/09/2017	Office Employee P/R	5,792.80
	6/16/2017	Office Employee P/R	5,792.80
	6/23/2017	Office Employee P/R	5,861.14
	6/30/2017	Office Employee P/R	5,792.80
	6/30/2017	Board Stipend (4)	1,500.00
062017	6/30/2017	June Retiree Payroll	\$ 6,728,677.87
052017	5/31/2017	May Retiree Payroll	6,619,910.84
042017	4/28/2017	April Retiree Payroll	6,704,119.00
032017	3/31/2017	March Retiree Payroll	6,629,601.05
022017	2/28/2017	February Retiree Payroll	6,613,756.75
012017	1/31/2017	January Retiree Payroll	6,621,146.18

At approximately 8:40 the Chair entertained a motion to convene in executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a) (1) and 21(a) (3) to conduct disability hearings and discuss litigation strategy regarding pending cases. The Board will reconvene in open session following the executive session. The motion was moved and on a unanimous roll call vote the Board went into executive session.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at approximately 8:50 a.m.

The Board conducted a **PUBLIC HEARING** on Membership and Creditable Service Regulation as part of the monthly meeting. Notice was provided in the public posting of the meeting as well as the Executive Secretary reaching out to the School Department directly to inform HR representative Mark Brophy of the hearing and invite representative to attend. No one attended.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP REGULATION

Any individual who is permanently employed thirty (30) or more hours per week for twelve (12) months per year by any member unit of the Worcester Retirement System (“System”) or the Worcester Retirement Board and who is scheduled to receive at least \$5,000 in wages annually as defined in M.G.L. c. 32, § 1 and 840 CMR 15.03 shall become a member of the System. For the purpose of this regulation, the term “permanent” shall mean guaranteed employment for more than 12 consecutive weeks. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Worcester Public Schools employee is only required to work 30 hours or more per week for one hundred and eighty-three (183) days or the full school year. Upon becoming a member of the System, a member will continue to be a member in service until employment is terminated or the member’s death.

Any elected official who earns at least \$5,000 in wages may elect to become a member of the System within 90 days of assuming office.

SUPPLEMENTAL CREDITABLE SERVICE REGULATION

Members of the Worcester Retirement System shall receive creditable service, in whole month increments, consistent with this regulation in the following manner:

- For a member in service who is employed in a full-time capacity, with full-time being defined as permanently employed at least thirty (30) hours a week for twelve (12) months a year, he/she will receive one (1) month of creditable service for each full month for which the employee receives regular compensation and remits the appropriate contributions to the Worcester Retirement System (“System”), with said service not to exceed one (1) year of creditable service in any calendar year.
- For a member in service who is employed prior to the effective date of this regulation in a part-time capacity throughout his/her entire career, he/she will receive one (1) month of creditable service for each full month for which the employee receives regular compensation and remits the appropriate contributions to the System, with said service not to exceed one (1) year of creditable service in any calendar year.
- For a member who has rendered membership service in the System in both a full-time and part-time capacity prior to the effective date of this regulation, the member shall receive full credit for all service rendered prior to the effective date of this regulation, and the member shall receive full credit for full-time service and prorated credit for part-time service subsequent to the effective date of this regulation. Proration of part-time service shall be based on the full-time equivalency of 173 hours being the equivalent of one (1) month of service for all non-School Department employees. Proration of part-time service for School Department employees shall be based on 110 hours being the equivalent of 1 month of service.
- School Department employees who are only required to work 183 days per year shall only receive credit for actual months worked, not to exceed ten (10) months of service any school year. School Department employees who work twelve (12) months per year will receive credit for each full month while receiving regular compensation.
- Members of the System may only purchase and receive credit for past non-membership service rendered in a member unit of the System consistent with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 32, § 4(2)(c), or service rendered in a member unit of the System as a reserve or permanent-intermittent or police officer or as a reserve, permanent-intermittent or call firefighter pursuant to Section 4(2)(b), or if the past service was rendered under the jurisdiction of another retirement system, such service may only be purchased pursuant to Section 3(5) if rendered in a temporary, provisional or substitute capacity, provided that the individual was excluded from membership in the other retirement system. All prior non-membership service shall be calculated consistent with the proration formula in the preceding paragraph.

- Past non-membership service may be purchased consistent with this supplemental regulation. In addition, for all service rendered on or after July 1, 2009, no creditable service will be granted unless the individual received at least \$5,000 in wages during the calendar year.

The Board closed the hearing and voted unanimously to approve the membership and creditable service regulations as provided. Will send to PERAC for approval with a request for expedited approval prior to so the regs are in place for the new school year.

The Board recessed at approximately 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Early, Executive Secretary and Elected Member

Stephen F. Wentzell, Appointed Member and Acting Chairman

John F. Mahan, Elected Member

DNA

Robert V. Stearns, Ex Officio Member

Thomas Wade, Member, Fifth Member

The following items were handled in Executive Session:

Accidental Disability M.G.L. c. 32 §7 Panel Reports Rec'd

Jewell, Robert WHA (cust) 34

C. Hallen v. WRB, DALA, CR-14-572