

MINUTES OF THE DISABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

March 9, 2007

A meeting of the Disability Sub-Committee of the Rhode Island Retirement Board (hereinafter "Committee") was held on March 9, 2007 in the Board Room of the Employees' Retirement System, 40 Fountain Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

The following Committee members were present: Michael Boyce, William Finelli, Daniel Beardsley, Mark Dingley and Susan Rodriguez.

Also in attendance were: William O'Gara, General Counsel; Dr. Christopher Ley (left at 11:45), Medical Advisor; Steven Lamb, Arne Perry, and Frank Karpinski, Employees' Retirement System.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Recognizing a quorum, Chairperson William Finelli called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A draft of the minutes of the January 30, 2007 and February 9, 2007 meetings were mailed to the Committee members for review prior to the meeting. Mr. Boyce advised Mr. Perry that for the February 9, 2007 minutes he did not vote to deny the request of George Barrett for an accidental disability. The meeting minutes now reflect this change.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the meeting of
January 30, 2007.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the meeting of February
9, 2007.

The following applications were presented for consideration:

3. ORDINARY DISABILITY

Frank Fiore, Jr. A 57 year old correctional officer with the
Department of Correctons for 9 years and 5 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Beardsley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **approve**
the application for an ordinary disability retirement.

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Robert Hennessey A 50 year old building inspector with the Town of
North Providence for 15 years and 1 month.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, it was: unanimously

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **approve**
the application for an ordinary disability retirement.

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Diana Hudson A 54 year old attendant with the Eleanor Slater
Hospital for 13 years and 10 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **approve**
the application for an ordinary disability retirement.

Mr. Dingley also asked Mr. Perry to be more specific with facts and names on the Statement of Facts in order to better document comments and who they are attributable to. Mr. Perry agreed to do so beginning with the April 2007 meeting.

Ms. Rodriguez also requested that doctors place their findings on the forms. Mr. O’Gara told the Sub-Committee that a new physicians form is being developed that will address this concern.

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Richard Johnson A 50 year old assistant with the Narragansett Bay Commission for 14 years and 5 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by one physician engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **approve** the application for an ordinary disability retirement.

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Ellen Smith A 54 year old teacher with the Burrillville School Department for 15 years and 9 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **approve** the application for an ordinary disability retirement.

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Russell Walch A 60 year old senior cook at the Rhode Island Training School for 7 years and 1 month.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical report submitted by one physician engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Beardsley, it was:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **approve** the application for an ordinary disability retirement.

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4. Accidental Disability

Caleb George

A 43 year old detective with the South Kingstown Police Department for 17 years and 2 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED:

To recommend (4-1) that the Retirement Board **deny** the application for an accidental disability retirement as the documentation and medical reports submitted do not support an accidental disability.

The following voted yea: Dingley, Beardsley, Rodriguez and Finelli. Those who voted nea: Boyce.

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Helen Swallow

A 57 year old aide with the MHRH for 17 years and 5 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Boyce, it was:

VOTED:

To recommend that the Retirement Board **deny** the application for an accidental disability retirement as the documentation and medical reports submitted do not support an accidental disability.

Lynn Vinacco A 53 year old chief clerk with the Department of
Elderly Affaires for 24 years and 1 month.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Ms. Rodriguez and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **table**
the application for an accidental disability
retirement as the Sub-Committee has requested
further documentation and physician medical
reports and notes from the initial surgery to the date
of the injury.

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Reconsideration

Alan Barth A 45 year old correctional officer for the
Department of Corrections for 4 years.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Boyce, it was:

VOTED: To **table** the application for an accidental disability
retirement, and review the medical records received
from the attending physician and employer.

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Joyce D’Orsi A 62 year old senior word processor with the DCYF
for 13 years and 3 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, it was:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **deny** (3-2) the application for an accidental disability retirement as the documentation and medical records submitted do not support an accidental disability. The following voted yea: Dingley, Rodriguez and Beardsley. The following voted nea: Boyce and Finelli.

Lucille Desjardins A 60 year old nurse assistant with the Eleanor Slater Hospital for 5 years and 7 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was:

VOTED: To **table** the application for an accidental disability retirement pending the receipt of injury reports from Garden City Medical Center, and a more detailed discharge summary from your Woonsocket Hospital February 1, 2003 admission.

Dennis Kraus A 58-year-old Special Education Teacher with the Providence School Department for 1 year and 3 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by the three physicians engaged by the Retirement System and additional medical reports and a motion duly made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Beardsley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To **approve** the application for an accidental disability retirement

Ellen Riccardi

A 52 year old teacher with the Providence School Department for 19 years and 9 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by three physicians engaged by the retirement system and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Beardsley, it was:

VOTED: To **approve** the application for an accidental disability.

4. NEW BUSINESS

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 11.52 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Arne C. Perry