



**PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT SYSTEM
CITY OF SURPRISE LOCAL FIRE & POLICE BOARDS – JOINT**
Minutes, Wednesday, February 23, 2022
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374

The following are the minutes from the PSPRS City of Surprise Fire & Police Joint Board Meeting held at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 23, 2022. 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
Severin Hall, Police Department – Present
Ian Murton, Police Department – Present
Christopher Preest, Fire Department – Present
Ricardo Valdez, Fire Department – Present

In attendance:

Cynthia “Cindy” Kelley, Board Attorney
Ariana Reyna, PSPRS Board Secretary

C. Pledge of Allegiance – Completed

D. Current Events Reports – None

E. Staff Reports

Review FY 22 legal counsel fees

Members' Terms Expiration – Ariana Reyna informed Board Members of the upcoming expiration terms effective June 30, 2022: Chandler Brown, Ian Murton, and Christopher Preest. Ariana Reyna asked to be informed if any of the members did not wish to be considered for reappointment.

F. Call to the Public – None

Consent Agenda:

- 1. Considerations and action pertaining to the review and approval of the December 15, 2021 Joint Public Safety Retirement Commissions - Fire & Police Meeting Minutes - APPROVED**

Motion to Approve: James Conner

Second: Chandler Brown

Opposed: None



Regular Agenda:

2. Discussion of 2022 Annual PSPRS Conference and review of other PSPRS related topics following the PSPRS Board Secretaries Luncheon – Information Only

Ariana Reyna stated that during the Joint Board Meeting of 12/15/21, Police Board Member Ian Murton requested for the questions included in the PSPRS Board Secretaries Luncheon to be answered and put as an agenda item for discussion during the first meeting held in 2022. Ariana Reyna stated that she had included a list of the questions with responses discussed for the Board's review. Chair Hall asked if the Board Secretary envisioned doing these gatherings on a quarterly basis to which Ariana Reyna responded that there was interest expressed by other municipalities to continue doing these twice per year. General discussion ensued in regards to the 2022 PSPRS Annual Conference.

Rick Valdez inquired on the proposed legislation regarding members who have entered DROP and whether or not this will be extended to members who are already active in DROP. Cindy Kelley stated that as soon as a final decision is made, she will provide an update to the Board.

Ian Murton inquired on the processing of disability cases and whether or not PSPRS had provided more guidance to the Boards on this subject. Cindy Kelley stated that the state leaves it up to the Boards and they just provide a general overview in the model procedures. For example, the Police Board took it upon itself to add the presumption of twelve months to consider a disability as temporary and this type of example is acceptable and in compliance with model procedures as set forth by the state. Additional discussion ensued on disability retirement processing and use of psychiatrists vs. psychologists.

3. Discussion and possible action to incorporate House Bill 2381's statutory changes and establish Model Uniform Rules as adopted by PSPRS Board of Trustees - APPROVED

Ariana Reyna stated that PSPRS updated its public safety and corrected Model Uniform Rules to incorporate House Bill 2381's statutory changes and feedback from stakeholders. The new law requires that local boards establish and adopt updated rules for adjudicating claims and disputes. At a minimum, Boards must incorporate the Model Uniform Rules as these have been adopted by the Board of Trustees.

Cindy Kelley addressed the Board and stated that she compared individual Board bylaws to the adopted model rules. Cindy Kelley further explained that not only were



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new sections added but there were also sections that were removed as in stipulations regarding survivor benefits. Christopher Preest asked specific questions on distribution of survivor benefits and asked how a potential benefit would be distributed if there was no spouse on record to which Cindy Kelley answered she would need to research as she has not had a previous instance where there was no spouse. Cindy Kelley offered insight on other benefits available to surviving children outside of PSPRS.

Board Members reviewed and discussed the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Revised Model Uniform Rules of Local Board Procedure created pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-847(F).

Motion to Approve: Ian Murton

Second: Chandler Brown

Opposed: None

G. Other Business and Future Agenda Items – Review of combined Fire and Police bylaws.

H. Executive Session

I. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 10:04 a.m. – APPROVED

Motion: James Conner .

Second: Ian Murton

Opposed: None

Meeting Minutes Approval:

Skip Hall, Chair

CERTIFICATION:

I, Ariana Reyna, Human Resources Business Partner and PSPRS Board Secretary for the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are true and correct minutes of the PSPRS Local Fire & Police Boards - Joint Meeting of **Wednesday, February 23, 2022.**

Ariana Reyna, PSPRS Board Secretary