

Lawrence Retirement Board Meeting Minutes

May 27th, 2025 at 8:30 am

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am.

Members Cockroft, Ceballos, Wilson, and Ruiz were present. Member Wright was absent. Attorney Michael Sacco was present.

Executive Session: None

New Business:

Diane Cockroft made a motion to take Milton Figueroa out of order. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

An Involuntary Superannuation application has been submitted from LHA Executive Director, Efrain Rolon on behalf of **Milton Figueroa**. Mr. Figueroa is a 76 year-old Maintenance Aide with 38 years and 10 months of creditable service with the Lawrence Housing Authority. Director Rolon and Deputy Director of Maintenance, AJ Miller were present from the Housing Authority along with their legal counsel. Milton Figueroa was invited but did not attend.

Michael Sacco stated that the Housing Authority has put before the board a valid application for Involuntary Superannuation that does not violate any laws and since Mr. Figueroa did not appeal after being served, the board has the authority to retire him.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to retire Milton Figueroa under an involuntary superannuation. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Retired Fire Chief, Brian Moriarty – Contract Review – Regular Compensation –Mayoral Senior Advisor Octavien Spanner was present. Brian Moriarty and Mayor DePena were invited but did not attend.

Attorney Sacco welcomed Mr. Spanner and thanked him for coming. He asked Mr. spanner for some background on how Chief Moriarty's new contract came about.

Mr. Spanner stated that the Chief had a five-year contract that never went before the City Council. He had been asking for years for his contract to be increased to match the Police Chiefs contract. The Mayor was undecided. I did advocate for him. He asked for a deal and the mayor finally agreed. We asked the City Attorney to review the contract and to make sure he understood how the contract would affect his benefits. We sent him a letter and he said he would be retiring.

Attorney Sacco asked if the administration knew he would be retiring before the deal was made.

Mr. Spanner said yes, that retiring was a condition of the contract and that he had that in writing.

Attorney Sacco asked Mr. Spanner if he would mind sharing that document?

Mr. Spanner said he would email it to the board.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to not recognize the final increase in pay as regular compensation for Brian Moriarty since it violates the Chapter 32 definition of regular compensation. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

An application for superannuation has been received from **Susan Mansour** a 68-year old LPS Paraprofessional with 22 years of service. If approved, member will retire on June 27th, 2025, under an annual Option A allowance in the approximate amount of \$ 24,399.36.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the superannuation retirement of Susan Mansour. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

An application for superannuation has been received from **Kathleen Mulry** a 62-year old GLTHS, Special Education Specialist with 23 years and 5 months of service. If approved, member will retire on June 27th, 2025, under an annual Option B allowance in the approximate amount of \$ 43,494.84

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the superannuation retirement of Kathleen Mulry. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

An application for superannuation has been received from **Mario Torres** a 62-year old LPS Facilities Manager with 23 years and 8 months of service. If approved, member will retire on May 15th, 2025, under an annual Option C allowance in the approximate amount of \$ 37,961.64.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the superannuation retirement of Mario Torres. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

An application for superannuation has been received from **Eileen Castle** an 81-year old LPS Clerk with 35 years and 9 months of service. If approved, member will retire on June 30th, 2025, under an annual Option B allowance in the approximate amount of \$ 53,406.24.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the superannuation retirement of Eileen Castle. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

An application for superannuation has been received from **Amal Azzi** an 59-year old LPS Paraprofessional with 11 years and 9 months of service. If approved, member will retire on July 9th, 2025, under an annual Option C allowance in the approximate amount of \$ 4,910.40.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the superannuation retirement of Amal Azzi. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

LHA Administrative Assistant, **Stephen McGuire** would like to purchase his prior part time LHA service. If approved member would be entitled to 10 months (prorated) creditable service for

time worked from 05/03/2024-03/28/2025. The cost to purchase is \$8,437.33. Payroll records were obtained via the LHA.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the make-up payment of Stephen McGuire. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Pitney Bowes postage machine – current lease expires 6/30/2025

Executive Director Rizzo shared two proposals with the board. One from our current vendor Pitney Bowes and the other from Quadient. Our current machine is no longer accepted by the post office and has been discontinued. We were granted an extension to continue use until our contract expired. Both vendors are offering similar components and a 60-month lease. Both proposals are roughly the same amount. Both Contracts will increase the payment approximately \$29 per month. The only issue would be transferring our funds that are currently on the Pitney Bowes machine. If the board goes with Quadient, we would need to get a reimbursement from Pitney Bowes.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the new 60-month postage machine contract with Pitney Bowes. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

GASB 67/68 Disclosures as of 12/31/2024

Executive Director Rizzo had previously shared the new GASB 67/68 Report as of 12/31/2024 submitted by KMS Actuaries.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to accept the GASB 67/68 Disclosure report as of 12/31/2024. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Staff annual salary review for FY 2026

Diane Cockroft made a motion grant a 3% raise to the board staff effective 7/1/2025. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Lawrence Retirement Board FY26 Office Budget – Submitted by staff member Christine Bryant

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the FY26 Office Budget as submitted with the addition of the upcoming staff increase effective 7/1/2025. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Items on appeal:

Ianello – DALA appeal

Bradley – CRAB appeal

Coughlin - CRAB appeal

Wood – CRAB appeal

Bistany – CRAB appeal

Olivero-Oviedo – DALA appeal

New Members:

Name Group	UNIT	Dept or Position	
McGuire, Stephen	LHA	Electrician	1
Brito, Ana	SCH	Para	1
Checo De Castro, Juliana	SCH	Para	1
Stornaiuolo, Meagan	SCH	Para	1
		Data Enrollment Specialist (Adult Learning	
Gabriel de Cruz, Thania	SCH	Center)	1
Ortega Reyes, Esperanza	SCH	Custodian	1
Ramos, Kendrix	SCH	Para	1
Caraballo, Giovana	SCH	Para	1
Roque, Erika	SCH	Para	1
Mercedes Ramirez, Edis	SCH	Custodian	1
Then, Alberto	SCH	Custodian	1
Rosario, Kimberly	SCH	Para	1
Fermin, Edison	SCH	IT Specialist	1
Polanco, Eladio	SCH	Custodian	1
Mirabal, Leonardo	SCH	52 Week Clerk	1
Fernandez, Michael	SCH	Para	1
Burgos, Ninotchka	SCH	Assistant Director of Nutrition Services	1
Concepcion Fermin, Ingris	SCH	Para	1
Garcia, Jasmine	SCH	Work Based Manager	1
Cadet, Kareem	SCH	Para	1
Gonzalez, Jarhony	SCH	Director of Strategic Planning	1
O'Loughlin, Brianna	SCH	Para	1
Alba, Huascar	SCH	Para	1
Kallin, Jessica	SCH	Director of Grants	1
Rodriguez Santos, Dayanara	SCH	Certified Spanish Language Interpreter	1
Nunez Yes, Kastiurca	SCH	Custodian	1
		Director of Recruitment & Human Capital	
Cutler, Adam	SCH	Development	1
Peguero, Stephanie	SCH	52 Week Clerk	1
Martinez, Yngri	SCH	Café Worker	1
Rosa Paez, Exilda	SCH	Para	1
Mella D Amato, Mayra	SCH	52 week clerk	1
Jimenez, Rafael	SCH	Custodian	1
Abdoo, Michael	POL	Police Recruit	4
Gonzalez Tejeda, Johandy	POL	Police Recruit	4
Farquharson, Andre	POL	Police Recruit	4
Flores, Justin	POL	Police Recruit	4
Volquez, Jordany	POL	Police Recruit	4
Mancialemus, Milton	POL	Police Recruit	4
Cruz, Ariel	POL	Police Recruit	4

Perez, Cristhian

POL

Police Recruit

4

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the new members as submitted. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Refunds: * = Rollover

Elizabeth Cruz	SCH	Cafeteria Worker	\$2,849.36
Pedro Soto	CTY	Director of Planning	\$38,314.28 *
Jeremy Paredes	SCH	Cafeteria Worker	\$3,362.88
Victor Betances	CTY	Health, Safety and Equality	\$14,288.35
Kathleen Maldonado	SCH	Crossing Guard	\$2,277.43
Stephen Howe	SCH	JROTC Instructor	\$53,691.62 *
Emmanuel Ramirez	SCH	Clerk	\$2,358.94
Cassandra Monteiro	SCH	BCBA	\$11,819.68 *

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the refunds as submitted. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Monthly Expenses:

Warrant # 5	Voucher # 133-56	\$ 395,468.45
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Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the monthly expenses as submitted. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Monthly pension payroll for May 30, 2025	\$ 2,611,527.70
Voids	\$ -3,664.20
Retiree End Checks	\$ 13,487.19

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the monthly pension payroll, voids and end checks as submitted. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

PRIT Wire redemption

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the PRIT wire redemption as submitted. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

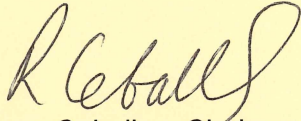
The April 27th, 2025 retirement board minutes and executive session minutes as submitted.

Diane Cockroft made a motion to approve the retirement board minutes and executive session minutes as submitted. Motion was seconded by Robert Wilson. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0

Copies of bank statements, cashbooks investment reports and recent PERAC Memos are available for review. Warrants and vouchers are present for approval and review.

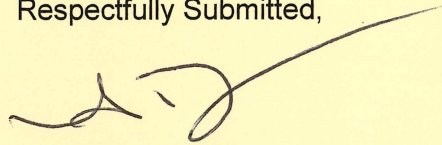
Next meeting will be Thursday, June 26th, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Being no further business, Diane Cockroft made a motion to adjourn at 9:38 AM. Motion was seconded by Pascual Ruiz. Motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.



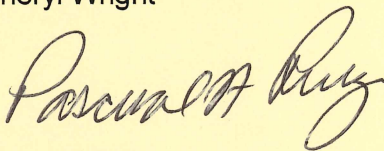
Ramona Ceballos, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,

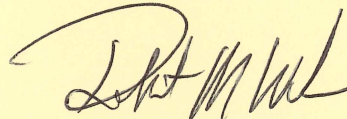


Gina Rizzo, Executive Director

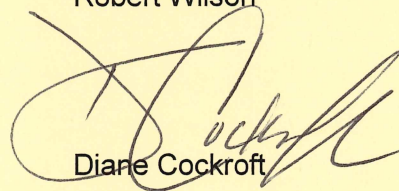
Sheryl Wright



Pascual Ruiz



Robert Wilson



Diane Cockroft