



**PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
CITY OF SURPRISE LOCAL BOARD – POLICE**  
Minutes, Thursday, June 27, 2024  
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374

The following are the minutes from the City of Surprise Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police meeting held at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, June 27, 2024. The meeting was held in City Hall, Council Chambers.

**A. Call To Order**

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

**B. Roll Call:** Skip Hall, Chair – Present  
James Conner, Appointed Member – Present  
Kim Drayden, Appointed Member – Present  
Severin Hall, Police Department – Present  
Richard Hernandez, Police Department – Present

**In attendance:** Cynthia Kelley, Legal Counsel  
Ariana Reyna, PSPRS Board Secretary

**C. Pledge of Allegiance – Completed**

**D. Current Events Reports - None**

**E. Staff Reports – Review of FY24 Legal Counsel and IME fees.** Ariana Reyna addressed the Board Members and informed them that there will be an aggregate report for FY24 presented during the August meeting for the Board's review and consideration as well as an ongoing report for previous expenditures of legal counsel fees and IME costs for previous fiscal years. Ariana Reyna thanked Police Board Member Severin Hall for his service to the Board as his term ends effective June 30, 2024. Ariana Reyna stated that Police Board Member Christopher Thomas resigned from serving in the Board with an effective date of June 4, 2024. In seeking to find a replacement for Severin Hall, there was a secret ballot election that took place with the Surprise Police Department. As a result, Sgt. Rick Hernandez has been sworn in to officially serve in the PSPRS Police Board effective July 1, 2024. Also, with Chris Thomas' resignation, new Board Member Lt. Michael Robbins will serve and finish Chris' term which ends on June 30, 2026. Hopefully, Lt. Robbins will be able to attend the August meeting. Discussion ensued on how the Board is under budget, however, still missing the invoices for the current meeting.

**F. Call to the Public – None**



**Consent Agenda:**

- 1. Considerations and action pertaining to the review and approval of the April 10, 2024, Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police Executive Session Meeting Minutes – APPROVED**

**Motion to Approve:** James Conner

**Second:** Severin Hall

**Opposed:** None

- 2. Considerations and action pertaining to the review and approval of the April 10, 2024, Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police Meeting Minutes – APPROVED**

**Motion to Approve:** James Conner

**Second:** Severin Hall

**Opposed:** None

**Regular Agenda:**

- 3. Consideration and possible action pertaining to the review of medical examinations and the acceptance of Lateral Police Officers: Stanley E. Crawford and Taylor A. Macy as well as Police Officer Recruits Eric J. Gregory, Joseph Navarrete, Samuel J. Pavlisick, Andrew D. Sikora, Matthew K. Story-Brown, James A. Vasquez, and Christopher E. Wacaser into the PSPRS system pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-859. - APPROVED.**

Ariana Reyna informed of the following hire dates with the Surprise Police Department: Lateral Officers Crawford and Macy as well as Recruit Story-Brown were hired on 3/4/2024 while Recruits Gregory, Navarrete, Pavlisick, Sikora, Vasquez, and Wacaser were hired on 4/1/2024. The employees were officially notified of the Board's review of their medical records today. Discussion ensued on a member's eligibility regarding his pre-existing condition status. Ariana Reyna stated that even though the provider marked "no pre-existing conditions" on the form, there are two conditions listed therein. Severin Hall indicated that the member did sign agreeing of pre-existing condition and therefore, the record should show pre-existing even though the wrong box was marked. The employees were approved as follows:

Tier 3 Stanley E. Crawford with preexisting conditions

Tier 3 Eric J. Gregory with preexisting conditions



- Tier 3 Taylor A. Macy with preexisting conditions
- Tier 3 Joseph Navarrete with preexisting conditions
- Tier 3 Samuel J. Pavlisick with preexisting conditions
- Tier 3 Andrew D. Sikora with preexisting conditions
- Tier 3 Matthew K. Story-Brown with preexisting conditions
- Tier 3 James A. Vasquez with preexisting conditions
- Tier 3 Christopher E. Wacaser with preexisting conditions

**Motion to Approve:** James Conner

**Second:** Kim Drayden

**Opposed:** None

4. Discussion and possible action to enter Executive Session and review the Independent Medical Exam (IME) findings and other medical records exempt from public inspection regarding the accidental disability retirement application for Police Officer Christopher J. Thomas. – **APPROVED.**

**Motion to ENTER Executive Session at 9:39 AM:** James Conner

**Second:** Severin Hall

**Opposed:** None

**DISCUSSION ENSUED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION, WHICH TOOK PLACE  
FROM 9:39 AM – 9:51 AM**

James Conner addressed Chair Skip Hall and asked for the record to show that during Executive Session, the Local Police Board covered both agenda items #4 & #5. Severin Hall made a motion indicating that the Board has reviewed the Independent Medical Exam and based on the report findings and the Board's discussion, he motioned to approve the accidental disability retirement application for Christopher J. Thomas and requested for the Board Secretary to submit retirement paperwork to PSPRS for processing.

**Motion to APPROVE:** Severin Hall

**Second:** James Conner

**Opposed:** None



5. Discussion and possible action to enter Executive Session and review the Independent Medical Exam report and medical records exempt from public inspection regarding the Accidental Disability application for former Police Lieutenant Robert Mark Filler – **APPROVED FOR IME.**

**Motion to ENTER Executive Session at 9:39 AM:** James Conner  
**Second:** Severin Hall  
**Opposed:** None

**DISCUSSION ENSUED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION, WHICH TOOK PLACE FROM 9:39 AM – 9:51 AM**

Ariana Reyna reiterated James Conner’s statement that this agenda item was also reviewed during the Executive Session. Severin Hall made a motion to refer Lt. Robert M. Filler to undergo an IME to address his eligibility for the benefit.

**Motion to APPROVE:** Severin Hall  
**Second:** Kim Drayden  
**Opposed:** James Conner  
**Motion passed: 4 in favor, 1 opposed.**

- G. **Other Business and Future Agenda Items-** Review the bylaws for reappointment verbiage and consideration to combine future Fire and Police Board meetings together, per Counsel’s recommendation.

H. **Executive Session** – None

I. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 9:55 a.m. – **APPROVED**

**Motion to Adjourn:** James Conner  
**Second:** Severin Hall  
**Opposed:** None



**Meeting Minutes Approval:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Skip Hall", is written over a horizontal line.

Skip Hall, Chair  
Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police

**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 meeting minutes of the Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police Meeting of **Thursday, June 27, 2024.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ariana Reyna", is written over a horizontal line.

Ariana Reyna, Board Secretary  
Public Safety Retirement Commission - Police