

# **Blue Ridge Fire District**

### PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM LOCAL BOARD

MINUTES of Board Meeting held September 20, 2022

## 1. Call to Order

Chairperson Mike Bourne called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 3. ROLL CALL

Chuck Buddle Present
Brandon Sewell Present
Ryan MacNeal Present
Mike Bourne Present

#### 4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairperson Mike Bourne asked for a motion to amend the Agenda. Mr. MacNeal made a Motion; Mr. Sewell seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.

Agenda Item 6.c. is amended to read: Discussion and possible action to accept the election results of Staff Member to the PSPRS Local Board of Directors.

Agenda Item 6.d. is amended to read: Discussion on possible action regarding appointing a Community Member to the PSPRS Local Board of Directors to complete the existing term recently vacated through 2024.

#### 5. OLD BUSINESS - NONE

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Chairperson Mike Bourne asked for a Motion to discuss and approve the Minutes of August 10, 2022. Mr. MacNeal made a Motion; Mr. Sewell seconded the Motion. Mr. MacNeal, Mr. Sewell and Chairperson Bourne voted yes. Former Chief Buddle abstained. The Motion passed.
- b. Chairperson Mike Bourne asked for a Motion to discuss and possible action to reappoint former Chief Buddle, as Community Member, to the PSPRS Local Board of Directors for a four-year term ending in 2026. Mr. MacNeal made a Motion. Mr. Sewell seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.



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Former Chief Buddle accepted the appointed Community Member position four-year term until 2026. Mr. Bourne acknowledged Chief Buddle's experience and knowledge and thanked him for continuing on the Board.

c. Chairperson Mike Bourne asked for a Motion to discuss and possible action to accept the election results of contributing Staff Member to the PSPRS Local Board for a four-year term ending 2026. Mr. Sewell made the Motion. Mr. MacNeal seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.

Mr. Sewell counted the secret ballots; former Chief Buddle concurred the count. The vote was Mr. MacNeal 3 votes; Ms. Sobel 1 vote; Ms. Megan Sewell 1 vote. Mr. MacNeal will continue as the PSPRS Local Board of Directors Staff Member for a four-year term ending 2026.

Mr. MacNeal thanked the Board for their volunteer time dedicated to Blue Ridge Fire.

d. Chairperson Bourne asked for a Motion to discuss and possible action regarding a Community Member appointment to the PSPRS Local Board of Directors to complete the existing vacated term through 2024. Mr. Sewell made the Motion. Mr. MacNeal seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.

Discussions resulted in agreement that this position notice shall be posted to the website as well as flyers posted to the community bulletin boards. Mr. Bourne will create the flyer. It is hoped that a few candidates will be brought forth and a retired fire fighter would be welcomed. Candidates shall be informed as to the level of their responsibility when they initially express interest.

e. Chairperson Bourne asked for a Motion and possible action for Mr. Sewell to present an overview of the Tier I & Tier 2 Excess Contribution Refunds. Mr. MacNeal made the Motion. Mr. Sewell seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.

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Mr. Sewell referred the Board to a 40-minute video on the PSPRS website pertaining to this issue. He shall forward the link to the presentation to the Board. Briefly stated, in 2009 Tier I employees' contribution rate was 7.65%. About this time, Tier 2 was created. It was determined by the PSPRS Board from 2012-2017 that the percentage would be increased to 11.65% in order to build the pension fund. This change affected 9,000 Employees. In 2018 it was determined by PSPRS Administration, Attorneys and Arizona State Statutes that this



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increase was incorrect. The overpayments have resulted in the Excess Contribution Refunds. The District has until September 30, 2022 to complete this process. In order to reimburse Fire Districts for this unbudgeted expense, PSPRS will credit the Fire District all of their employee contribution through December 31, 2022. After which, any underlying credits will be applied to the PSPRS unfunded liability.

**7.** Chairperson Bourne asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Mr. Sewell made the Motion. Mr. MacNeal seconded the Motion. All voted yes.

The Motion passed.

Chairperson Bourne suggested that quarterly meetings are appropriate and all agreed. The next meeting is unscheduled for December.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectively submitted:

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Beth Wise, Secretary