

MINUTES OF THE DISABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE
OF THE
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

March 6, 2009

A meeting of the Disability Sub-Committee of the Rhode Island Retirement Board (hereinafter "Committee") was held on March 6, 2009 in the Board Room of the Employees' Retirement System, 40 Fountain Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

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

Also in attendance were: Michael Robinson, General Counsel; Dr. Christopher Ley, Medical Advisor, Gloria Bernstein, Arne Perry, Gayle Mambro-Martin, Alison Natale 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 February 6, 2009 meeting were mailed to the Committee members for review prior to the meeting, and

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

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the meeting of February 6,
2009

The following applications were then presented for consideration:

3. RECONSIDERATION -ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY

1. Mildred Grieve A 55 year old, teacher assistant, with Bristol Warren Public Schools, for 4 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. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Beardsley, it was:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Deny** the application for an accidental disability retirement by a vote of 3 – 2 with Mr. Boyce and Mr. Finelli voting nay.

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2. John LaPlume A 42 year old correctional officer with the State Department of Corrections for 14 years and 3 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 unanimously:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Table** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

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3. Sylvia Sampson A 64 year old community living aide with MHRH for 23 years and 11 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. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Table** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

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4. Rachel Dumas A 59 year old custodian with Woonsocket Education Department for 17 years and 3 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 recommend that the Retirement Board **Deny** the application for an accidental disability retirement by a vote of 4 – 1 with Mr. Boyce voting nay.

5. Janice Connelly A 59 year old probation officer at the Department of Corrections for 19 years and 4 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 recommend that the Retirement Board **Deny** the application for an accidental disability retirement by a vote of 4 – 1 with Mr. Boyce voting nay.

6. Mary Ellen Malone A 64 year old teacher with Pawtucket School System for 26 years and 4 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 unanimously:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Deny** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

7. Carmela Coppa A 62 year old custodian with Cranston School Department for 15 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. Boyce, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Table** the application for an accidental disability retirement and for member to come in to answer questions of the Sub-Committee.

4. RECONSIDERATION - ORDINARY DISABILITY

8. Hilda Durango A 60 year old municipal crossing guard with Pawtucket City Hall for 8 years and 4 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 unanimously:

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

9. Richard Delbonis A 55 year old municipal firefighter with Cranston Fire Department for 27 years and 0 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 Ms. Rodriguez, it was unanimously:

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

5. ACCIDENTAL - New

10. Michael Andrescavage A 52 year old municipal driver/laborer with the Town of Smithfield for 12 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. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Boyce, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Table** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

11. Christopher Shiels A 39 year old municipal patrolman with Burrieville Police Department for 14 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. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Boyce, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Table** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

12. David Bradley A 32 year old municipal truck driver with the City of East Providence for 6 years and 6 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. Dingley and seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To recommend that the Retirement Board **Deny** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

6. ORDINARY – New

13. Janice Marcello A 60 year old teacher for the Robertson Elementary School for 17 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. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Beardsley it was unanimously:

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

14. Valerie MacKenzie A 60 year old respiratory therapist with Eleanor Slater Hospital for 6 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. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Dingley, it was unanimously:

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

7. HEARINGS ACCIDENTAL/ORDINARY

15. Pauline Richard

A 63 year old certified nurse assistant with the State Veterans Home for 9 years and 11 months.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Beardsley, it was unanimously voted to recommend that the Retirement Board uphold its previous decision to **Table** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

16. Theodore DeWolf

A 40 year old correctional officer with the State Department of Corrections for 16 years and 11 months.

It was noted that this matter was not properly before the Disability Sub-Committee, as it should have been forwarded to the full Retirement Board based upon the applicant's requested appeal from the November 7, 2008 reconsideration hearing held before the Disability Sub-Committee. After noting this procedural correction for the record, Mr. Dingley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Beardsley, to forward this matter to the full Retirement Board. This motion passed unanimously. Counsel for the applicant noted that he had no objection to the matter being placed on the Retirement Board's agenda for March 11, 2009.

17. Sandra Ellis

A 61 year old teacher aide with Cranston Public Schools for 1 year and 3 months.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Beardsley, it was unanimously voted to recommend that the Retirement Board **Approve** the application for an accidental disability retirement.

8. NEW BUSINESS

18. IMR Monthly Response Tracking for 2008 Was handed out

19. Sal Lombardi accident report summary – Was not heard

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Sub-Committee, and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, it was unanimously:

To adjourn the meeting at 12:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Arne C. Perry
ACP:gsb

March 11, 2009