



**PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT SYSTEM
CITY OF SURPRISE LOCAL BOARD – FIRE**

Minutes, Wednesday, April 21, 2021
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374

The following are the minutes from the Public Safety Retirement Commission – Fire Board Meeting held at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 21, 2021. The meeting was held in City Hall, Council Chambers.

A. Call To Order

Chair Hall called meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

B. Roll Call: Skip Hall, Chairperson – Present
Chandler Brown, Citizen Board Member – Present
James Conner, Citizen Board Member – Present
Christopher Preest, Fire Member – Present
Ricardo Valdez, Fire Member – Present

In attendance: Paige Gearhart, Human Resources Manager
Cynthia Kelley, Board Attorney
Michelle Reardon, Sr. Specialist (HR)
Ariana Reyna, PSPRS Board Secretary

C. Pledge of Allegiance –Completed

D. Current Events Reports - None

E. Staff Reports

F. Call to the Public – None

Consent Agenda:

1. **Considerations and possible action pertaining to the review and approval of the February 10, 2021 Public Safety Retirement Commission - Fire Board meeting minutes – APPROVED**

Motion to Approve: Chandler Brown

Second: Ricardo Valdez

Opposed: None

Regular Agenda:

2. **Review and discussion of FY 2020 – 2021 legal counsel fees – INFORMATION ONLY**

No questions or comments from Board members.

3. Consideration and discussion on Board Attorney's summary of legislative update – INFORMATION ONLY

Cynthia Kelley, Attorney, informed the Board that she will provide a summary memo to the Local Board in the coming weeks. The statute changes will not go into effect until 2022. Summary of changes include, but are not limited to:

- Consolidation of local boards, designed for smaller jurisdiction.
- Transition of duties from local board to PSPRS. PSPRS will be more involved in member's benefit calculations. Employer responsibilities remain in providing PSPRS with member information/member eligibility; review disability applications; determining line of duty death; and re-employment issues.
- Local Boards are required to incorporate model uniform rules into their procedures.
- Local board training is required 180 days after being appointed to the Local Board. This applies to board secretaries, new members of the board, and board attorneys.
- Each local board needs to hire independent legal counsel.

4. Consideration and possible action pertaining to the review of medical examination and acceptance of one (1) new Firefighter; Alberto Ramirez into the PSPRS system pursuant to A.R.S § 38-859- APPROVED

Firefighter Alberto Ramirez has been hired with the Surprise Fire Department effective 3/08/2021. Previous City service as EMT effective 12/2018-08/2019. Alberto has been notified of the Board's review of medical records.

Ricardo Valdez and Christopher Preest are recommending that the bylaws be reviewed as Firefighter recruits should be present at the corresponding Local Board meeting when discussing their specific medical examination. Board Secretary will review bylaws and Statute to make sure that current process of managing new members' pre-membership physicals complies with the Board's expectations as it pertains to the current Fire Bylaws. Board Secretary to follow up.

Motion to Approve WITH pre-existing conditions: Ricardo Valdez
Second: Chandler Brown
Opposed: None



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G. Other Business and Future Agenda Items – None

- a. Christopher Preest mentioned that Phoenix DROP has been moved from 5 years to 7 years. Board Attorney stated that she has not heard anything related to this.

H. Executive Session – None

I. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:46 a.m. – **APPROVED**

Motion: Chandler Brown
Second: Ricardo Valdez
Opposed: None

Meeting Minutes Approval:

Skip Hall, Chair
Public Safety Retirement Commission – Fire

CERTIFICATION:

I, Ariana Reyna, Board Secretary and HR Business Partner for the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are true and correct minutes of the Public Safety Retirement Commission – Fire Meeting of **Wednesday, April 21, 2021.**

Ariana Reyna, Board Secretary
Public Safety Retirement Commission – Fire