

## VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

August 17, 2005

### **Board members present:**

STEVEN JEFFREY, Chairperson, Employee Representative (term expiring July 1, 2007)

DAVID LEWIS, Employer Representative (term expiring July 1, 2006)

JEB SPAULDING, Vermont State Treasurer

### **Board members absent:**

W. JOHN MITCHELL, II, Vice-Chairperson, Employee Representative (term expiring July 1, 2008)

MARIE DUQUETTE, Governor's delegate

### **Also attending:**

Cynthia Webster, Director of Retirement Services

Mike McShane, Assistant Attorney General

The Chairperson, Steve Jeffrey, called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m. on Wednesday, August 17, 2005, held in the Montpelier Room at the Capitol Plaza, Montpelier, VT.

### **ITEM 1: Board Action Items**

#### A. Election of Officer

Mr. Jeffrey opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chairperson.

Mr. Lewis nominated Mr. Jeffrey for the position of Chairperson.

Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Jeffrey closed nominations.

### **The Board unanimously voted to elect Mr. Jeffrey as Chairperson.**

Mr. Jeffrey opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

By consensus the Board unanimously agreed to postpone the election of a Vice-Chair until an unspecified later date when either Mr. Mitchell could be present or the Board has received word from him regarding his continued participation. Mrs. Webster agreed to contact Mr. Mitchell.

#### B. Approve the Minutes of May 17, 2005

**On a motion by Mr. Spaulding seconded by Mr. Lewis, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of May 17, 2005, as submitted.**

C. Ratify Approval of Disability Retirement for : Barry Stevens

**On a motion by Mr. Lewis seconded by Mr. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to approve the disability retirement for Barry Stevens, as recommended by the Medical Review Board.**

D. Approve Membership of Castleton Free Library – Group B

Mrs. Webster verified the Town budget supported the library.

The Board discussed the potential need to align the definition for “employee” and “employer”, with respect to municipal funding.

**On a motion by Mr. Spaulding seconded by Mr. Lewis, the Board unanimously voted to approve the membership of the Castleton Free Library into Group B, effective October 1, 2005.**

**ITEM 3: Legislative Initiatives**

A. Health Care Options

Mrs. Webster distributed proposed amendment language to §5069, to which Mr. McShane consulted with the Board.

Mrs. Webster and Mr. McShane will continue discussions with representatives from Buck Consultants and report back to the Board on issues including: retirement health accounts, flexibility, employer contributions equal to actuarial gains up to an undetermined percent, deposits into employee accounts, employee/employer matches, etc.

In preparation for a potential RFP, Mr. Jeffrey will research and report information back to the Board regarding third party administrators.

B. Board Composition

Mrs. Webster distributed proposed amendment language to §5062. Mrs. Webster will provide the more recent Board proposed amendment for discussion at the next meeting.

C. Other Housekeeping

Mrs. Webster distributed proposed amendment language to §5056, §5057, §5059, and §5054(a). The Board agreed to move forward with amendments including §5052 and §5053, and the definition of employee/employer as previously discussed in Item 1-D, provided the health care options language was not affected.

**ITEM 4: Any other business to come before the Board**

Mr. Jeffrey asked Mrs. Webster to provide an actuarial response and impact to the question "why shouldn't retirees not be allowed to return to work for more than the minimum hours, not joining the system again, and work in addition to collecting their pension?"

Mrs. Webster said she would report at a later date regarding the question raised with respect to year round school district employees, once survey data collecting was completed.

**Adjournment:**

**On a motion by Mr. Lewis seconded by Mr. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 4:31 p.m.**

**Next Meeting Dates:**

The next scheduled business meeting will be determined.  
The next scheduled VPIC meeting is Tuesday, October 11, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Holden, Board Coordinator  
for  
Cynthia Webster, Secretary to the Board