Yuma County Sheriff’s Office
Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Local Board Quarterly Meeting

September 26, 2018

Members present: Darren Simmons
Dave McDowell
Richard Meraz
Brenna Paulin
Frank Pereda

Members absent: None

Others present: Nora Mejia-Rico, Secretary

A quarterly meeting of the Local Board of the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office Public Safety Personnel Retirement System was held Wednesday, September 26, 2018, at the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office.

Chairman Darren Simmons called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

The board reviewed the minutes of the March 27, 2018 quarterly meeting. Ms. Paulin motioned to approve the March 27, 2018 as presented. Mr. McDowell seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Old Business
None

New Business
The local board reviewed the application for Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) by Sgt. Raul Garcia, effective October 01, 2018. The secretary advised the local board of Sgt. Garcia’s dates of employment, total years of service, pension amount, and the effective date of the DROP retirement. Sgt. Meraz motioned to approve the DROP application by Sgt. Garcia, effective October 01, 2018. Ms. Paulin seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

New Members: The secretary advised the board members of the new Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) members: Imañ Hernandez-Garcia, date of hire 04/09/18; Jorge Sandoval Avila, date of hire 04/30/18; Emmanuel Alvarez and Atonda Livingston, their date of hire 06/17/18; Christopher Hand, date of hire 06/24/18; and Christopher Little, date of hire 08/27/18. Their medical evaluations were reviewed for pre-existing medical conditions. Letters of pre-existing condition(s) were sent to Imañ Hernandez-Garcia, Atonda Livingston, and Christopher Little on September 24, 2018. The secretary advised the board that Jorge Sandoval Avila had a pre-existing condition(s); however, he separated employment prior to receiving the pre-existing letter. Mr. McDowell motioned to approve the new PSPRS members with the acknowledgement of pre-existing conditions. Sgt. Meraz seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Separated Members: The Secretary advised the board members that the following PSPRS member(s) have separated from employment with the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office: Eugenio Mejia III, date of separation 03/30/18; Jorge Sandoval Avila, date of separation 05/18/18; Guadalupe Paz, date of separation 06/07/18; Vanessa Alexander, date of separation 06/08/18; and Christopher Ramirez, date of separation 09/13/18. Sgt. Meraz motioned to approve PSPRS members that have separated from employment with Yuma County. Ms. Paulin seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

The board members reviewed FY2019 First Quarter Newsletter of the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS). The Secretary briefly summarized the newsletter advising the board of SB 1251, SB 1478, HRC 2032/HB2545, and HB 2097. She advised the members that the County’s Chief
Financial Officer is working on the policy. Once completed, he will present to the Board of Supervisor for approval and will also present the policy to the local board. The secretary further explained the Military Leave under the Defined Contribution retirement plan that the returned employee will have three (3) times the amount of their deployment or served time and a maximum of five (5) years to make up their missed contributions. She also mentioned under the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan (CORP), a legal interpretation was given to A.R.S. 38-811.01, refunding Tier 1 or Tier 2 members, will remain in their original employee tier if they are hired again by a CORP employer. Lastly, the secretary briefly mentioned to the board members the cancer insurance is also available to the Defined Contribution retirement plan members and that it is free to PSPRS members and for CORP members it costs $50.00 a year, with the payment deadline of August 31, 2018. The local board had no further comments and/or questions regarding the newsletter.

Current Events: The secretary advised the local board members that board member Ms. Paulin will be resigning from the PSPRS local board, effective December 31, 2018. Ms. Paulin stated due to family circumstances she will not be able to commit to the local board. Chairman Simmons thanked Ms. Paulin for her time and service on the board.

The next meeting was originally scheduled for December 12, 2018, at 3:00 p.m., however, due to an upcoming retirement, the local board agreed to reschedule the meeting to November 29, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Norazel B. Mejia-Rico, Secretary of the Board