

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PEACE OFFICERS' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND
WEDNESDAY
January 7, 2015
10:30 A.M. via Conference Call

Present:

Roger Garrison
Kaye Carter
Sherry Mowell
Gary Jones
Homer Bryson

Robert W. Carter, Secretary/Treasurer
William Johnston

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Roger Garrison. Mr. Robert Carter delivered an invocation. The following items were considered by the Board:

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The December 3, 2014 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Sherry Mowell made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes from December 3, 2014 and Kaye Carter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

II. RETIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL (See attached listing)

Robert W. Carter presented the list of forty-three (43) retirements, as well as one additional for disability, for Board approval. Jesse Jerome Cook of DNR, 51 years old has 21 years, 11 months of service and requested to retire due to disability. Homer Bryson noted this case was approved by ERS within two weeks. Mr. Carter advised his retirement benefit as of December 14 will be \$534.99 per month. A motion was made by Kaye Carter and seconded by Sherry Mowell to approve these requests for retirement. Motion carried.

III. REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE – Mechelle Williams Collins, age 45 with 7 years, 5 months and 6 days of service credit left Lavonia P.D. on September 30, 2014. She is currently in a part-time position with Franklin County S.O. and therefore not eligible to participate in the fund. Her intent is to secure a full-time position with Franklin County. A motion was made by Kaye Carter and seconded by Sherry Mowell to approve the request for Leave of Absence. Motion carried.

IV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT

Approval of Jesse Jerome Cook as stated above.

V. LEGAL MATTERS

William Johnston provided an update on the status of the court case involving Parole Officer John Prevost. A decision was made in favor of Mr. Prevost. He (Johnston) appealed the case to Superior Court. However, we were assigned to a Judge who will probably rule against us, and, order us to pay attorney fees as well. Mr. Johnston recommended a settlement proposal, but suggested a confidentiality agreement as a caveat to the offer. Although, it would, of course, be subject to Open Records Requests. He advised he felt that Mr. Prevost would accept the settlement. A motion was made by Sherry Mowell and seconded by Kaye Carter to offer a settlement in the John Prevost case.

VI. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Robert W. Carter advised the Board of a meeting he attended on December 12, 2014 with representatives of the Sheriffs' Association and the Chiefs of Police to discuss pursuing a tax on liability auto insurance to increase funding to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund. Mr. Carter hopes to establish a coalition with law enforcement to present to the Legislature in the upcoming term. There was additional discussion about increasing dues to \$30.00 and adding certified Jailers to the list of eligible participants in the Fund. Homer Bryson said there would probably be no action this year, but rather setting the stage for next year.

Mr. Carter said he was advised of a push to accept private law enforcement agencies into the fund but does not anticipate that happening.

Mr. Carter advised of the possibility of POAG using a small portion of our facilities at some point but not anytime in the near future.

Chief Gary Jones joined the meeting and apologized for not being available at the beginning of the conference call.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting of the Board will be held on February 4, 2015, at the Fund office, 1208 Greenbelt Drive, Griffin, GA 30223. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Carter stated the Buck Consultants will be here to discuss GASB.

William Johnston said the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) is having discussion about adding mutual funds to their investment options, advising that is something to watch.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Carter
Secretary/Treasurer