

LAW ENFORCEMENT RETIREMENT BENEFITS STUDY COMMITTEE

Authorized by Act 25 of the 2019 Legislative Session

Virtual Meeting Only

October 29, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

Please note all member participated via telephone, video, or teleconference:

Members present:

BETH PEARCE, Chair, Vermont State Treasurer

SENATOR JANE KITCHEL, Chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations

REPRESENTATIVE MAIDA TOWNSEND, Designee Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN GANNON, Designee Chair of the House Committee on Government Operations

CAPTAIN MICHAEL MANLEY, representing Major Ingrid Jonas

MICHAEL O'NEIL, Member appointed by the Vermont Troopers' Association

BETH FASTIGGI, Commissioner of Human Resources – via telephone

ROGER DUMAS, Chair of the Vermont State Employees' Retirement System

JOHN FEDERICO, Member appointed by the Vermont State Employees' Association

Members absent:

SENATOR JEANETTE WHITE, Chair of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

INGRID JONAS, Designee Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety

Also attending:

Michael Clasen, Deputy State Treasurer

Tim Duggan, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the State Treasurer

Erika Wolffing, Director of Retirement Operations

Ashlynn Doyon, Executive Assistant to the Treasurer

Jenny Audet, Classification Department of Human Resources

Roger Marcoux, Lamoille County Sheriff

Annie Noonan, Department of States Attorneys and Sheriffs

Susan Bartlett, Chair Hyde Park Select Board

Scott Davidson, Department of Motor Vehicles

Virginia Merriam

Steve Howard, VSEA

Teresa Randall

Mark Heberts

Kelly Price

The Chair, Beth Pearce, called the Thursday, October 29, 2020 committee meeting to order at 9:04 a.m., which was held virtually by conference call and teleconference only.

Item 1: Agenda Approval and Announcements

There were no announcements or changes to the agenda.

On a motion made by Mr. Dumas, seconded by Ms. Fastiggi, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Item 2: Approve the minutes of January 10, 2020

On a motion made by Senator Kitchel, seconded by Mr. Dumas, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 10, 2020 as submitted.

Item 3: Public Hearing

The Committee took public comment from groups wishing to either discuss law enforcement retirement issues or requesting to join VSERS Group C.

The Committee heard from Sheriff Marcoux, Annie Noonan, and Susan Bartlett about the Sheriff Departments' request to have a 20-year retirement plan for deputy sheriffs not currently in VSERS Group C. The Committee asked that the Sheriffs submit their request in writing for discussion at a future meeting.

The Committee heard from Mr. Price about a Game Warden pay scale issue that is likely not under the purview of the Committee.

Item 4: Other Business and Public Comment

Ms. Pearce stated that any groups who wanted to address the committee but could not attend the public hearing could submit any written testimony to Erika Wolffing in the Retirement Office. The Committee discussed future meetings and the deadline to submit the final report by January 15, 2021.


Item 5: Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. Dumas, seconded by Ms. Fastiggi, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:22 a.m.

Next Meeting Date:

The next Law Enforcement Retirement Benefits Study Committee Meeting is Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Erika Wolffing
Director of Retirement Operations, Office of the State Treasurer