

Regular Meeting – April 29, 2026

The Taunton Retirement Board (the “Board”) met at 10:00 am today at the retirement board offices, 104 Dean St., Suite 203, Taunton, MA with Chairman Dennis M. Smith presiding and board members Patrick D. DelloRusso Jr., Thomas A. Bernier, Ian D. Fortes and Edward J. Spellman, Jr. in attendance.

Roll Call

All members were present at the 10:00 a.m. roll call.

Also present were:

Paul J. Slivinski, Executive Director

Karen Medeiros, Assistant Executive Director

Atty. Michael Sacco

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Atty. Michael Sacco – OIG report and legal services contract for Taunton
- Continue review of Employee contract renewals and raises

At 10:02 a.m., Chairman Smith entertained a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, s. 21(a)(3) to meet with Atty. Michael Sacco to hear his comments on reports of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and related findings and to also discuss the legal services contract. Also to continue review of retirement staff contracts and consider raises. The Board noted that it would reconvene in open session following the executive session.

A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Member Bernier “Yes”; Member DelloRusso “Yes”, Member Fortes “Yes”, Member Smith “Yes”; Member Spellman “Yes.” VOTE: 5-0-0

Ex. Director and Assistant Ex. Director were excused for the portion of the executive session dealing with retirement staff contracts.

(The minutes of the executive session are kept in a separate minute book and will be reviewed for disclosure at a future date)

OPEN session meeting returned at 10:50 a.m.

OPEN SESSION:

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by DelloRusso, it was unanimously

VOTED: to record the votes taken from executive session in the open session.

VOTE: 5-0-0

The Board voted to reinstate Atty. Michael Sacco for legal services effective at today’s meeting – April 29, 2026.

A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Member Bernier “Yes”; Member DelloRusso “No”, Member Fortes “Yes”, Member Smith “Yes”; Member Spellman “Yes.” VOTE: 4-1-0

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by DelloRusso, it was

VOTED: to finalize contracts for retirement staff at the May 27, 2026 regular meeting and to grant the following salary increases for all staff effective 01/01/2026:

Executive Director Paul Slivinski

On the motion by DelloRusso, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to grant Ex. Director Paul Slivinski a 3.5% raise.

VOTE: 5-0-0

A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Member Bernier “Yes”; Member DelloRusso “Yes”, Member Fortes “Yes”, Member Smith “Yes”; Member Spellman “Yes.”

Asst. Ex. Director Karen Medeiros

On the motion by DelloRusso, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously

VOTED: to grant Asst. Ex. Director Karen Medeiros a 3.5% raise.

VOTE: 5-0-0

A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Member Bernier “Yes”; Member DelloRusso “Yes”, Member Fortes “Yes”, Member Smith “Yes”; Member Spellman “Yes.”

Admin. Assistant Jessica Gonsalves

On the motion by DelloRusso, seconded by Bernier, it was

VOTED: to grant Jessica Gonsalves a 2.0% raise.

VOTE: 4-1-0 *motion passed*

A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Member Bernier “Yes”; Member DelloRusso “No”, Member Fortes “Yes”, Member Smith “Yes”; Member Spellman “Yes.”

Office Clerk Jana Tremblay

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Fortes, it was

VOTED: to grant Jana Tremblay a 2.0% raise.

VOTE: 3-2-0 *motion passed*

A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Member Bernier “Yes”; Member DelloRusso “No”, Member Fortes “Yes”, Member Smith “No”; Member Spellman “Yes.”

The Board met to review its regular business.

Regular Business:

Minutes – from the March 25, 2026 regular meeting and executive session and the April 1 & 8, 2026 special meetings.

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve March 25, 2026 regular meeting and executive session and April 1 & 8, 2026 special meetings’ minutes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Warrants – #25 thru #36 for 2026.

On the motion by DelloRusso, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the warrants.

VOTE: 5-0-0

New members of the system to date:

- Lucelia Botelho, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%
- Sheena Pennie, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%
- Danae Reaves- Bey Browne, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%
- Alyssa Borden, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%
- Nicole Silva, GATRA, Group 1, 9+2%
- Salvatore Imprescia, Fire Dept., Group 4, 9+2%
- Kyle Machado, Fire Dept. Group 4, 9+2%
- Rachael Booth, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%
- Emely Garcia, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%

- Riley Perry, Fire Dept., Group 4, 9+2%
- Mackenzie Lindeman, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%
- Brittini Mealy, Taunton Public Schools, Group 1, 9+2%
- Jahaira Perez, Taunton Public School, Group 1, 9+2%
- Markeisha Mitchell, Taunton Public School, Group 1, 9+2%

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Spellman, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the new members

VOTE: 5-0-0

Refunds/transfers subject to D.O.R. liens:

- Benedict Afolayan, Taunton Housing Authority, Refund, 01/12/2024 to 01/20/2026, 2 years
- Christian Tavares, Taunton Public School, Transfer to Bristol County Retirement System. Taunton dates: 02/27/2023 to 12/07/2023 - *Taunton will accept 9 months of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12 month basis.*
- Nicole Viveiros, Taunton Public School, Transfer to MTRS. Taunton dates: 01/11/2018 to 07/07/2021-08/22/2022 to 07/29/2025 - *Taunton will accept 6 Years 5 Months of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12 month basis.*
- Mary Heim, DPW, Transfer to Bristol County Retirement. Taunton dates: 04/09/2012 to 01/17/2026. *Taunton will accept 13 Years 9 Months of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12 month basis.*
- Jennifer Westgate, School, Transfer to Norfolk County Retirement System. Taunton dates 8/30/2017 to 10/21/2022. *Taunton will accept 5 Years 1 Month of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12 month basis.*
- Brooke Gonsalves, Taunton Public School, Transfer to MTRS eff. 8/25/2025. Taunton dates 11/20/2023 to 08/24/2025. *Taunton will accept 1 Years 9 Months of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12 month basis.*
- Jamie Bannon, Taunton Public School, Transfer to MTRS, Taunton dates 12/13/2023 to 06/21/2025. *Taunton will accept 1 Years 6 Months of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12 month basis.*
- Gilberto Sousa, GATRA, Refund, 6/21/2022 to 04/17/2026, 3 years 9 months.
- Ylonca Perez, THA, Refund, 2/25/2019 to 2/3/2026, 6 yrs., 11 mos.

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the Refunds & Transfers.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Retirement/survivorship applications:

- David Ingarciola, Building dept., Group 2, DOR: 6/27/26
- Rosemary Chaves, Park and Rec, Group 1, DOR: 7/8/26
- Roderick H. LaFrance, TMLP, Group 1, DOR: 3/27/26
- James J. Ritchie, School, Group 1, DOR: 7/3/26
- Steven L. Turner, Police, Group 4, DOR: 5/31/26, DRO in place

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the retirements/survivorships.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Deaths:

- Scott Souza, TMLP, Superannuation, Option B, DOD:3/23/2026, Overpayment due
- Frances Adams, Survivor Option D to Donald Adams, DPW, DOD 3/23/2026, Overpayment due
- Raymond Laine, Fire, Ordinary Disability, DOD: 3/26/26, Option C survivorship to Donna Laine.
- Gerald Cardelli, Police, Superannuation, Option B, DOD 3/26/26, Overpayment due

- Elizabeth McGovern, School, Superannuation, Option A, DOD 4/2/2026, No further benefits payable
- Elizabeth McGovern, Survivor to Everett McGovern, Sec. 101, No further benefits payable
- Joanne P. Rose, School, Superannuation, Option B, DOD: 4/17/26, No further benefits payable

On the motion by DelloRusso, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously

VOTED: to acknowledge deaths and place on file.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Board member DelloRusso will conduct a meeting with Assistant Director Medeiros and Treasurer-collector DeMoranville to discuss how or what can be done to retrieve or claw back overpayment of funds when a retiree is deceased.

Make-up/redeposits and liability for creditable service:

- Kyle Machado, (Fire Dept.) Veteran service credit – 4 years
- Riley Perry, (Fire Dept.) Veteran service credit – 4 years
- Laura Keyes, (School Dept.) p.t. prorated 2/19/05 to 6/21/08 - 2 years, 10 months, 14 days

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously

VOTED: to accept liability for creditable service upon completion of makeup payments.

VOTE: 5-0-0

PERAC Memo's and correspondence:

- PERAC Memo #14/2026 Mandatory Retirement Board Member Training-2nd Quarter 2026
- PERAC Memo #15/2026 Proposed Amendment to the Standard Rules for Disclosure of Information Regulations 840 CMR 6.00
- PERAC – amended travel regulation approval
- COLA Reform Language in the House Ways and Means FY27 Budget

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously

VOTED: to receive and place on file.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Investments & accounting:

- Accounting reports for m/e 02/28/2026–trial balance, cash receipts & disbursements, journal entries, and general ledger and Bristol County & IntraFi bank account statements and reconciliations for m/e 02/28/2026. After the board's full review of all reports, the Board voted as follows:

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the accounting reports & bank stmts/reconciliations for m/e 2/28/2026.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- Investment Purchases (\$13,089,633.49) & Sales (\$13,089,633.49) for m/e 02/28/2026 from M&T Bank/Wilmington Trust statements.

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve all purchases & sales for m/e 02/28/2026.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Funding & Budget requests:

- Budget expenditures and account balances as of m/e 03/31/2026.

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve expenditures and balances for m/e 03/31/2026.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Travel, Education & Conferences:

- The Board reviewed requests to attend the MACRS Spring Conference in Springfield, MA. – May 31-June 3, 2026
 - Edward J. Spellman, Jr.
 - Paul J. Slivinski

On the motion by DelloRusso, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the travel request for Edward J. Spellman, Jr. and Paul J. Slivinski

VOTE: 5-0-0

Legal matters:

- The Board reviewed legal expenses of \$28.50 for m/e 03/31/2026 for Atty. Michael Sacco. (*For services rendered before 03/25/2026*)
- Draft Domestic Relations Order (DRO) for retiree John S. Punda v. Maureen T. Punda

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Spellman, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the legal expenses rendered prior to 03/25/2025 and to approve the DRO for John S. Punda vs Maureen T. Punda.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Executive Director's report

- Police/Fire HIPPA form – to be on-boarded within the retirement office
- Update: Cbiz – 2025 audit – Cbiz conducting verification of legal issues & custodian bank
- PERAC audit pending – 2021 thru 2024
- Update: Gallagher experience study, actuarial valuation, and GASB 67/68 annual valuation
- Real Estate RFP – proposals due 05/22/2026 @ 12 noon. Screening of RFP's scheduled for the June regular meeting.
- Bi-annual Affidavits in process
- Employer training will be conducted for all HR depts. and payroll officers
- DocuSign update – PTG and need for a supplementary regulation.

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by DelloRusso, it was unanimously

VOTED: to have Atty. Sacco draft a supplementary regulation to file with PERAC to implement electronic signatures via DocuSign.

VOTE: 5-0-0

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by DelloRusso, it was unanimously

VOTED: to accept the Ex. Director's report and place on file.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Office Issues – there were none.

OLD BUSINESS: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

Member DelloRusso informed the Board that the city has been paying the insurance premium on behalf of the retirement board to cover the system for liability and equipment coverage and that the current portion is \$6,000/year.

On the motion by DelloRusso, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to add \$6,000 to the retirement expense budget to cover liability/equipment insurance coverage.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Member DelloRusso was excused at 11:15 a.m.

Next meeting was discussed for May 27, 2026. Member Spellman requested remote participation via Zoom meeting link.

Also, group & individual photos of the board members and staff were postponed to June 24, 2026 at 12 noon just before the regular meeting.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was voted to adjourn at 11:25 a.m.

APPROVED BOARD OF RETIREMENT

Edward J. Spellman, Jr., Appointed member

Thomas A. Bernier, Elected member

Patrick D. DelloRusso, Jr.,
Mayoral appointed member

Ian D. Fortes, Ex-officio member

Dennis M. Smith, Elected member/Chair

Paul J. Slivinski, Executive Director

Karen Medeiros
Assistant Executive Director