

**LAW ENFORCEMENT RETIREMENT BENEFITS STUDY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of the Sub-Group**

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

**DRAFT COPY – MINUTES NOT YET APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

**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 – via telephone  
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:        **Approve the Minutes of October 23, 2019****

**On a motion made by Mr. O'Neil, seconded by Mr. Federico, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of October 23, 2019 as submitted.**

**Item 3:        **Review Staff Memorandum and Recommendations****

Ms. Wolffing provided an overview of the memorandum submitted by staff outlining the progress of the Sub-Group in reviewing positions currently in Group C. The memo further describes the remaining positions that need closer review to determine if they meet the requirement of the working definition that would appropriately subject the position to a mandatory retirement age. Staff recommended that the committee correspond with the appointing authorities in charge of the remaining positions in question to better understand the job duties associated with the position. The Sub-Group reviewed a draft questionnaire to be completed by the appointing authority and suggested staff meet individually with each department/agency to help facilitate the review of the position. The Sub-Group briefly reviewed the case summaries provided on whether a federal position meets the law enforcement officer definition for purpose of federal retirement plans.

The Sub-Group discussed whether or not to include deputy sheriffs in those positions needing further discussion. Ms. Pearce clarified that the sheriffs have an outstanding issue for discussion because some departments are in VMERS and others are in VSERS depending on the election made by the Sheriff. Ms. Pearce further explained that she committed to reviewing the sheriff's concerns as part of the committee.

**Item 4:           Next Steps**

The Sub-Group discussed next steps including holding a full committee meeting in December to report on progress made and review a draft of the progress report due to the Legislature in January 2020. The Sub-Group will also present to the full committee the proposal to address and meet with the appointing authorities of the remaining positions requiring further review. The sub-group further recommended holding two additional meetings in January, one meeting to allow groups interested in joining Group C, and another meeting for the Sheriffs to present and discuss their issues.

**Item 5:           Other Business**

None.

**Item 6:           Adjournment**

**On a motion made by Mr. O’Neil, seconded by Ms. Pearce, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 3:58 p.m.**

**Next Meeting Date:**

The next full Law Enforcement Retirement Benefits Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, December 19, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.



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