

Fire Fighters & Law Enforcement Advisory Committee Meeting



**August 25, 2021
8:30 am to 10:00 am**

MICROSOFT TEAMS Meeting/Dial Conference Number 207-209-4724 ID# 247238531# PIN35140

Committee members in attendance: Ronnie Green, Daniel Felkel, John Martell, Paul Gaspar, Joan Hanscom, Employee Health & Wellness, Chief Richard Caton

Committee members absent: Chief Phillip Hamm, Shonna Poulin-Gutierrez, Employee Health & Wellness

Others present: Kurt Caswell, Employee Health & Wellness, Erica Brown, Employee Health & Wellness

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Next Steps
I. Call to Order (8:34am)	Kurt Caswell called the meeting to order	
II. Approval of Meeting Minutes	Meeting minutes from July 28, 2021 were reviewed.	Ronnie Green made a motion to accept the July 28, 2021 meeting minutes. Seconded by John Martell. Motion approved.
III. Legislation Update	None	
IV. Financial Reports	None	
V. Membership Update	None	
VI. Updates	Kurt Caswell proceeded to explain that the Common Language Rules will provide guidance for the eligibility rules and administration policies of the FF-LEO Program once they are finalized. Resuming with the “Eligibility Section for the Health Insurance Subsidy” discussion ensued surrounding the different retirement plans available to the Municipalities and whether it was necessary to adjust the 25-year rule to be lowered to accommodate 20-year plans. The statute clearly states 25 years. However, it was	

	<p>determined that if they meet the requirements of their qualified plan this should meet the statute requirements. Most Defined Contribution plans have an age element as well as years requirement. Spouse and/or domestic partner language will be added to the document. Kurt will make the necessary revisions to the Common Rules document to be reviewed at the September meeting. Joan Hanscom presented the Retiree health plan options. A detailed discussion took place regarding enrollment in spouse's plan or another employer sponsored group health plan as an active employee. Annual confirmation of the reimbursable premium rates will be required on spousal reimbursements. A revised document will be supplied with all the edits at the next meeting. Kurt and Joan reviewed the outline of the Retiree Subsidy Options. Joan explained the Retiree Scenarios document was a rough draft and a starting point for conversations regarding the different types of questions she is receiving. Regarding the question of access to the State of Maine retiree plan when a retiree hasn't been on the State of Maine's plan or wants to come to the State of Maine's plan, Kurt indicated that further discussion is necessary possibly with the Attorney General's office to make sure the program is in compliance with section 285. Ronnie Green voiced that the Committee wants to be involved in any discussions with the Attorney General's office regarding the FF-LEO program. Kurt will send information to the Committee members regarding section 285 so it can be reviewed to see if further legislation would be required to be in compliance.</p>	
<p>a. Appeals</p>	<p>Joan Hanscom explained that Shonna Poulin-Gutierrez reached out to the Town Manager of Freeport and discussed the agreement that the Appeal Committee offered to the appellant.</p>	

	Shonna will provide an update at the next meeting.	
V11. New Business:	Paul Gasper/Ronnie Green brought up an issue regarding a couple City of Portland retirees turning 65. They had questions regarding the information regarding the process of when FF-LEO retirees turn 65. Joan Hanscom provided clarification regarding the age-in 65 process. Joan explained that the subsidy stops at age 65 but they can enroll in the State of Maine's Aetna Medicare Advantage plan without the subsidy. The retiree must respond yes or no if they want the State of Maine's over 65 retiree coverage.	
V11. Other Business:	If any new legislation is needed Ronnie Green wants to make sure it is discussed at the September 15 th meeting. Closure date for submitting new legislation is September 24 th .	
V11II. Adjourn Meeting (9:58 am)	Next meeting 9.15.2021 @ 8:00 to 9:30 am PLEASE NOTE: DIFFERENT START TIME	Motion to adjourn made by Chief Richard Caton and seconded by John Martell. Motion Approved.

JH 9.8.2021