

A regular meeting of the State of Michigan Retirement Board was held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 7, 2019, in the Board Room, First Floor of the Stevens T. Mason Building, 530 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Members Present: Laurie Hill, representing State Retirees
Craig Murray, representing the Auditor General
Judge David Sawyer, representing judges
Eric Jamison, representing the Attorney General
Matthew Fedorchuk, representing State Employees
Ann Marie Storberg, representing the State Treasurer
Judge Mark T. Boonstra, representing the General Public
John Gnodtke, representing State Personnel Director

Staff Present: Meg Skelley, Executive Secretary
Nick Soucy, Recording Secretary

Others Present: Kathleen Markman of the Attorney General's Office, Chanda Donnan of ORS, Lisa Reimbold of ORS, Nicholas Castanon of OAG, and Mary Pollock of SERA

Call to Order

Chair Laurie Hill called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Excusing of Absent Members

John Gnodtke moved, Judge Mark T. Boonstra supported, to excuse the absence of Col. John Wojcik. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Matthew Fedorchuk moved, Craig Murray supported, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Judge David Sawyer moved, Eric Jamison supported, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

New Pension Recipients

Informational payroll statistics for July-September for JRS and for May-September for SERS and MRP were provided to the Board. There was no discussion on these items.

Duty Disability Case Summary

No discussion on this item.

Non-Duty Disability Case Summary

No discussion on this item.

Administrative HearingsProposal for Decision – Docket 18-006518-ORS

The Board considered the case materials. John Gnodtke moved, Eric Jamison supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendations of the Presiding Officer as set forth in the May 23, 2019, Proposal for Decision including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and deny the Petitioner's application for duty and non-duty disability retirement. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal for Decision – Docket 19-001981-ORS

The Board considered the case materials. John Gnodtke moved, Judge David Sawyer supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendations of the Presiding Officer as set forth in the August 21, 2019, Proposal for Decision including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and deny the Petitioner's application for non-duty disability retirement. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal for Decision – Docket 19-002540-ORS

The Board considered the case materials. John Gnodtke moved, Eric Jamison supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendations of the Presiding Officer as set forth in the August 21, 2019, Proposal for Decision including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and deny the Petitioner's application for a conservation officer retirement allowance. The motion carried unanimously.

New BusinessRequest for a Declaratory Ruling

The Board considered the case materials. Judge David Sawyer moved, John Gnodtke supported, that the Board move to deny Petitioner's Request for a Declaratory Ruling that would provide for retroactive retirement benefits. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Elections for SOMRB Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Laurie Hill turned the meeting over to Executive Secretary Meg Skelley to conduct elections.

Meg Skelley noted the Board had two open positions, for Chair and Vice Chair. She noted the Board had submitted one nomination for Chair, for Col. John Wojcik, and, noting his absence, that he had already accepted the nomination. Meg Skelley asked for additional nominations. There were none. Craig Murray moved and Judge David Sawyer supported the election of Col. Wojcik as Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

Meg Skelley noted that there was one nomination for Vice Chair, for Judge David Sawyer. She asked for additional nominations. Judge David Sawyer nominated Craig Murray. Craig Murray declined the nomination. John Gnodtke moved and Matthew Fedorchuk supported the election of Judge David Sawyer as Vice Chair. The motion carried unanimously. Meg Skelley turned the meeting over to the new Vice Chair, Judge David Sawyer.

Legislative Report

A report was provided for the Board's information.

Executive Secretary Comments

Executive Secretary Meg Skelley thanked the outgoing Chair Laurie Hill and Vice Chair Judge Mark T. Boonstra for their years of service and dedication to the Board and the retirement systems.

Board Comments

Each Board Member expressed appreciation and farewell to the outgoing Chair and Vice Chair. Laurie Hill and Judge Mark T. Boonstra thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve.

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

John Gnodtke moved, Eric Jamison supported that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously. The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Chair

Executive Secretary