Members present: Darren Simmons  
Dave McDowell  
Israel Navarro  
Patricia Ogden  

Members absent: Amarion Hand  

Others present: Norazel Mejia-Rico, Secretary  
Yesenia Duenas, YCSO Employee  

A special meeting of the Local Board of the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office Corrections Officer Retirement Plan was held Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office.  

Chairman Simmons called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m.  

The board reviewed the minutes of the June 23, 2021 special meeting. Ms. Ogden motioned to approve the June 23, 2021 minutes as presented. Mr. McDowell seconded. The motion carried 4 to 0.  

Old Business  
None  

New Business  
The local board reviewed the Normal Retirement Application by Detention Officer (DO) Jesus Torres Nava, effective August 1, 2021. The secretary advised the local board of DO Torres Nava’s dates of employment, years of service, pension amount, and the effective date. Mr. McDowell motioned to approve the Normal Retirement Application by DO Jesus Torres Nava. Ms. Ogden seconded. The motion carried 4 to 0.  

The secretary advised the board members of the re-employment hire of Mr. Kenneth Jordan. She informed the local board of Mr. Jordan’s previous dates of employment, his effective retirement date, and that he retired as a Detention Officer (DO). She further advised he was re-hired on June 21, 2021 as a Security Control Officer (SCO), which is considered as a civilian position and is under the Arizona State Retirement System. She then explained the duties of the Security Control Officer’s position and advised they have no direct contact with prisoners as they work inside the unit box. She further stated SCO’s are not considered as a CORP designated position. The secretary briefly advised the board members they had a return to work packet. The packet included the following: 1) Letter from the Sheriff’s Office dated July 15, 2021; 2) Job Descriptions for Detention Officer and Security Control Officer; 3) Mr. Jordan’s job application; 4) CORP Return to Work Acknowledgement Form (FORM C16); and 5) Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S) 38-884 (Membership of retirement plan; termination; credit service; redemption; reemployment), and A.R.S. 38-881 (Definitions). Mr. McDowell motioned to approve continuation of DO Jordan’s pension benefit, as his re-employment.
met the criteria. DO Navarro seconded. The motion carried 4 to 0.

New Members: The secretary advised the board members of the new Corrections Officer Retirement Plan (CORP) members: Tiana Baker, date of hire 05/10/21; and Shawna Toyoda, date of hire 07/12/21. Their medical evaluations were reviewed for pre-existing medical conditions. A letter of pre-existing condition(s) were sent to Tiana Baker on July 16, 2021. The secretary advised board members Tiana Baker was on list last month, however, she hadn’t received her pre-existing letter. DO Navarro motioned to approve the new CORP members and acknowledge pre-existing condition(s) on Tiana Baker and Shawna Toyoda. Ms. Ogden seconded. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Separated Members: The secretary advised the board members that the following CORP member(s) have separated from employment with the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office: Maria Hernandez, date of separation 06/18/21; Samantha Whitacre, date of separation 06/24/21; Maria Padilla, date of separation 07/03/21; and David Rodriguez, date of separation 07/05/21. Ms. Ogden motioned to approve CORP members that have separated from employment with Yuma County Sheriff’s Office. DO Navarro seconded. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Current Events: The board members had no comments and/or questions.

Ms. Ogden asked for clarification regarding the types of retirement the local board will be processing starting January 2022. The secretary advised the board members that the local board will only process medical disabilities and line-of-duty deaths. All remaining types of retirement (ex. normal, survivors ... etc.) will be processed by the Phoenix Office. She furthered advised the secretary will provide them with the paperwork, review for completeness, and then forward to the Phoenix Office within 10 days. The Phoenix Office will calculate pension amounts and provide hearing notifications. The local board will continue to meet for new hires, separations, and newsletters information/reviews.

The next special meeting was scheduled for December 08, 2021, at 3:15 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Norazel B. Mejia-Rico, Secretary of the Board