

**TUCSON AIRPORT AUTHORITY
Joint Fire and Police Public Safety Personnel Retirement System
Local Board Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 16, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. | TAA Board Room and Microsoft Teams**

THIS BOARD MEETING WAS HELD IN A HYBRID MANNER, WITH BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN THE TAA BOARD ROOM OR REMOTE VIA THE MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING PLATFORM. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE ABLE TO ATTEND IN PERSON. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO COMPLETED A REGISTRATION FORM RECEIVED A LINK TO VIEW THE MEETING VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS OR TO LISTEN IN BY PHONE.

1. CALL TO ORDER | ROLL CALL

Chair Ronstadt called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Board Members Present: Chair Jim Ronstadt, Vice Chair Taunya Villicaña, Board Member John Ivanoff, Board Member Scott Lackey (Fire), and Board Member Raymon Smith (Police)

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Board Attorney Andrew Apodaca, Esq. and Board Secretary Byron Jones

TAA Employees Present: Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer Bruce Goetz, Vice President of Operations Chris Deitz, Chief People Officer Kim DeLaTorre, and Deputy General Counsel Kim Outlaw Ryan

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Vice Chair Villicaña, seconded by Board Member Lackey, to approve the minutes of the Joint Police and Fire PSPRS Local Board Regular Meeting held on January 16, 2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

3. PRE-EXISTING CONDITION DETERMINATION(S)

Local Board Secretary Byron Jones stated that the three individuals below are the last group from the backlog of Pre-Existing Condition determinations that existed for the previous two years due to a misunderstanding between the Tucson Airport Authority (TAA) and the medical provider regarding the scope of the pre-employment physicals. He further stated that Police Officer Kenneth Carfagno and Police Officer Alexander Rios have separated from the TAA. To ensure the record is complete, it is necessary for the Board

to make the Pre-Existing Condition determinations before acknowledging their separations under Item 4. The TAA still employs Firefighter Nicolas Matlock.

	Employee	Position	Membership Approved
i.	Kenneth Carfagno	Police Officer	03/01/2022

Motion by Board Member Ivanoff, seconded by Vice Chair Villicaña, to declare two (2) pre-existing conditions for former TAA Police Officer Kenneth Carfagno as listed in the Pre-Existing Condition(s) Report in the Board packet. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

	Employee	Position	Membership Approved
ii.	Alexander Rios	Police Officer	06/07/2022

Motion by Board Member Ivanoff, seconded by Villicaña, to declare one (1) pre-existing condition for former TAA Police Officer Alexander Rios as listed in the Pre-Existing Condition(s) Report in the Board packet. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

	Employee	Position	Membership Approved
iii.	Nicolas Matlock	Firefighter	01/17/2023

Motion by Board Member Ivanoff, seconded by Board Member Lackey, to declare one (1) pre-existing condition for TAA Firefighter Nicolas Matlock as listed in the Pre-Existing Condition(s) Report in the Board packet. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

4. MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION(S)

	Employee	Position	Date of Separation
i.	Alexander Rios	Police Officer	09/26/2022
ii.	Kenneth Carfagno	Police Officer	11/29/2022
iii.	Cecia Gebben	Police Officer	06/20/2024

Motion by Board Member Ivanoff, seconded by Board Member Lackey, to terminate the PSPRS membership, at least with the Tucson Airport Authority, for Alexander Rios, Kenneth Carfagno, and Cecia Gebben, effective their dates of separations listed in the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

5. PSPRS MEMBERSHIP DETERMINATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY RECRUITS

Tucson Airport Authority (TAA) Chief People Officer Kim DeLaTorre presented. It has been more than a decade since TAA has hired police officers with no previous law-enforcement experience and sent them to the police academy. As TAA had no formal policy for this situation, the People Operations Department contacted local law-enforcement agencies and determined that none of these entities consider the PSPRS membership eligibility of recruits until they have completed training and obtain their AZPOST (Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board) certification.

Under the current practice, police officers are enrolled in the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) while they are in training and transfer into the PSPRS system once they are certified and begin working. TAA does not see a significant benefit at this time to change the current process, but the matter has been brought to the Board for it to make a policy decision on how to treat these matters in the future.

Board Member Lackey stated that this issue did not apply to firefighters as they already attend the fire academy before being hired.

There was no discussion by the Board.

Motion by Board Member Smith, seconded by Board Member Ivanoff, to adopt Resolution No. PSPRS 2024-01 adopting a policy to treat candidates in “training to become a certified police officer or firefighter” as members of PSPRS pursuant to the definition of employee contained in A.R.S. § 38-842(27). The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

6. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE PSPRS MODEL RULES

Local Board Attorney Andrew Apodaca had confidential legal advice to give to the Board and suggested that it enter into executive session.

Motion by Board Member Lackey, seconded by Board Member Ivanoff, to enter into executive session pursuant to [A.R.S. § 38-431.03\(A\)\(3\)](#). The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

Chair Ronstadt recessed the public session, and the Board entered into executive session at 8:12 a.m.

The Board adjourned from executive session at 8:45 a.m. Chair Ronstadt reconvened the public session at 8:46 a.m.

The Board reconsidered its adoption of Resolution No. PSPRS 2024-01 under Item No. 5. Mr. Apodaca clarified that if the Board’s intent was to retain the current practice of making membership determinations after recruits have completed training, are certified, and report for their first day of work, then the resolution needed to be recalled. Adopting the resolution had the effect of changing the policy to consider membership in the system from the date the recruits begin training.

Motion by Board Member Ivanoff, seconded by Vice Chair Villicaña, to RECALL the Board’s adoption of Resolution No. PSPRS 2024-01 adopting a policy to treat candidates in “training to become a certified police officer or firefighter” as members of PSPRS pursuant to the definition of employee contained in A.R.S. § 38-842(27). The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes (5) Ronstadt, Villicaña, Ivanoff, Lackey, and Smith

Nays (0)

Chair Ronstadt stated for the record that (as discussed in executive session), the first business item at the January 2025 board meeting will be to elect a new chair and vice chair.

Board Member Lackey stated for the record that in order to stagger the terms of the elected board members, the next election for the Fire Department representative will be for a two-year term rather than a four-year term. The Police Department representative will be elected for a four-year term.

7. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 8:00 a.m. | TAA Board Room and [Microsoft Teams](#)

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Ronstadt adjourned the meeting at 8:53 a.m.

APPROVED BY:

Prepared by:



James Ronstadt, Chair

Byron Jones, Local Board Secretary

Date: 10/16/24

Date: _____

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Ronstadt adjourned the meeting at 8:53 a.m.

APPROVED BY:

James Ronstadt, Chair

Date: _____

Prepared by:



Byron Jones, Local Board Secretary

Date: October 17, 2024