

**ESSEX REGIONAL RETIREMENT BOARD**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**September 28, 2020**

At the regular meeting of the Essex Regional Retirement Board held on Monday, September 28, 2020, which meeting was held remotely at 8:30 a.m., the following Board members were present for all or some of the meeting: Alan J. Benson, Vincent R. Malgeri, H. Joseph Maney, Kevin A. Merz, and Susan J. Yaskell

Also in attendance for all or some of the meeting was:

Charles Kostro, ERRS Executive Director  
Michael Sacco, ERRS Counsel  
Paul Todisco, Senior Client Services Officer, PRIM Board  
Francesco Daniele, Senior Client Services Officer, PRIM Board  
Emily Green, Client Services Analyst, PRIM Board

Mr. Maney called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

**Statement**

Mr. Maney stated that the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law permits meetings to be recorded and states that the Chair shall inform attendees at the beginning of the meeting of any such recording. Therefore, I am informing everyone that Charles Kostro is recording this meeting. If anyone else who has joined this meeting is recording the meeting, please identify yourself at this time. Pursuant to the order of the Governor issued on March 10, 2020 suspending certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, this meeting is being conducted via remote participation in accordance with the provisions of the executive order which states that a quorum of the Board need not be physically present. All members of the Board will be participating in this meeting remotely. In accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law relative to the remote participation of Board members, all votes shall be by roll call.

**Approval of Board Minutes**

Mr. Malgeri and Mr. Merz noted a correction in the executive session minutes. Mr. Merz was listed as attending when he did not, in fact, attend the executive session of the August 31, 2020 meeting. Mr. Kostro indicated that this will be corrected. Upon a motion by Vincent R. Malgeri, seconded by Susan J. Yaskell, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Abstain; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To approve the minutes of the regular and executive session of the meeting of August 31, 2020.

**Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

## **PRIM Board Presentation**

Paul Todisco, Francesco Daniele and Emily Green joined the meeting representing the Pension Reserves Investment Management (PRIM) Board. Mr. Daniele provided a summary of the organizational updates at PRIM. He said that PRIM is working remotely, but everything has gone smoothly and PRIM has operated seamlessly. Mr. Daniele particularly noted that cash flow has been uninterrupted and new investments continue. He said that in Fiscal Year 2020 PRIM has grown by \$1.5 billion and has paid \$1.3 billion in benefits. He reviewed PRIM's investment in real estate and how it has managed its way through 2020. Mr. Daniele also reviewed PRIM's performance by asset class and described how well PRIM has performed compared to its peer agencies across the country. Ms. Green reviewed PRIM's asset allocation strategy and stated that there was no change necessary in 2020, demonstrating how strong the asset allocation strategy has been. She described the allocations among each asset class. Mr. Todisco reviewed PRIM's performance through June 30, 2020, which he indicated is a little stale as the third quarter is nearly ended, but he indicated that he knows ERRS is on top of the latest information as Mr. Kostro has remotely attended the most recent Investment Committee and PRIM Board meetings. Mr. Todisco reviewed the performance chart and described the strong second quarter performance of equities, which is a complete reversal of the first quarter of 2020. Mr. Todisco noted that PRIM had a 7.2% return for the quarter. Mr. Todisco also reviewed the full fiscal year performance of the PRIM fund. Mr. Todisco described the real estate portfolio performance and indicated that a question on real estate investment performance is brought up at nearly every board presentation. Mr. Daniele reviewed the types of PRIM real estate investments that comprise its portfolio. Mr. Merz said that it appears that PRIM has not really done anything with real estate investments, and asked is PRIM just waiting to see what happens? Mr. Todisco indicated that this is somewhat true, but that PRIM continues to monitor the managers and the properties closely and noted that PRIM directly owns these properties, that they are not part of a fund. He said that in terms in long-term planning, these plans are reviewed at the end of every year. Mr. Todisco said that in real estate you really don't make tactical decisions but rather take the long-term view. Mr. Merz asked what was the rental percentage of the office properties by percentage. Mr. Todisco replied that he did not have that information but that he will get it for Mr. Merz. Mr. Todisco reviewed the "quilt" map showing the investment performance by asset class over time. Mr. Todisco then reviewed the investment performance for ERRS specifically through June 30, 2020. The one-year return was 1.98%, the three-year return was 5.66%, the five-year return was 6.24%, the ten-year return was 8.34%, and the return since inception has been 6.95%. The calendar year return has been a negative 3.61%. Mr. Todisco described the latest August investment performance statement showing the current market value of assets for ERRS at \$527 million, the calendar year performance has improved to 1.7% and the one-year return has improved to 7.7%. Mr. Benson asked about the volatility and wondered if PRIM had a sense about how long this volatility will last. Mr. Todisco replied that markets seem very sensitive to events now and reviewed a variety of the events that could affect the markets. He did note that a lot of events in 2020 did not affect the market, but the reality is that no one really knows how long this volatility will last. Mr. Daniele reviewed the asset allocation strategy and that it is very defensive in nature, which has served PRIM well during several recent periods of volatility. Mr. Benson asked that when PRIM looks at the asset mix again in January, are they going to make minor tweaks to the portfolio? Mr. Todisco said that he could not say for sure, but as Ms. Green noted, they may adjust the allocation to private equities. Mr.

Todisco again noted that PRIM does not make tactical decisions, but rather they focus on a long-term strategy. Mr. Todisco, Mr. Daniele, and Ms. Green left the meeting.

### New Enrollments

Upon a motion by Susan J. Yaskell, seconded by Vincent R. Malgeri, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; That the following named employees be enrolled in the Essex Regional Retirement System, a list of forty-eight names beginning with Dawn Adam-Brown and ending with Cindy Williams.

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Title/Position</b>	<b>Enrollment Date</b>	<b>Group</b>
Adam-Brown	Dawn	Town of Lynnfield	Paraprofessional	8/31/2020	1
Albanese	Mary	Town of Lynnfield	Paraprofessional	8/31/2020	1
Baccari	Jessica	Town of North Andover	Tutor	8/28/2020	1
Bennett	Erin	Town of Middleton	Teacher Aide	9/8/2020	1
Bontorno	Lauren	Town of Georgetown	DPW Clerk	7/1/2020	1
Brothers	Jillian	Town of North Andover	Executive Assistant	7/1/2020	1
Copeland	Jill	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/24/2020	1
Dauwer	Ellen	Town of Middleton	Nurse	8/31/2020	1
Davis	Jennifer	Town of Georgetown	Finance Clerk	7/27/2020	1
Dudley	Liza	Town of Boxford	Teacher Aide	8/31/2020	1
Duratti	Jacqueline	Town of Lynnfield	Paraprofessional	8/31/2020	1
Firicano	Debra	Town of Middleton	Teacher Aide	8/31/2020	1
Froio	Rachel	Town of Middleton	Teacher Aide	9/8/2020	1
Gustafson	Kathryn	Town of Boxford	Payroll Administration	8/31/2020	1
Ireland	Mary-Louise	Town of Ipswich	Assessor	4/13/2020	1
Jenkins	Allison	Hamilton-Wenham RSD	Teaching Assistant	8/25/2020	1
Johanson	Aimee	Town of Middleton	Behavioral Specialist	9/10/2020	1
Kerrigan-Martinello	Susan	Town of Lynnfield	SPED Clerk	8/20/2020	1
Krisko	Jennifer	Town of Newbury	DPW Administrative Assistant	8/31/2020	1
Laferriere	Joseph	Town of Boxford	IT Specialist	7/27/2020	
Liani	Meagan	Town of Ipswich	Custodian	10/15/2018	1
Lizardo	Ricardo	Triton RSD	Custodian	8/3/2020	1
Maloney	Melissa	Town of Ipswich	Teaching Assistant	8/31/2020	1
Marcotte	Annabelle	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/24/2020	1
Maurer	Krista	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/24/2020	

McCormick	Katherine	Town of Ipswich	Administrative Assistant	9/1/2020	1
McCormick	Deanna	Town of Lynnfield	Paraprofessional	8/31/2020	1
McGuire	Christine	Town of Ipswich	Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant	8/31/2020	1
O'Brien	Ann	Town of North Andover	Library Assistant	8/10/2020	1
Ouellette	Dennis	Town of North Andover	Custodian	8/10/2020	1
Pecoraro	Coreen	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/24/2020	1
Raftery	Michaela	Town of Boxford	Payroll Administration	8/31/2020	1
Riddle	Taylor	Town of Ipswich	Speech Language Pathologist Assistant	9/17/2020	1
Rosello	Gianna	Town of Ipswich	Teaching Assistant	8/31/2020	1
Roussin	Jacklyn	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/31/2020	1
Ryan	Sheila	Town of Lynnfield	Transportation Coordinator/Central Office	8/17/2020	1
Sargent	Lauren	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/24/2020	1
Seymour	Kylie	Town of Boxford	ESP	8/31/2020	
Shaw	Kayla	Hamilton-Wenham RSD	Teaching Assistant	9/28/2020	1
Shultz	Maureen	Town of Georgetown	Administrative Assistant	8/3/2020	1
Smiertelny	Kevin	Town of North Andover	Firefighter	7/6/2020	4
Sonke	Staci	Town of Ipswich	Teaching Assistant	8/31/2020	1
Sterling	Meredith	Hamilton-Wenham RSD	Teaching Assistant	10/30/2019	1
Sugerman	Elisa	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/24/2020	1
Torres	Flavia	Town of Lynnfield	School Payroll & Benefits Manager	8/31/2020	1
Walsh	Ann	Triton RSD	Instructional Assistant	8/24/2020	1
Wilkie	Morgan	Town of Boxford	Payroll Administration	8/31/2020	1
Williams	Cindy	Town of Ipswich	Accounts Payable Clerk	9/1/2020	1

### New Retirements

Upon a motion by Susan J. Yaskell, seconded by Alan J. Benson, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; That the following ten members of the Essex Regional Retirement System be awarded superannuation retirement benefits calculated as follows:

1. Elizabeth Barsalou, Instructional Assistant, Triton Regional School District - Group 1  
Effective Retirement Date: September 1, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$2,182.12  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$26,185.44
2. Thomas F. Driscoll, Police Officer, Town of North Andover - Group 4  
Effective Retirement Date: August 21, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$4,889.10  
Retirement Allowance: \$58,669.20
3. Gail Gallant, Library Aide, Triton Regional School District - Group 1  
Effective Retirement Date: June 30, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$1,771.61  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$21,259.32
4. John T. Hanson, Custodian, Town of North Andover - Group 1  
Effective Retirement Date: August 10, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$2,514.48  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$30,173.76
5. Paul K. Harington, Custodian, Town of Lynnfield - Group 1  
Effective Retirement Date: August 4, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$2,220.42  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$26,645.04
6. Ellen A.S. Jameson, Executive Administrator, Town of Newbury - Group 1  
Effective Retirement Date: July 31, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$1,120.29  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$13,443.48
7. Joseph T. Kamal, Police Officer, Town of North Andover - Group 4  
Effective Retirement Date: August 12, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$4,779.19  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$57,350.28
8. Lisa A. Orkney, Paraprofessional, Town of North Andover - Group 1  
Effective Retirement Date: June 30, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$371.61  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$4,459.32
9. Mark T. Rowe, Police Officer, Town of Rockport - Group 4  
Effective Retirement Date: August 7, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$3,982.98  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$47,795.76

10. Donna A. Warren, Paraprofessional, Town of Georgetown - Group 1  
Effective Retirement Date: September 22, 2020  
Monthly Retirement Allowance: \$1,045.36  
Annual Retirement Allowance: \$12,544.32

### **Option D Survivor Benefit**

Mr. Maney asked if the Option D benefit application has been received? Mr. Kostro replied that the application from the member for the Option D benefit has not yet been received and the Board can pass over this item and take it up at the October meeting.

### **Creditable Service Awards**

Upon a motion by Alan J. Benson, seconded by Vincent R. Malgeri, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; That the retirement system staff has verified that the required payments having been received, that the following members of the Essex Regional Retirement System be awarded creditable service as follows:

1. Christine E. Gehert shall be granted late entry into membership and her enrollment date changed to August 31, 2005, as she was eligible for membership as of this date and should have been enrolled in the retirement system.
2. Raymond G. Leczynski shall be awarded four years of creditable service for military service rendered with the United States Air Force from August 26, 1985 to August 25, 1989.
3. Susan M. Lemiesz shall be awarded five years and one month of creditable service for prior non-membership service rendered with the Town of Topsfield from May 31, 2002 to November 28, 2016.
4. Elaine Rogal shall be awarded nine months of creditable service for prior non-membership service rendered with Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District from September 8, 2003 to February 23, 2007.
5. Steven F. Sforza shall be awarded four years and two months of creditable service for reserve police service rendered with the Town of Salisbury from July 21, 1995 to September 27, 1999.
6. Daniel N. Veinot shall be awarded two years and nine months of creditable service for call firefighter service rendered with the Town of Lynnfield from May 1, 2013 to February 21, 2016.

### **Installment Plans**

Mr. Benson asked if two years was the maximum time permitted by ERRS for installment plans. Mr. Kostro replied that a member can request up to three years for an installment payment plan, or five years if there is a demonstrated hardship. Upon a motion by Vincent R. Malgeri, seconded by Susan J. Yaskell, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes;

Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To approve an installment plan as described below for the following member:

1. Shawn Lue for the purchase of prior military service which shall be paid in full on or before September 30, 2022 in accordance with the terms and conditions as presented.

### **Liability Requests**

Upon a motion by Susan J. Yaskell, seconded by Vincent R. Malgeri, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To take the following action on requests for the acceptance of liability received by the retirement system:

1. To deny liability as requested by the Barnstable County Retirement Association on behalf of Daniel R. Soffron, for call firefighter service for the period of July 1, 2015 to May 11, 2020 with the Town of Middleton as this individual was not eligible for membership, did not remit contributions, and was not wrongfully excluded during this period.

### **Refund Warrant – September 2020**

Upon a motion by Vincent R. Malgeri, seconded by Susan J. Yaskell, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To approve the refund warrant for September 2020, to refund, rollover, or transfer the accounts of the individuals listed below, a list of eleven members beginning with Nancy D. Bulger and ending with Donna A. Warren, in the total net amount of \$118,384.05.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Board or Institution</b>
Bulger, Nancy D.	Withdrawal	
Hajec, Lauren P.	Withdrawal	
Hamdi, Ala R.	Withdrawal	
Hauss, Julie A.	Rollover	Fidelity Management Trust
Huntington, Rachel	Transfer	State Retirement Board
Laforage, Taylor R.	Withdrawal	
Murley, Jeff A.	Withdrawal	Massachusetts Teachers Retirement System
Orkney, Lisa A.	Withdrawal	
Salazzo, Matthew J.	Transfer	Newburyport Retirement Board
Spezzaferi, Brenda M.	Rollover	T.D. Ameritrade
Warren, Donna A.	Withdrawal	

### **September Retirees Payroll**

Upon a motion by Kevin A. Merz, seconded by Vincent R. Malgeri, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To approve the retirement allowances for the month of September in the estimated amount of \$4,250,000.00.

### **ERRS Payroll**

Upon a motion by Kevin A. Merz, seconded by Vincent R. Malgeri, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To approve the payment of the ERRS employee payroll for September 11, 2020, in the amount of \$14,978.47, and for September 25, 2020, in the amount of \$16,666.70.

### **Cash Disbursement Warrant CD2020.09**

Upon a motion by Vincent R. Malgeri, seconded by Susan Y. Yaskell, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To approve the Cash Disbursement Warrant CD2020.09 for September 2020 as presented in the total amount of \$11,105.41.

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Amount (\$)</b>
Access - Monthly Fee	449.19
Benefit Strategies - Monthly Fee	2.00
Comcast - Monthly Bill	409.23
Town of Danvers, Danvers Electric - #201 - Monthly Fee	147.32
Town of Danvers, Danvers Electric - #202 - Monthly Fee	160.53
Harpers Payroll Services - 2020.08.28	81.95
Harpers Payroll Services - 2020.09.11	43.40
HCOPT - Condo Fees - 2020.10	1,511.00
HIQ Computers - #125559 - Spam Services Renewal	450.00
HIQ Computers - Monthly Replication Services	90.00
Law Offices of Michael Sacco - August 2020	3,365.00



Red Sun Press - Envelopes	760.00
Quadient - 101/2020 - 12/31/2020	670.23
Ricoh USA, Inc. - Monthly Fee	244.57
Ricoh USA, Inc. - Ink	264.74
S.J. Services, Inc. - Office Cleaning - 2020.09	212.50
Wayne Alarm - Monitoring Reports 1/2 Year Fee	70.00
W.B. Mason - Office Supplies	2,173.75
Total	11,105.41

### **Fifth Member Resumes**

Mr. Malgeri left the meeting at 9:38 a.m. Mr. Kostro reviewed the process for advertising this position, as PERAC recommends. He said that three resumes were received, which were in the Board's packet. Mr. Kostro said he looked back at the Board's process in 2015 and noted that the Board received two resumes at that time. He said in 2015, at the Board's September meeting, his suggested motion was to schedule interviews, but that the Board chose to move ahead and reappoint Mr. Malgeri. Based on that history, Mr. Kostro said that he drafted a suggested motion for this meeting in which the Board would move ahead and reappoint Mr. Malgeri, as they did in 2015. He felt that this was consistent with the Board's prior action but it is up to the Board how they wish to proceed. Mr. Maney said that he thinks we should do the same thing as was done in 2015 and reappoint Mr. Malgeri. Mr. Benson described how Mr. Malgeri is the most prepared member of the Board, and that he is enormously dedicated to this Board and he is happy to make a motion to reappoint him, or that maybe this is a motion that should come from the Chair. Ms. Yaskell said that she too supports reappointing Mr. Malgeri to the Board and noted his enormous dedication to his role as Fifth Member and the great contributions he has made over the years. Mr. Merz stated how impressed he is with the time Mr. Malgeri spends in preparation for the meetings and he supports reappointing him to the Board. Mr. Maney indicated that the motion should come from the Board. Upon a motion by Susan J. Yaskell, seconded by Kevin A. Merz, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To appoint Vincent R. Malgeri to the position of Fifth Member for a term of five years pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 34B, Section 19A, which term shall commence on December 13, 2020. The Executive Director shall notify PERAC of this appointment.

## **West Newbury FY2021 Appropriation Payment**

Mr. Kostro advised the Board of the timing of the annual appropriation payment by West Newbury and that the staff handled it consistent with the precedent established by the Board in similar situations from prior years.

## **ERRS Staffing and Hiring Status Update**

Mr. Kostro noted that interviews for the two positions posted by the retirement system started last week and that more interviews are scheduled for this week.

Mr. Malgeri returned to the meeting at 9:43 a.m. Mr. Maney advised Mr. Malgeri that he was reappointed unanimously to another term as Fifth Member. Mr. Malgeri thanked the Board for the reappointment.

Mr. Kostro said that he hopes to finish the interviews in the next week or two, and to make offers within a couple of weeks. He noted that the interviews are done through Zoom and he will figure out how to do second interviews if they are needed. Mr. Kostro stated that he will be working on how to on-board the new employees. He noted that ERRS is operating on something of a hybrid plan, where some employees are in the office on some days while others work remotely and that this is done on a rotating schedule. He expects that he will work the new employees into this hybrid schedule. Mr. Kostro that he expects to temporarily move the Executive Assistant's desktop computer and other equipment from the reception desk in Suite 202 to the empty desk in the reception area of Suite 201. He said that this will provide more flexibility for office scheduling as well as increasing the space between employee work stations. Mr. Kostro said that hopefully by the Board's meeting next month, he will be able to announce the hiring of two new employees, finally bringing the retirement system up to full staff, which it has not been since the beginning of the year. Mr. Yaskell asked to review the position titles that are being filled, which Mr. Kostro did.

## **HVAC System Repair Update**

Mr. Kostro reminded the Board of the small repair to the HVAC system in Suite 201 back in July. The HVAC system repair company said that there may be additional leaks associated with this system and want to remove the unit, place it in the parking lot, and see what repairs are needed. Mr. Kostro said that he finally received a quote for this work and that it was close to \$9,000, which he felt was excessive. Mr. Kostro that given the age of the system in Suite 201, and the similar system in Suite 202, he asked the repair company about the status of both systems, and requested a detailed breakdown of the proposed repair work. Mr. Kostro also noted his concern about repair work that has been done in the past, and the mixed results experienced by ERRS. Despite repeated requests, Mr. Kostro said that the repair company has not provided the requested information as of this date. Mr. Kostro questioned whether it was fiscally sound to spend so much money on

repairing these systems or whether looking into a new system for each unit would make more sense. Mr. Kostro also noted that ERRS is a public agency and that there are requirements for bidding and paying for this work. Mr. Kostro did say that the HVAC system in Suite 201 has been working with no problems since the small repair in July.

### **Electrical Inspectors Group Classification**

Mr. Sacco reviewed prior DALA and CRAB cases in which a Board he represents lost when placing electrical and wiring inspectors in Group 1. Mr. Sacco said that he understands how this decision was arrived at, although he does not think it is correct. Mr. Sacco said that the Board can place electrical and wire inspectors who are licensed in Group 2. Mr. Sacco did note that if the Board challenges these decisions, they will have to get it into Superior Court to get a decision which overturns the prior DALA and CRAB decisions. Mr. Malgeri asked how many members this will affect. Mr. Kostro said that in reviewing the reports run through PTG, it should not be more than a half a dozen, although he cautioned that PTG has difficulty picking up this title in the system. Mr. Kostro also reviewed how electrical inspectors are hired within municipalities and that it is unusual for this position to qualify for membership. Mr. Maney asked about the comparison of benefits for Group 2 members versus Group 1 members. Mr. Sacco reviewed the different age factors for Group 2 members. Mr. Benson described the manner in which municipalities hire electrical inspectors and how difficult it is going to be to calculate benefits for these members. Mr. Benson asked if any other retirement board has appealed this decision, and Mr. Sacco replied that no one has to this point. Mr. Benson said that these positions do not really belong in Group 2 based on the work they do, but it is not worth the legal fees to contest this for such a small group of members. Upon a motion by Vincent R. Malgeri, seconded by Susan J. Yaskell, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, No; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; In accordance with the decisions of the Division of Administrative Law Appeals and the Contributory Retirement Appeals Board, members holding the title of Electrical or Wiring Inspector in a municipal unit of the retirement system who are licensed electricians shall be placed in Group 2.

### **Alan Benson – First Member**

Mr. Benson noted that the nomination notice has been sent out to the Chief Executives for the election of the First Member, which is his seat. He wanted to advise the Board that he is going to send a notice out to the same members that he is not running so that everyone knows that it is an open seat. Mr. Benson said that he will also point out what a great working environment it is at ERRS, and will also describe the challenges of achieving full funding. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Maney thanked Mr. Benson for his service. Mr. Kostro said that the weighted vote total was in the Board's packet and described the process that was reviewed by PERAC for arriving at the percentage vote allocation.

## **Executive Session**

Upon a motion by Vincent R. Malgeri, seconded by Kevin A. Merz, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To move to executive session to discuss litigation strategy in the matter of James Hannon, Richard Shailor and the so-called “Vernava” case as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the retirement system.

The Board entered executive session at 10:00 a.m.

The Board exited executive session at 10:09 a.m.

## **Motion to Adjourn**

Upon a motion by Susan J. Yaskell, seconded by Vincent R. Malgeri, the Board voted by roll call as follows: Mr. Benson, Yes; Mr. Malgeri, Yes; Mr. Maney, Yes; Mr. Merz, Yes; and Ms. Yaskell, Yes; To adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

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**Alan J. Benson**

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**Vincent R. Malgeri**

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**H. Joseph Maney**

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**Kevin A. Merz**

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**Susan J. Yaskell**

The following materials were provided to the Board for items acted upon at the meeting:

Meeting Minutes  
PRIM Board Presentation  
New Enrollments  
Retirement Benefit Supporting Documents  
Warrants  
DALA and CRAB Cases Re: Electrical Inspector Group Classification

In addition to the materials provided to the Board for items acted upon at the meeting, the following documents were also provided:

Agenda Posting Checklist  
BlackRock Distribution Notice - September 29, 2020  
DALA Notice of Appeal - Maher, Steven  
Deduction Posting Report - July & August 2020  
Executive Director's Schedule  
Financial Reports - July 2020 Disbursements  
Financial Reports - July 2020 General Ledger  
Financial Reports - July 2020 Receipts  
Financial Reports - July 2020 Trial Balance  
Financial Reports – July 2020 Adjustments  
Financial Reports - Monthly Expenditure Report - August 2020  
Financial Reports - Pension Reserves Investment Trust Compliant Presentation - FY 2020  
Financial Reports - PRIT Fund Investment Performance - August 2020  
Financial Reports - PRIT Fund Performance Update - August 2020  
Financial Reports - Q2 2020 PRIM Board Quarterly Update FINALv2  
First Member Election 2020 - Weighted Vote Calculation