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# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD MINUTES

**October 14, 2026**

A meeting of the Hampshire County Retirement Board convened on **Wednesday, October 14, 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 September 9, 2026.**

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

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| $ | 3,478,715.98 | **Retirement Allowance Payroll,** September 2026 (Paid 9/30/2026) | | |
| | | Annuity | $691,569.83 | |
| | | Opt B Refund | $15,632.12 | |
| | | Pension | $2,771,514.03 | |
| $ | 36,852.31 | **Staff Payroll**, September 2026. | | |
| $ | 3,500.00 | **Board Member Stipend**, Month of October 2026. | | |
| $ | 11,679.70 | **Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust**, October 2026 Health Insurance Premium. (Paid 9/28/2026) | | |
| $ | 11,679.70 | **Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust**, November 2026 Health Insurance Premium. | | |
| $ | 337.87 | **ACSA Group Insurance**, October 2026 Dental Insurance Premium. (Paid 9/28/2026) | | |
| $ | 56.95 | **Boston Mutual**, October 2026 Life Insurance Premium. (Paid 9/28/2026) | | |
| $ | 1,367.49 | **Business Card**, Software. | | |
| $ | 250.54 | **Comcast**, For the period of 9/25/2026 – 10/24/2026. (Paid 9/24/2026) | | |
| $ | 379.37 | **Comcast**, September 2026 Business VoiceEdge. (Paid 9/24/2026) | | |
| $ | 381.03 | **Comcast**, October 2026 Business VoiceEdge. | | |
| $ | 4,500.00 | **Conz Street Realty, Inc.**, November 2026 Lease. | | |
| $ | 11,250.00 | **Dahab Associates, Inc.**, Consultant fees for the period of 7/1/2026 – 9/30/2026. | | |
| $ | 35.99 | **Eversource**, Bill date 9/16/2026. | | |
| $ | 78.00 | **Hackworth Systems**, Alarm monitoring for the period of 10/1/2026 – 12/31/2026. (Paid 9/18/2026) | | |
| $ | 223.00 | **Hackworth Systems**, Replace glass break sensor. | | |
| $ | 205.69 | **Hampshire Regional School District**, Overpayment of deductions. | | |
| $ | 1,819.17 | **Integris**, September 2026 Complete Support, Server Backup, and 365 Licensing. (Paid 9/28/2026) | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| $ | 12,375.00 | **KMS Actuaries, LLC**, January 1, 2026 Actuarial Evaluation & GASB Reports. |
| $ | 1,064.00 | **MACRS**, Fall Conference registration for the Mary Baronas and Patricia Rutkowski. |
| $ | 744.00 | **Marcus Company, Inc**, Letterhead and Envelopes |
| $ | 635.00 | **Mass Commercial Cleaning, Inc.**, October 2026 cleaning services. |
| $ | 425.22 | **National Grid**, Period of 8/24/2026 – 9/23/2026. |
| $ | 71.15 | **Patrick Brock**, Supplies at COSTCO. |
| $ | 787.17 | **Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services**, Postage machine lease for the period of 7/30/2026 – 10/29/2026. |
| $ | 1,600.00 | **Purchase Power**, Postage. (Paid 8/15/2026) |
| $ | 1,600.00 | **Purchase Power**, Postage. |
| $ | 14,310.00 | **Ron L. Beaulieu & Company**, 2025 Independent Audit. |
| $ | 390.00 | **Social Law Library**, Membership dues. |
| $ | 148.18 | **Staples**, Supplies. |
| $ | 336.15 | **W.B. Mason Co.**, Supplies. |
| $ | 305.33 | **Xerox Corporation**, Copier lease for the period of 8/21/2026 – 9/21/2026. |
| $ | 1,588.66 | Return of Accumulated deductions received in error for the following retirees: **R. Buley, G. Grace, L. Lucas, C. Miller-Harper, M. Rhodes, B. Sullivan.** |
| $ | 90,812.33 | Return of Accumulated deductions for the following inactive members: **H. Blanchard, S. Kelly.** |

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 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mitchell R. Mercier** | South Hadley Fire Dist #1 | 9/14/2026 | 19.1667 | $30,937.68 |
| **Elise A. Cote** | Belchertown | 8/29/2026 | 30.0000 | $22,332.96 |
| **Joanne E. Carbin-Bryan** | South Hadley Fire Dist #2 | 9/18/2026 | 23.0000 | $34,265.28 |
| **Linda J. Sanderson** | Hadley | 8/4/2026 | 10.2500 | $22,130.16 |
| **Jill E. Berry** | Amherst/Pelham Reg School Dist | 8/23/2026 | 10.0000 | $16,016.40 |

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| $ | 1,440.92 | **Mitchell R. Mercier**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of September 2026. |
| $ | 2,044.62 | **Elise A. Cote**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of August 2026 – September 2026. |
| $ | 1,220.40 | **Joanne E. Carbin-Bryan**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of September 2026. |
| $ | 10,766.28 | **Sarah B. Kinsman**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of August 2025 - September 2026. |
| $ | 3,541.83 | **Linda J. Sanderson**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of August 2026 - September 2026. |
| $ | 1,729.62 | **Jill E. Berry**, Retroactive payment for the benefit of August 2026 - September 2026. |

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| $ | 943.63 | **Marion Grader,** Beneficiary of **Richard S. Grader,** Payment for the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 9/15/2026) |
| $ | 27.24 | **Judith E. Shean,** Beneficiary of **Michael T. Shean,** Payment for the benefit of September 2026. (Paid 9/16/2026) |
| $ | 720.79 | **George Beaver,** Beneficiary of **James Rattell,** Payment for the benefit of August 2026. (Paid 10/6/2026) |
| $ | 272.06 | **Jeffrey Crouse,** Beneficiary of **Lesley J. Crouse,** Payment for the benefit of September 2026. (Paid 10/6/2026) |
| $ | 272.06 | **Peter G. Crouse,** Beneficiary of **Lesley J. Crouse,** Payment for the benefit of September 2026. (Paid 10/6/2026) |
| $ | 272.06 | **William T. Crouse,** Beneficiary of **Lesley J. Crouse,** Payment for the benefit of September 2026. (Paid 10/6/2026) |

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

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:

| |
|---|
| **Angela S. Bolduc**, request for a makeup of 1 month for service with the Town of Southampton during the period of 4/2019 – 7/2019. |
| **MK Smith Despres**, request for a makeup of 2 months for service with the Town of Williamsburg during the period of 4/2026 – 7/19/2026. |

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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 Northampton Retirement Board | | |
| $ | 29,712.43 | **Edward J. Collette**, transfer with liability acceptance of 7 years for service with the Town of Belchertown during the period of 4/16/2019 – 9/7/2026. |
| $ | 15,631.66 | **Kerstin H. Lindgren**, transfer with liability acceptance of 2 years 5 months for service with the Town of Hatfield during the period of 1/16/2024 – 8/12/2026. |
| $ | 9,369.54 | **Emma C Berthiaume**, transfer with liability acceptance of 1 year 4 months for service with the Town of Ware during the period of 1/27/2025 – 8/12/2026. |
| Transfer to Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System | | |
| $ | 22,821.29 | **Donna M. Barcomb**, transfer with liability acceptance of 12 years 11 months for service with the Town of Westhampton during the period of 9/1/1995 – 5/31/2000 and 8/29/2006 – 8/31/2016. |
| Transfer to Massachusetts State Retirement Board | | |
| $ | 56,909.48 | **Douglas C. Finn**, transfer with liability acceptance of 4 years 7 months for service with the Town of Westhampton during the period of 11/1/2021 – 7/10/2026. |

Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to accept **59 new members** for October 14, 2026, as summarized:

| Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 4 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 57 | 0 | 2 | 59 |
| *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 August 2026.

The Board reviewed the **Investment Custody Reports** for the Months of August 2026 – October 2026.

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

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

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

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

Upon Ms. Wolfe's motion and Mr. Cook's second, the Board voted unanimously to authorize travel and reimbursement of expenses for the Board Members and Staff Members as determined by the Chairman to attend **MACRS Kevin J. Regan Fall Conference**, in Quincy, MA on December 1 – 4, 2026.

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

PERAC Memo #25/2026 – Mandatory Retirement Board Member Training – 4th Quarter 2026

**Future Board meetings** are scheduled for:

November 18, 2026 – Monthly Meeting
December 9, 2026 – Monthly Meeting & 3rd Quarter Investment Review

**Upcoming Events:**

***MACRS Kevin J. Regan Fall Conference,** December 1 – 4, 2026 in Quincy, 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 9:38 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