

POLICE & FIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
MICHIGAN

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.
233 Fulton Street East

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Michael Hawkins. Other members present: Vice Chairman Justin Ewald, Mr. Philip Balkema, Ms. Donijo DeJonge, Mr. William Fabiano, Mr. Drew Robbins, and Ms. Holly Jackson.

Also present: Ms. Peggy Korzen, Executive Director of the Retirement System, Mr. Thomas Michaud, Legal Advisor to the Board, Mr. Nathan Fynewever, and Mr. Jason Druckenmiller.

There were no public comments regarding agenda items.

Moved by Mr. Balkema and seconded by Mr. Fabiano, the following administrative items were approved by the Board of Trustees:

- Minutes of the regular meeting of June 12, 2024.
- Purchase of credited service by the following Police & Fire Retirement System members. All calculations have been prepared by this office and verified by the actuary.

Harvey R. Barker III	\$71,596.35	36 months
Joshua W. Cudney	\$13,385.27	7 months
Jana C. Forner	\$108,816.68	48 months
Travis R. Gurd	\$95,486.76	48 months
Amanda J. Johnson	\$71,596.35	36 months
Colin E. Mennega	\$5,967.92	3 months
Winston F. Wood, Jr.	\$58,347.68	34 months
Jeremy W. Wortz	\$7,954.35	4 months

- Purchase of military leave of absence – as provided for in Chapter 7, Section 1.243 (2) of City Code, Mr. Zachery J. Melville has requested to purchase the period of credited service during which he was on leave of absence for active military service. The period of service to be purchased for Mr. Melville is two (2) months and twenty-nine (29) days. The amount due, \$1,745.02, was calculated and verified by the Retirement Systems Office.
- The following Resolution No. 871.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Police and Fire Retirement System has received requests for three age & service, one non-duty, and three deferred retirements from the following members of the plan:

Age & Service Retirements:

Harvey R. Barker III, will retire August 30, 2024 from the Police Department as a Police Officer,

Credited Service: Twenty-nine years and seven months

and . . .

Kelli J. Braate, retired August 3, 2024 from the Police Department as a Police Officer,

Credited Service: Thirty years and ten months

and . . .

Timothy R. Johnston, retired August 3, 2024 from the Police Department as a Police Sergeant,

Credited Service: Thirty-one years and two months

and . . .

Non-Duty Disability Retirement:

Travis R. Gurd, retired July 13, 2024 from the Fire Department as a Fire Lieutenant,

Credited Service: Twenty-nine years and five months

and . . .

Deferred Retirements:

Aaron A. Draper, retired August 1, 2024 from the Fire Department as a Fire Lieutenant-Fire Prevention,

Credited Service: Thirty-two years

and . . .

Thomas W. Heikkila, Jr., retired July 1, 2024 from the Police Department as a Police Officer,

Credited Service: Thirty years

and . . .

Matthew W. Veldman, retired August 1, 2024 from the Police Department as a Police Officer,

Credited Service: Twenty-five years and five months

RESOLVED, that the retirements be approved.

- KEIP participants: The Board of Trustees of the Police and Fire Retirement System has received requests by the following members of the plan to enter and exit the KEIP Program:

KEIP Entry

<u>Adam T. Baylis</u> ,	Police Officer
KEIP Date:	October 2, 2024
Tentative KEIP End Date:	October 1, 2027

<u>Scott A. Langlois</u> ,	Fire Lieutenant
KEIP Date:	July 7, 2024
Tentative KEIP End Date:	July 6, 2027

<u>Colin E. Mennega</u> ,	Fire Lieutenant
KEIP Date:	July 7, 2024
Tentative KEIP End Date:	July 6, 2027

Jeremy W. Wortz, Police Officer
KEIP Date: August 2, 2024
Tentative KEIP End Date: August 1, 2029

KEIP Exit

David A. Noorman, will exit the KEIP Program and retire on September 4, 2024 from the Fire Department as a Battalion Fire Chief,

Credited Service: Thirty-three years and nine months

Chad R. Preston, will exit the KEIP Program and retire on September 22, 2024 from the Police Department as a Police Officer,

Credited Service: Thirty years and two months

Kristen L. Rogers, will exit the KEIP Program and retire on October 5, 2024 from the Police Department as a Deputy Police Chief,

Credited Service: Thirty-two years and four months

Curtis R. Satterthwaite, will exit the KEIP Program and retire on September 5, 2024 from the Police Department as a Police Officer,

Credited Service: Twenty-five years and six months

- Payment of administrative expenses of \$14,845.50 for the period 06/01/24 – 07/31/24.
- **Investment Manager Fees:** Listed below are routine invoices for the quarter ending 06/30/24. All calculations, fees applied, and stated amounts under management have been verified by the Retirement Systems Office staff as correct:

\$30,959.80 – Baird Advisors (Fixed Income)
\$7,202.78 – BlackRock (Global Low Volatility)
\$30,073.99 – CenterSquare Investment Management (Real Estate)
\$54,170.67 – Harding Loevner (ADRs)
\$50,193.89 – Harvest Fund Advisors (MLPs)
\$3,101.70 – NTAM (Equities)
\$21,781.64 – Wellington Management Company (Equities)
\$41,768.91 – Wellington Management Company (Commodities)
\$41,650.96 – Western Asset Management (Fixed Income)

The motion carried.

Ms. Korzen presented the Public Act 314 Asset Analyses showing a market value of \$507,322,763 on May 31, 2024 and \$511,451,438 on June 30, 2024. The reports were received and filed by the Chairman.

Trustees reviewed a Domestic Relations Order (DRO) for Mr. William P. DeBack. Ms. Korzen stated that a DRO has been filed to assign a portion of Mr. DeBack’s retirement benefits to an alternate payee, Rachel DeBack, in accordance with the Eligible Domestic Relations Order Act. The DRO has been reviewed by legal counsel and it complies with the Police & Fire Retirement System plan provisions. The DRO will become part of Mr. DeBack’s file and will be paid according to its provisions. The order was received and filed by the Chairman.

Ms. Korzen next presented Trustees with the Quarterly Report of Account Refunds for the period 04/01/24 – 06/30/24. There were no withdrawals of member contributions and interest, and no KEIP fund withdrawals. The report was received and filed by the Chairman.

The Executive Director presented Trustees with the Quarterly Report of Income for the quarter ending 06/30/24. Total Securities Lending income for the period was \$51,529.74. There were no Class Action Settlement receipts for the period. Chairman Hawkins received and filed the report.

The Executive Director next addressed the duty disability retirement request from Police Officer Nathan Fyneweaver that was tabled at the June 12, 2024 regular meeting. Vice Chairman made the motion to go into closed session to discuss the application, as this contains information that is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act and is also medically privileged, and to include Mr. Fyneweaver, Ms. Korzen, Mr. Michaud, and Ms. Balkema. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fabiano and carried. Roll call vote: yeas: 7, nays: 0. Trustees concluded their closed session and re-entered open session. Ms. Jackson made the motion to deny the duty disability retirement request from Police Officer Nathan Fyneweaver and grant a non-duty disability retirement based upon the medical reports and lack of substantiating evidence to support a duty disability. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Ewald and carried. Trustees thanked Mr. Fyneweaver for his service to the City of Grand Rapids and wished him well.

Ms. Korzen next presented an update on the disability retiree re-examination process, noting that Dr. Harvey Organek conducted a medical records review for Mr. Lyle Frederickson and stated his opinion that Mr. Frederickson is not physically and mentally able and capable of resuming his duties as a Fire Fighter and should remain retired as disabled. Mr. Fabiano made the motion to accept the report by Dr. Harvey Organek for Mr. Lyle Frederickson. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Ewald and carried. Ms. Korzen noted that Dr. Marc Meissner conducted a medical records review for Mr. Jason Druckenmiller and stated his opinion that Mr. Druckenmiller is not physically and mentally able and capable to resume the duties of a Fire Lieutenant and should remain retired as disabled. Mr. Fabiano made the motion to go in to closed session to discuss the report as this contains information that is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act and is also medically privileged, and to include Mr. Druckenmiller, Ms. Korzen, Mr. Michaud and Ms. Balkema. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Ewald and carried. Roll call vote: yeas: 7, nays: 0. Trustees concluded their closed session and re-entered open session. Mr. Fabiano made the motion to table the medical records review of Mr. Jason Druckenmiller and provide Mr. Druckenmiller 30 days to provide additional documentation to be submitted to Dr. Meissner for an independent medical evaluation. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Ewald and carried.

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

Ms. Korzen reported that The Northern Trust Company completed their annual retiree data verification of the Police & Fire Retirement System's retirees and beneficiaries. There were no deceased retirees or beneficiaries reported on the list that the office was unaware of.

Ms. Korzen commented that at the June Board meeting, it was unclear at that time as to which investment management account funds should be transferred from for cash account needs for August and September 2024. After recent review of the investment accounts, Mariner and the Executive Director agreed to transfer \$250,000 from the NTAM account to the cash account on August 1, 2024 and utilize \$1,000,000 from Private Equity distributions, and transfer \$1,250,000 from the Harvest Fund Advisors account to the cash account on September 3, 2024.

Vice Chairman Ewald presented Trustees with a report outlining the increasing number of PTSD disability cases v. physical disability cases in the City of Grand Rapids Police & Fire Retirement System. He noted that the number of PTSD claims has significantly increased since 2012. He also stated that he has had and will continue to have discussions with the Police Chief and Deputy Police Chiefs regarding the possibility of making light duty available again to Police members. Mr. Balkema stated his recollection that Police Chief Hegarty was not in favor of light duty, so during his tenure, it was phased out; this was a quasi-economical decision that has not been revisited since then. Vice Chairman Ewald stated that the Police Chief is in favor of making light duty available again when it makes sense for staffing needs.

Chairman Hawkins commented that Vice Chairman Ewald has been offered a promotion to Police Sergeant; Trustees congratulated him on his upcoming promotion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 a.m.

The next Police & Fire Retirement System Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., 233 Fulton Street East, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Peggy Korzen
Executive Director
Police & Fire Retirement System