

# **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY RETIREMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of Business Meeting – May 12, 2026**

The Hampshire County Retirement Advisory Council held a business meeting on May 12, 2026 via Zoom. Chairperson Jennifer LaFountain called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The following Council members were present: Chairperson Jennifer LaFountain (Town of Amherst), Jill Berry (Amherst/Pelham Regional School District), Jane Wolfe, (Belchertown Water District), Kari Scytowski (South Hadley Fire District #1), Barbara Miller (South Hadley Fire District #2), Pamela Rogers (Amherst Housing Authority, Belchertown Housing Authority and Hadley Housing Authority), Donna Whiteley (Town of South Hadley), and Meghan Kane (Town of Southampton). Count: 8 voting members representing 10 of 35 units. Other individuals present were Advisory Council Secretary Mary Baronas, Retirement Board Chairman Patrick Brock, Retirement Board staff Patricia Rutkowski, Board Members Sean Mangano and Joe Cook, and Actuary, Linda Bournival.

The purpose of this meeting was to take a vote to increasing the maximum COLA base from \$13,000 to \$14,000.

Patrick Brock presented a quick review and update on the history of the COLA Base of the Hampshire County Retirement System along with the plan to develop a slow plan to increase the COLA base on a yearly basis.

Actuary Linda Bournival also gave an overview of our current funding schedule and the impact that the COLA base increase would have on the unfunded liability and the funding schedule.

Upon Jane Wolfe's motion and Jill Berry's second, the Advisory Council unanimously approved (Jennifer LaFountain, yes; Jill Berry, yes; Jane Wolfe, yes; Kari Scytowski, yes; Barbara Miller, yes; Pamela Rogers, yes; Donna Whiteley, yes; and Meghan Kane, yes) to accept the March 11, 2026 vote made by the Hampshire County Retirement Board to increase the COLA Base from \$13,000 to \$14,000 effective July 1, 2026.

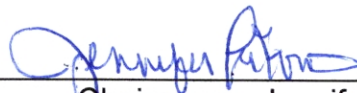
Upon Jane Wolfe's motion and Jill Berry's second the Advisory Council meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m. with unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary G. Baronas  
Advisory Council Secretary

Certified as accurate record of proceedings:



Chairperson Jennifer LaFountain