

LAW ENFORCEMENT RETIREMENT BENEFITS STUDY COMMITTEE

Meeting of the Sub-Group

Authorized by Act 25 of the 2019 Legislative Session
Treasurer's Conference Room
October 23, 2019 – 3:00 p.m.

Members present:

BETH PEARCE, Chair, Vermont State Treasurer
SENATOR JEANETTE WHITE, Chair of the Senate Committee on Government Operations – via telephone
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN GANNON, Designee Chair of the House Committee on Government Operations
BETH FASTIGGI, Commissioner of Human Resources
JOHN FEDERICO, Member appointed by the Vermont State Employees' Association
MICHAEL O'NEIL, Member appointed by the Vermont Troopers' Association

Members absent:

Also attending:

Tim Duggan, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the State Treasurer
Erika Wolffing, Director of Retirement Operations

Item 1: **Agenda Approval and Announcements**

There were no announcements or changes made to the agenda.

Item 2: **Review Law Enforcement Working Definition & Checklist**

The Sub-Group reviewed the working definition of law enforcement adopted by the full Law Enforcement Retirement Benefits Study Committee. Ms. Wolffing provided a checklist for job specifications based on the working definition to help the Sub-Group facilitate its review of each position's job specification.

Item 3: **Job Specification Review**

The Sub-Group reviewed each job specification with the provided checklist. The Group identified those positions that could be presumed to meet the definition, including all positions in Group C currently working for Department of Public Safety i.e. Trooper, Sargent, Lieutenant Captain, etc., Game Warden positions at Fish and Wildlife, and Military Firefighters. The Sub-Group recognized that while firefighters may not meet the working definition, they were deliberately included in Group C by the Legislature. The Sub-Group further determined positions at the Department of Motor Vehicles that are uniformed police officers that are required to respond at all times including, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Supervisor, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Inspector, and Motor Vehicle Chief Inspector.

The Sub-Group determined those remaining positions in Group C that required further review and discussion, mostly consisting of Investigator positions. The Subgroup discussed sending a questionnaire to appropriate staff at the departments with these positions to better understand if they meet the working definition. Ms. Pearce requested that members of the Sub-Group submit potential questions to include on the questionnaire to Ms. Wolffing.

Item 4: Other Business

The Sub-Group discussed next steps and decided to recommend canceling the next full committee meeting on October 31, 2019 to allow the Sub-Group more time to work on the job specification review. The Sub-Group also requested research on federal decisions constituting a law enforcement officer (LEO) as a point of background.

Next Meeting Date:

The next Law Enforcement Retirement Benefits Sub-Group Meeting is on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erika Wolffing".

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