

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING
FOR THE CORRECTIONS OFFICER RETIREMENT PLAN LOCAL BOARD
FOR THE SUPERIOR COURT**

A public meeting of the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan Local Board for the Superior Court was convened, Thursday, March 1, 2007, at 2:00 p.m., in Conference Room 230, Arizona Supreme Court, 1501 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona.

Board Members and Administrative Staff Present:

Jim Bruner, Chair	Lu McLendon, Board Secretary
Phil Hanley, Board Member	Michael Anthony, Attorney
Kevin Kluge, Board Member	

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Staff Present:

Niki O’Keeffe
Kim Cantoni
Fred Santesteban

Guests Present:

Mike Goss

Call To Order

Jim Bruner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m., at the Arizona Supreme Court Building, 1501 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona, Thursday, March 1, 2007.

Approval of Minutes

The Chair called for any corrections or additions to the minutes from the February 8, 2007, meeting of the CORP Local Board for the Superior Court. There were no corrections or additions and the minutes stand approved.

Legislation – Jim Hacking, Administrator, Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (CORP), provided a brief update on the status on current legislation affecting the retirement plan.

HB 2142 – This Bill proposes to make available a non-work related disability option to probation, surveillance and juvenile detention officers participating in CORP. Specifically, if adopted, this bill will grant disability protection to members who become disabled as a result of a non-work related disability or condition. This bill has been approved by the House Committee on Public Institutions and Retirement and is awaiting final action in the House.

HB 2269 & SB 1308 – Of specific interest to the probation, surveillance and juvenile detention officers, the provision contained in both of these Bills to allow

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future service associated with a PDA to, periodically, be transferred from ASRS to CORP in the full amount and that any deficiency associated with the transfer will be the responsibility of the employer.

Timeframe and procedures for accepting Retirement Applications (taken out of order)

Jim Hacking addressed the issue of timeframe and procedure for the acceptance of retirement applications, by the Local Board, after the transfer date. ASRS, is requesting a time period of 60 days in which to transfer account balances totaling over 100 million dollars, from ASRS to CORP. Jim stated that the Fund Manager's office will need time to set up member accounts and credit the money. He estimates that this will take approximately 90 days after the transfer before retirement applications will be processed and will result in an individual being without a monthly income. It is recommended that the Board communicate this information to the potential members so that they will not have the expectation of retiring on or directly after the transfer date and receiving a monthly pension. The Chair posed the question as to whether the Board had the authority to delay an individual's retirement. It was explained, while there is a potential for a member to terminate employment and submit an application to retire on or about the transfer date, the Fund Manager's office will not be able to process the retirement for 90 days and that an individual may not start receiving benefits up to 120 days after a retirement date of July 1, 2007. However, once the pension commences, the benefits would be retroactive back to the initial retirement date. The Chair called for a legal opinion regarding the Board adopting the process of accepting retirement application on the date of transfer. Michael Anthony stated, retirement procedures are already in place pursuant to statutes, therefore, the Board would only need to advise potential candidates, legally, on July 1, 2007, a member of CORP who meet the eligibility requirements may submit an application for retirement effective July 1, 2007. However, the money for payment of benefits would not be available for 90 to 120 days after the date of transfer.

Additionally, the Board Secretary requests the Board adopt a timeframe for accepting applications, after the initial 90 to 120 day time period, which would allow for processing applications and payment of the pension benefit in a timely manner. Kevin Kluge recommended that the Board adopt the procedure for accepting applications, after the initial transfer period, of requiring applications to be submitted 45 days prior to the date of retirement and that this requirement be included in the Board procedures.

Medical Exams

Lu McLendon, Board Secretary provided a brief status report on the Medical Exam process. A formal proposal has been received from CONCENTRA and a work order for services has been prepared by AOC procurement and submitted to Legal Services for review.

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LTD Disclaimer Revision

Subsequent to the approval of the LTD language document at the February 8, 2007, Board meeting, a request for revision of the third paragraph of the document was received by the attorney for the Local Board. The requested changes have been made and a revised LTD language document, reflecting the requested changes is being submitted for Board approval.

MOTION: A motion to approve draft two of the LTD language document as submitted by Michael Anthony was made by the Chair.
Motion seconded and passed unanimously. CORP 2007-06.

Satellite Broadcast

The Board was briefed on the upcoming satellite broadcast to be conducted by the AOC. The broadcast is designed as an educational format to distribute educational information to the field regarding the pros and cons of transferring for ASRS to CORP, April 18, 2007 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The Board Secretary, Lu McLendon and Fred Santesteban, Juvenile Justice Services will be coordinating the broadcast. The program will consist of a panel of experts from ASRS and CORP, the Board Secretary, and legal counsel for the Local Board, Michael Anthony. A video tape will be made available approximately a week after the broadcast and a brief synopsis of answers to the questions covered will be posted on the CORP website.

Board Member Election (taken out of order)

The Board Secretary reported, with the assistance of the Juvenile Justice Services Division, procedures to conduct an election for the two remaining board members are being researched. It has been suggested that the election take place electronically. However, there are two phases to conducting the election, the nomination phase and the voting phase. It has not been determined, at this point, if there are software programs available to handle both of these phases. Phil Hanley advised the Board that the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services has a computerized and voting system, in place, used to conduct anonymous elections in multiple locations throughout the State and suggested the Board might be able to obtain some assistance from this service in conducting the Board election. Phil will make the necessary contacts to see if this system could be made available for use in conducting the board elections and report back his findings. Using the technology and resources available, Lu and Fred will work on developing a proposal of ways in which the nomination and election process can be done and presented to the Board at a later date.

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Draft Board Procedures (taken out of order)

At the February 8, 2007, meeting a recommendation to adopt the procedure to allow a member to appear via conference call was brought before the Local Board for consideration. A copy of the section of the Open Meeting Law which specifically relates to this provision was reviewed by the Board. The Open Meeting Law stipulates that a public body may have members participate by telephone conference with the approval of the public body. Phil Hanley recommended that the Chair provide direction to the Board Attorney to review and identify all the rules that he feels should be adopted by the Board that are not part of Statutes and submit a list of these rules to the Board at the next meeting for action. Chair, directed that this be an agenda item for the meeting next month.

Call to Public

Chair made a call to the public: Present Mike Goss, Member of the public, Mike Goss, Deputy Chief, Maricopa County Adult Probation.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2007, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting for May 3, 2007, is rescheduled for May 10, 2007, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned 3:05 p.m.