



**PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
CITY OF SURPRISE LOCAL BOARD – POLICE**  
Minutes, Wednesday, April 21, 2021  
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374

The following are the minutes from the City of Surprise Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police meeting held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 21, 2021. The meeting was held in City Hall, Council Chambers.

**A. Call To Order**

Chair Hall called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**B. Roll Call:** Skip Hall, Chairperson – Present  
Chandler Brown, Citizen Board Member – Present  
James Conner, Citizen Board Member - Present  
Severin Hall, Police Department – Present  
Ian Murton, Police Department – Present

**In attendance:** Paige Gearhart, Human Resources Manager  
Cynthia Kelley, Board Attorney  
Michelle Reardon, Sr. Human Resources Specialist  
Ariana Reyna, PSPRS Board Secretary

**C. Pledge of Allegiance – Completed**

**D. Current Events Reports - None**

**E. Staff Reports – None**

**F. Call to the Public – None**

**Consent Agenda:**

- 1. Consideration and possible action pertaining to the review and approval of the March 10, 2021 Public Safety Retirement Commission-Police Executive Session Meeting Minutes-APPROVED**

**Motion to Approve:** James Conner

**Second:** Ian Murton

**Opposed:** None

- 2. Considerations and possible action pertaining to the review and approval of the March 10, 2021 Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police Meeting Minutes – APPROVED**



**Motion to Approve:** Ian Murton

**Second:** Chandler Brown

**Opposed:** None

**Regular Agenda:**

**3. Review and discussion of FY 2020-2021 legal counsel fees – INFORMATION ONLY**

No questions nor comments from the Board Members

**4. Consideration and discussion on Board Attorney's summary of Legislative update– INFORMATION ONLY**

Cynthia Kelley, Attorney, informed the Board that she will provide a summary memo to the Local Board in the coming weeks. The statute changes will not go into effect until 2022. Summary of changes include, but are not limited to:

- Consolidation of local boards, designed for smaller jurisdiction.
- Transition of duties from local board to PSPRS. PSPRS will be more involved in member's benefit calculations. Employer responsibilities remain in providing PSPRS with member information/member eligibility; review disability applications; determining line of duty death; and re-employment issues.
- Local Boards are required to incorporate model uniform rules into their procedures.
- Local board training is required 180 days after being appointed to the Local Board. This applies to board secretaries, new members of the board, and board attorneys.
- Each local board needs to hire independent legal counsel.

**5. Consideration and possible action pertaining to the approval of the application for normal retirement for Police Officer Michael D. Leszcynski– APPROVED**

Ariana Reyna informed the Board that Police Officer Michael D. Leszcynski filled out an application for normal retirement and submitted all documentation as required by PSPRS. As of 03/29/2021, Officer Leszcynski will retire with an accumulated 20.000 years of service: 17.5 with the City of Surprise and 2.5 years of service purchased through the system.

Ian Murton asked Ariana Reyna if this information was reflective of the one day discrepancy for Officer Leszcynski to which Ariana replied that the information



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presented was final as the issue resulted from calculations being pre-ran prior to the posting of final payroll contributions prior to his separation date. Once the final contributions were posted, Ariana Reyna contacted the member and notified him of change in benefit amount to which Mr. Leszcynski conceded to.

**Motion to Approve:** Ian Murton

**Second:** Chandler Brown

**Opposed:** None

- 6. Consideration and possible action pertaining to the acknowledgement of the end of the DROP period for Police Commander James A. Rodriguez (James Jackson) who will separate employment effective 4/08/2021-APPROVED**

Ariana Reyna informed the Board that the PSPRS Local Police Board met and approved Commander Rodriguez (James Jackson) DROP application on 02/14/2018. Commander Rodriguez submitted his resignation to the Surprise Police Department effective 04/08/2021

**Motion to Approve:** Ian Murton

**Second:** Chandler Brown

**Opposed:** None

- 7. Consideration and possible action pertaining to the enrollment of Police Officer Mike P. Baldwin into the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) effective 04/30/2021-APPROVED**

Ariana Reyna informed the Board that Police Officer Mike P Baldwin filled out a DROP application and submitted all documentation as required by PSPRS. As of 04/30/2021, Officer Baldwin is eligible to enter the DROP with an accumulated 20.016 years of service; 19.619 years with the City of Surprise and .397 with the City of Chandler. Officer Baldwin has designated a 60 month period to participate in DROP which establishes his separation date from employment on or before 04/30/2026

**Motion to Approve:** Chandler Brown

**Second:** Ian Murton

**Opposed:** None

- 8. Discussion and possible action to potential approve the change drafted by Board Attorney to the Police Board's bylaws specifically section F.**



**Disability Benefit Application, subsection 4. Mental Examinations-  
APPROVED**

**Motion to Approve:** James Conner  
**Second:** Chandler Brown  
**Opposed:** None

9. **Consideration and possible action to vote on how to proceed following the PSPRS Police Disability Review Subcommittee’s recommendation regarding the reexamination of disability recipients for the Surprise Police Department pursuant to A.R.S § 38-844 (E)- TABLED**

**Motion to enter Executive Session:** Ian Murton  
**Second:** Chandler Brown  
**Opposed:** None

DISCUSSION ENSUED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION, WHICH TOOK PLACE FROM 10:12 A.M. – 10:33 A.M.

**G. Other Business and Future Agenda Items**

**H. Executive Session – None**

**I. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 10:34 a.m. – **APPROVED**

**Motion:** Chandler Brown  
**Second:** Ian Murton  
**Opposed:** None

**Meeting Minutes Approval:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Skip Hall", is written over a horizontal line.

Skip Hall, Chair  
Public Safety Retirement Commission - Police



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**CERTIFICATION:**

I, Ariana Reyna, Board Secretary and HR Business Partner for the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are true and correct minutes of the Public Safety Retirement Commission – Police Meeting of **Wednesday, April 21, 2021**.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Reyna", is written over a horizontal line.

Ariana Reyna, Board Secretary  
Public Safety Retirement Commission - Police