

A regular meeting of the Michigan State Police Retirement Board was held on October 16, 2008, at the General Office Building, Secondary Complex, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, Michigan. The following Board members and staff participated:

**Members Present:** Sally Corbin, General Public Member  
Lieutenant Colonel Kristi Etue, representing the Director of the  
Department of State Police  
First Lieutenant Diane Garrison, Retired, Retiree Member  
Vernon Johnson representing the State Treasurer  
Sergeant Richard Hale, representing Sergeants and below  
Craig Murray, representing the Deputy Auditor General  
George Elworth, representing the Attorney General  
Cheryl Schmittiel, representing the Director of the  
Office of the State Employer

**Staff Present:** Laurie Hill, Acting Executive Secretary  
Linda Albro Sparks, Recording Secretary

**Others Present:** Cathy Howell of the Department of State Police; Thomas Schimpf of the Attorney General's Office; and Lawrence P. Schneider of the Michigan State Police Troopers Association.

### **Call to Order**

Chair Sergeant Richard Hale called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

### **Excusing of Absent Members**

Vice Chair, Ret/First Lieutenant Diane Garrison moved, George Elworth supported, to excuse the absence of First Lieutenant Kevin McGaffigan representing officer members with the rank of lieutenant or above. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Craig Murray moved, Lieutenant Colonel Kristi Etue supported, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Approval of Minutes**

George Elworth moved, Vernon Johnson supported, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## **New Pension Recipients**

The pension reports for July, August, and September 2008 were included in the notebook. There were no questions or comments.

## **Administrative Hearing**

### Proposal for Decision – Docket No. 2008-395 SPRS.

The Board considered the case materials. Following discussion, Vice Chair, Ret/First Lieutenant Diane Garrison moved to deny non-duty disability. The motion was not seconded. Following further discussion, George Elworth moved the matter be postponed until the next Board meeting after the Board is provided with copies of the entire record of this proceeding, and the attorneys for the parties be given the opportunity to file responses to the exceptions provided by the other party, and Craig Murray supported. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Special Reports**

Thomas Schimpf of the Attorney General's Office made a presentation regarding Procedural Rules for Hearings. Vernon Johnson moved that the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules proceed to adopt the rules and the Board endorse the Rules, and George Elworth supported. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Legislative Report**

No new bill information to report since previous meeting.

## **Board Comment**

George Elworth moved for the Board to recognize Lieutenant Joseph Thomas at the conclusion of his service to the State Police Retirement Board by presenting him with a resolution, and Vernon Johnson supported. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chair, Ret/First Lieutenant Diane Garrison had a member contact her regarding clarification on the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) and asked

Laurie Hill for an accurate interpretation to be included as part of the record. Laurie Hill stated that the percentage a DROP participant receives is based on the length of participation. A break in service due to a suspension would not affect the amount placed into the participant's DROP account. The amount in a participant's DROP account is determined at the time of termination of employment.

Vice Chair, Ret/First Lieutenant Diane Garrison asked Laurie Hill for clarification regarding State Police retirement eligibility dates. The retirement statute states a State Police member is eligible for a full retirement after obtaining 25 years of credited service. Laurie offered caution about trying to calculate credited service based on an accumulation of hours. Retirement service credit is calculated using certain capping rules such as, no more than 1 year of service credit can be earned in any 1 fiscal year and no more than 80 hours can be credited in a pay period. For this reason, the Office of Retirement Services encourages State Police members to continue their employment through the day before their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service assuming they have not experienced any breaks in service during their career. In doing so, we can avoid situations where officers terminate their employment short of their required 25 years.

There was a discussion around the recent investment downturn.

### Public Comment

Lawrence Schneider provided comment and requested a copy of the administrative rules that apply to contested case hearings held by the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules in matters that come before the State Employees Retirement Board and Thomas Schimpf provided him with a copy of the rules at the meeting.

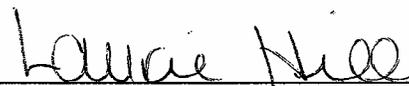
### Adjournment

Lieutenant Colonel Kristi Etue moved, Vice Chair, Ret/First Lieutenant Diane Garrison supported, to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

OFFICIAL MINUTES:



Chair



Executive Secretary