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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD MINUTES

September 9, 2026

A meeting of the Hampshire County Retirement Board convened on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026** at 99 Industrial Drive, Suite 2, Northampton, MA 01060. The meeting was **called to order** at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL showed Chairman Patrick E. Brock, Elected Members Jennifer LaFountain and Sean Mangano, Appointed Members Jane Wolfe and Joe Cook, Administrator Mary G. Baronas and Assistant Administrator Patricia M. Rutkowski were present.

Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to approve the **minutes of August 5, 2026.**

The following **DISBURSEMENTS** were reviewed and approved.

$	3,449,749.28	**Retirement Allowance Payroll,** August 2026 (Paid 8/31/2026)		
		Annuity	$686,863.58	
		Pension	$2,762,885.70	
$	33,031.40	**Staff Payroll**, August 2026.		
$	3,500.00	**Board Member Stipend**, Month of September 2026.		
$	11,679.70	**Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust**, September 2026 Health Insurance Premium. (Paid 8/27/2026)		
$	331.30	**ACSA Group Insurance**, September 2026 Dental Insurance Premium. (Paid 8/27/2026)		
$	56.95	**Boston Mutual**, September 2026 Life Insurance Premium. (Paid 8/27/2026)		
$	526.00	**MEGA**, 7/1/2026 – 7/1/2027 Workers' Compensation Premium. (Paid 8/24/2026)		
$	66.00	**Business Card**, Stamp. (Paid 8/11/2026)		
$	250.54	**Comcast**, For the period of 8/25/2026 – 9/24/2026. (Paid 8/24/2026)		
$	379.37	**Comcast**, August 2026 Business VoiceEdge. (Paid 8/27/2026)		
$	4,500.00	**Conz Street Realty, Inc.**, October 2026 Lease.		
$	33,701.27	**Essex Regional Retirement System**, 2025 3(8)(c) Reimbursement.		
$	28.80	**Eversource**, Bill date 8/17/2026.		
$	1,776.12	**Integris,** August 2026 Complete Support and Server Backup. (Paid 8/27/2026)		
$	43.05	**Integris,** August 2026 O365 Agreement. (Paid 8/27/2026)		
$	335.00	**Marcus Company, Inc**, Envelopes.		
$	635.00	**Mass Commercial Cleaning, Inc.**, August 2026 cleaning services. (Paid 8/7/2026)		
$	635.00	**Mass Commercial Cleaning, Inc.**, September 2026 cleaning services.		
$	405.49	**National Grid**, Period of 7/27/2026 – 8/24/2026.		
$	1,600.00	**Purchase Power**, Postage. (Paid 8/13/2026)		

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$	134.57	**Staples**, Supplies.
$	55.26	**Vital Records Control**, Quarterly shredding service. (Paid 8/7/2026)
$	312.22	**W.B. Mason Co.**, Supplies.
$	395.77	**W.B. Mason Co.**, Supplies.
$	27,155.90	**West Springfield Retirement System**, 2025 3(8)(c) Reimbursement.
$	260.49	**Xerox Corporation**, Copier lease for the period of 7/21/2026 – 8/21/2026.
$	500.89	Return of Accumulated deductions received in error for the following retiree: **W. Laramee.**
$	168,391.04	Return of Accumulated deductions for the following inactive members: **P. Bemben, A. Burtis, S. Cristofori, K. Damato, C. Garcia, H. Ghidinelli, G. Haas, B. Herrington, A. Laudati, P. Maiolo, T. Rogers, R. Rondeau, J. Russell, D. Sampson, K. Scagnelli, J. Sorensen, L. Wallace.**

The following **SUPERANNUATION RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS** were reviewed. Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to approve the applications for Superannuation Retirement as follows:

	Unit	DOR:	Creditable Service	Annual Allowance
Nancy E. Schroeder	Amherst Housing Auth	6/22/2026	Opt C Pop-Up	$45,867.80
Barbara F. Miller	South Hadley Fire Dist #2	8/1/2026	28.2500	$61,453.80
Richard P. Fleurent	Belchertown	4/21/2026	28.0000	$28,973.88
Lynn M. Drawec	Belchertown	4/1/2026	21.9167	$26,322.84
Debra A. Sinclair	Belchertown	11/30/2025	22.2500	$17,570.64
Christopher A. Herzog	Hampshire Reg School Dist	6/30/2026	16.8333	$18,144.00
Julie A. Abel	Hampshire Reg School Dist	6/20/2026	13.7500	$9,115.44
Diana L. Rex	Hadley	7/1/2026	19.7500	$37,331.28
Susan A. Bresnahan	Hampshire Reg School Dist	7/1/2026	20.5000	$16,419.96
Brian M. Knightly	Amherst	6/30/2026	24.6667	$36,737.88
Brooke Cushman Sullivan	Hadley	6/30/2026	24.4167	$17,626.20
Michael H. Spanknebel	Hadley	7/12/2026	26.0000	$77,206.68

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The following **PAYMENTS OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS** were reviewed and approved for disbursement:

$	643.55	**Nancy E. Schroeder**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of June 2026 – August 2026.
$	5,121.15	**Barbara F. Miller**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of August 2026.
$	74.30	**Richard P. Fleurent**, Retroactive payment for the benefit adjustment for April 2026 – August 2026. Resubmit
$	70.95	**Lynn M. Drawec**, Retroactive payment for the benefit adjustment for April 2026 – August 2026. Resubmit
$	60.98	**Debra A. Sinclair**, Retroactive payment for the benefit adjustment for November 2025 – August 2026. Resubmit
$	1,029.86	**Robert D. Shea**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/1/2026)
$	3,073.70	**Christopher A. Herzog,** Retroactive payment for the benefit of June 2026 – August 2026.
$	1,793.95	**Julie A. Abel**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of June 2026 – August 2026.
$	6,221.88	**Diana L. Rex**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of July 2026 – August 2026.
$	2,736.66	**Susan A. Bresnahan,** Retroactive payment for the benefit of July 2026 – August 2026.
$	6,223.62	**Brian M. Knightly,** Retroactive payment for the benefit of June 2026 – August 2026.
$	2,985.98	**Brooke Cushman Sullivan,** Retroactive payment for the benefit of June 2026 – August 2026.
$	10,664.39	**Michael H. Spanknebel,** Retroactive payment for the benefit of July 2026 – August 2026.

The following **PAYMENTS TO BENEFICIARES** were reviewed and approved for disbursement:

$	919.78	**Theresa A. Galipeau,** Beneficiary of **William Galipeau,** Payment for the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 8/31/2026)
$	102.98	**Robert Shea,** Beneficiary of **Patricia Shea,** Payment for the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/1/2026)
$	1,416.81	**Karen Seiffert,** Beneficiary of **David Seiffert, Sr,** Payment for the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/1/2026)
$	428.22	**Theresa Marrero,** Beneficiary of **Roland A. Laurin, Jr.,** Payment for 1/3 of the benefit of July 2026. (Paid 9/3/2026)
$	415.64	**Henry Higgin,** Beneficiary of **Roland A. Laurin, Jr.,** Payment for 1/3 of the benefit of July 2026. (Paid 9/3/2026)

$	415.64	**Peter Higgins,** Beneficiary of **Roland A. Laurin, Jr.,** Payment for 1/3 of the benefit of July 2026. (Paid 9/3/2026)
$	162.08	**Jon Banister,** Beneficiary of **Peter B. Banister,** Payment for the benefit of April 2026. (Paid 9/3/2026)
$	27.26	**Ashely Higgins,** Beneficiary of **Joan Bartlett,** Payment for ½ of the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/4/2026)
$	27.27	**Maxwell Bartlett,** Beneficiary of **Joan Bartlett,** Payment for ½ of the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/4/2026)
$	831.85	**James Mieczkowski,** Beneficiary of **Connie Mieczkowski,** Payment for 1/3 of the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/4/2026)
$	857.04	**Raymond Mieczkowski,** Beneficiary of **Connie Mieczkowski,** Payment for 1/3 of the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/4/2026)
$	831.85	**David Mieczkowski,** Beneficiary of **Connie Mieczkowski,** Payment for 1/3 of the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/4/2026)

The list of **DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS** were reviewed.

Ms. Baronas reported that the medical panel reviews and certificates for **Angela Danger** were received. After review of the medical panel reports and certifications of disability, the Board took the following action. Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to grant an Accidental Disability Retirement Allowance for Angela Danger.

Ms. Baronas reported that an amended Accidental Disability Application was submitted for **Robert Reinke**. Upon Mr. Mangano's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously not to accept the amended Accidental Disability Application filed after the Board's initial vote to deny the Accidental Disability Retirement Allowance.

The list of **PENDING RETIREMENTS** was distributed for Board review.

Ms. Rutkowski reported that **David Roach,** spouse of Kimberly Roach has applied for Option D Survivor Benefits and all documents are in order. Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Survivor Option D Benefits for David Roach.

The following **MAKE-UPS AND REDEPOSITS FOR CURRENT MEMBERS** were reviewed. Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following make-ups/redeposits for current members as noted:

Katherine A. Nadeau, request for a makeup of 10 months for service with the Town of Belchertown during the period of 12/14/2024 – 6/30/2026.

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The following **TRANSFERS** were reviewed. Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following transfers as individually noted:

Transfer to Massachusetts State Retirement Board		
$	17.92	**Marlene Perkins**, transfer with no additional liability acceptance for service with the Town of Belchertown. Additional deduction received from a retroactive pay increase.
Transfer to Westfield Retirement Board		
$	30,874.69	**Laurie A. Peterson**, transfer with liability acceptance of 4 years 6 months for service with the Town of Amherst and the Amherst/Pelham Regional School District during the period of 11/22/2021 – 6/1/2026.
Transfer to Worcester Retirement System		
$	39,318.54	**Derek C. Ames**, transfer with liability acceptance of 3 years for service with the Town of Ware during the period of 6/4/2023 – 6/30/2026.
Transfer to Marblehead Retirement Board		
$	36,058.15	**Jacinta A. Williams**, transfer with liability acceptance of 2 years 1 month for service with the Town of Amherst during the period of 5/6/2024 – 7/3/2026.
Transfer to Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System		
$	32,332.71	**Catherine M. Zatyrka**, transfer with liability acceptance of 10 years 4 months for service with Town of Hadley during the periods of 1/2/2001 – 10/27/2003 and 5/9/2006 – 6/30/2017.
$	22,953.87	**Amanda E. Berg**, transfer with liability acceptance of 1 year 3 months for service with the Town of Hadley during the periods of 10/19/2023 – 6/18/2024 and 9/25/2024 – 8/18/2025.
$	5,784.41	**Morgan M. Orszulak**, transfer with liability acceptance of 2 years 10 months for service with the Town of Ware during the periods of 9/7/2021 – 8/31/2024 and 8/22/2025 – 8/30/2025.
$	1,567.23	**Susan A. Cole**, transfer with liability acceptance of 5 months for service with the Hampshire Regional School District during the period of 4/7/2025 – 10/30/2025.
$	11,232.18	**Katelyn A. Garvey**, transfer with liability acceptance of 9 months for service with the Hampshire Regional School District during the period of 8/28/2024 – 8/24/2025.
Transfer to Northampton Retirement Board		
$	11,384.75	**Stephanie K. Wall**, transfer with liability acceptance of 5 years 3 months for service with the Town of South Hadley during the period of 11/26/2018 – 2/13/2026.

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Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to accept **42 new members** for September 9, 2026, as summarized:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 4	Total
38	0	4	42
*note: dual or reinstated members not included in count of new members			

The following **INVESTMENT & FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS** were discussed and action was taken as individually noted:

The Board reviewed the **Asset Allocation Report** for the Month of July 2026.

The Board reviewed the **Investment Custody Reports** for the Months of July 2026 – September 2026.

The Board reviewed the **Cash Flow Report & Administrative Budget Report**.

The Board reviewed the **Accounting Reports** for July 2026.

The Board reviewed the **Bank Reconciliations** for the Month of August 2026.

In accordance with 840 CMR 16.07, the Board met with Mr. Kevin Condy (via telephone) and Greg McNeillie of **Dahab Associates Inc** for the 1) Asset Allocation Overview and the 2) 2nd Quarter 2026 Portfolio Performance Review. Presentation materials were distributed and fund performances were discussed.

Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of Dahab Associates for the Target Allocations effective October 1, 2026.

The following **ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES** were discussed and action was taken as individually noted:

The Board reviewed the Proposed Election Schedule for the term of January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2029.

The following **PERAC Memo/News** were noted as having been distributed, upon their receipt, for Board review.

PERAC Memo #23/2026 – COLA Reserve Fund and Enhanced COLA

Future Board meetings are scheduled for:

October 14, 2026 – Monthly Meeting
November 18, 2026 – Monthly Meeting

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Upcoming Events:

***Emerging Issues Forum,** September 17, 2026 in Westborough, MA

* Noted programs have been approved by the Board for attendance and expenses.

Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to **adjourn** the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Rutkowski, Assistant Administrator

Approved by the Hampshire County Retirement Board:

Patrick E. Brock, Chairman

Sean Mangano, Elected Member

Jennifer LaFountain, Elected Member

Joe Cook, Appointed Member

Jane Wolfe, Appointed Member