Yuma County Sheriff’s Office
Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Local Board
Special Meeting
January 31, 2019

Members present: Darren Simmons
Richard Meraz
Dave McDowell
Patricia Ogden
Frank Pereda

Members absent: None

Others present: Nora Mejia-Rico, Secretary
Mrs. Kenneth Sanders
Mr. Xavier Sanders
Captain Mark Martinez
Lt. Henry Hernandez

A special meeting of the Local Board of the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office Public Safety Personnel Retirement System was held Thursday, January 31, 2019, at the Yuma County Sheriff’s Office.

Chairman Darren Simmons called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

The board reviewed the minutes of the November 29, 2018 special meeting. Ms. Ogden motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. McDowell seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Old Business
None

New Business
The local board reviewed the application for an Ordinary Disability Retirement by Lt. Kenneth Sanders. Mrs. Sanders was present on behalf of Mr. Sanders at the hearing. Chairman Simmons stated the following: 1) Mr. Sanders signed the waiver of confidentiality allowing the local board to hear the case in an open public meeting; 2) Mr. Sanders submitted his claim on December 19, 2018, and that the board met within the ninety (90) day criteria; 3) the application was screened by Nora Mejia-Rico for completeness; and 4) Mr. Sanders submitted medical records pertinent to the claim.

The board members asked the secretary several questions regarding the type of disability, obtaining medical records from the listed doctors on the application, requiring an Independent Medical Evaluation (IME), procedures and time frame involved in processing a disability, and delegating the secretary to select the IME doctor. The secretary answered all their questions. Mrs. Sanders answered one of the board’s questions when the board asked for Mr. Sanders’ doctor’s name. After the discussion, the local board members agreed Mr. Sanders provided enough medical evidence to continue in the process and to have an IME conducted. Mr. McDowell motioned to accept Mr. Sanders’ application as presented and directed the secretary to identify/select an IME doctor to send Mr. Sanders. Sgt. Pereda seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

The local board reviewed the application for Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) by Sergeant Voss, effective February 01, 2019. The secretary advised the local board of Sgt. Voss’ dates of employment,
total years of service, pension amount, and the effective date of the DROP retirement. Mr. McDowell motioned to approve Sgt. Voss’ application for the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). Sgt. Meraz seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Current Events: Chairman Simmons advised the board Sgt. Meraz, Sgt. Pereda, and himself attended the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Local Board and Employer Seminar held on December 04, 2018. They gave a brief summary of the seminar and discussed the highlighted issues; cancer benefit program, financial system is doing good, and the new DROP changes whereas the members are no longer required to contribute to the system. The secretary advised that an introduction of the new local board member, Ms. Ogden, and returning member Sgt. Pereda, will be listed on the next agenda meeting. The local board members had no other comments and/or discussions regarding current events.

The next meeting was originally scheduled for March 13, 2019, at 3:00 p.m., however, the secretary advised the board members of an upcoming Normal Retirement Application. Therefore, the next meeting was scheduled for February 27, 2019, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Norazel B. Mejia-Rico, Secretary of the Board