

**Worcester Regional Retirement Board Meeting  
June 30, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Due to COVID 19 regulations the meeting took place at the Auburn Elks, 754 Southbridge Street, Auburn MA 0150. Present at the meeting were Kevin Blanchette, Gene Durgin, Joanne L. Savignac, Michael Donoghue and Pauline Lajoie. Also present were Michael Sacco, Chief Executive Officer, Colleen Canty and Lynn Whitney.

Chairman, Kevin Blanchette welcomed all to the meeting.

**APPROVAL - MEETING MINUTES: May 28, 2020**

**MOTION:** *made by Michael Donoghue and seconded by Gene Durgin.*  
*All were in favor.*

**MONTHLY WARRANTS:**

Accounts Payable:	Warrant #39	\$16,672.64
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**MOTION:** *made by Gene Durgin and seconded by Pauline Lajoie.*  
*All in favor.*

Staff Salaries:	Warrant #42	\$46,306.12
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**MOTION:** *made by Joanne L. Savignac and seconded by Gene Durgin.*  
*All in favor.*

Board Compensation:	Warrant #43	\$2,500.00
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**MOTION:** *made by Pauline Lajoie and seconded by Michael Donohue.*  
*All in favor.*

<b>Pension Vouchers:</b>	<b>Warrant #41</b>	<b>\$7,428,383.36</b>
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**MOTION:** *made by Michael Donoghue and seconded by Gene Durgin.*  
*All in favor.*

Prior to and during the meeting, the following items were available for the Board's review: monthly financial statements, current investment statements, invoices, member and retiree files related to items on the agenda.

The Board reviewed the Cash Balance, total Revenue Report and the Trial Balance.

Refunds and Transfers:	Warrant #44	\$558.29
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**MOTION:** *made by Gene Durgin and seconded Michael Donoghue.*  
*All in favor.*

<b>Refunds and Transfers:</b>	<b>Warrant #44A</b>	<b>\$18,947.86</b>
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**MOTION:** *made by Joanne L. Savignac and seconded Pauline Lajoie.*  
*All in favor.*

June 30,2020

Refunds and Transfers:      Warrant #44B      \$323,696.42  
MOTION: *made by Gene Durgin and seconded Michael Donoghue.*  
*All in favor.*

3(8)c's      Warrant #46      \$51,244.01  
MOTION: *made by Pauline Lajoie and seconded by Joanne Savignac.*  
*All in favor.*

**RETIREMENT APPROVALS: (32)**

MOTION: *made by Michael Donoghue and seconded by Gene Durgin.*  
*All in favor.*

**NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS: (-0-)**

**APPOINT ELECTION OFFICER & SET DATE AND RULES OF ELECTION**

MOTION *made by Pauline Lajoie and seconded by Gene Durgin.*

Chief Executive Officer, Michael Sacco ("CEO") informed the Board that he updated the Employee Handbook. A redline copy and final copy were provided to the Board.

**MOTION:** *made by Gene Durgin and seconded by Michael Donoghue* to discuss the matter at the July 28, 2020 Board Meeting.

At 8:45 a.m. in accordance with Section 21(a)(1) of Chapter 30A of the General Laws, a motion was made to recess the open meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss conduct Three (3) Evidentiary Hearings regarding disability applications and medical issues related thereto. The motion carried by a roll call vote with, Michael Donoghue, yes; Gene Durgin, yes; Pauline Lajoie, yes; Joanne Savignac, yes; and Chairman, Kevin Blanchette, yes.

At 10:40 a.m. in accordance with Section 21(a)(1) of Chapter 30A of the General Laws, a motion was made to recess the Executive Session and go back into open meeting. The motion carried by a roll call vote with, Michael Donoghue, yes; Gene Durgin, yes; Pauline Lajoie, yes; Joanne Savignac, yes; and Chairman, Kevin Blanchette, yes.

Legal Update

1. Brian Candrant – Town of Charlton - military service purchase denial – notified in September 2014, never responded, inquired again in May 2019, told he never responded and looks like he just filed an appeal – DALA took no action. CEO filed a Motion to Dismiss at the end of last week.
2. Vernava – CEO filed a Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings last week – AAG assigned to case asked for an extension until August 28<sup>th</sup> to respond, which CEO granted – nothing going on in the Courts.
3. DALA – CEO spoke with Chief Magistrate regarding the challenges DALA faces with re-opening and conducting in-person hearings. No timetable for in-person hearings, currently only having WebEx virtual hearings at the moment.

June 30, 2020

PRIM / PRIT Update

- As of May 31, 2020 - \$744,962,049 – DJ was 25,169.88 on 5/31, was flat until yesterday when it rebounded a bit.
- CEO informed the Board that Michael Trotsky, Executive Director will be attending the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- CEO proposed to the Board to invite FIA to the July meeting to discuss the project and some parameters for a presentation at the September meeting.

Actuarial Update

CEO informs the Board that he would like to coordinate a meeting with Linda Bournival, Worcester Regional's Actuary, Chairman Kevin Blanchette and Colleen Canty to go over the particulars of the study. After the meeting, CEO will invite Linda Bournival to come to the July 28<sup>th</sup> meeting to present the results.

Staff Activities

- Since the last meeting CEO has sent out letters to the Treasurers. Mr. Sacco has not received a single notification that any payment would be delayed or late.
- Rosemary Shaughnessy is out on medical leave. Both Lynn Whitney and Leslie Destefano have been very helpful and taking on Rose's tasks.
- Executive Assistant Position – in anticipation of Rosemary Shaughnessy's retirement within the year, going to hire an Executive Assistant who would report to the CEO and take over many of Rose's tasks, assist the CEO on legal work – about a dozen resumes so far, window closing for submission.
- Excess earnings – someone dropped a dime on a retired police officer (Albert Bourget) who was working details in a different community (Oakham) from which he retired (Holden) – employer not recovering the funds, now up to us - \$58,980.39 – CEO sent a letter yesterday, spoke with him, wants to enter into payment plan, will work with him on that.
- ZOOM! – We should be on board with this if not already – little less than \$13 a month for unlimited meetings, just can't exceed more than a 100 people per meeting – we will have this available for Board members to attend remotely when unable to attend meetings, utilize to counsel members on retirement by appointment, avoid opening the office to the public until the COVID-19 threat has passed
- Will be conducting performance reviews for staff – everyone but CEO's – which will be in December – everyone else is on a fiscal year.
- CEO hoping to get back out on the road in September/October – conduct at least 4 regional meetings on general benefit issues, reschedule some other meetings as needed.
- No plan on opening office to the public – continue with current operating plan until the State of Emergency is lifted.
- Computer issue – Green Earth could not come due to COVID-19 concerns, brought in someone local, Jared Wong, Tech Pro Services – able to get us up and running, we may switch to his company as vendor – waiting on a proposal.

**ADJOURN MOTION:** *Motion was made by Pauline Lajoie and seconded by Joanne Savignac at 11:00 a.m. to close meeting and adjourn. All in favor. The motion carried by a roll call vote with Michael Donoghue, yes; Gene Durgin, yes; Pauline Lajoie, yes; Joanne Savignac, yes, and Chairman, Kevin Blanchette, yes.*