

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

February 4, 2011

A meeting of the Disability Subcommittee of the Rhode Island Retirement Board (hereinafter "Committee") was held on February 4, 2011 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; Daniel Beardsley; Susan Knorr Rodriguez; and Gayle Mambro-Martin (present on behalf of Mark Dingley).

The following individuals were also in attendance: Michael Robinson, General Counsel; Dr. Christopher Ley, Medical Advisor; Diane Bourne; Melissa Malone and Frank Karpinski (Employees' Retirement System).

CALL TO ORDER

Recognizing a quorum, Chairperson William Finelli called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

A draft of the January 7, 2011 meeting minutes were mailed to the Committee members for review prior to today.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Ms. Mambro-Martin it was:

VOTED To approve the meeting minutes of January 7, 2011.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Ms. Mambro Martin it was:

VOTED To approve the agenda and deliberate upon applications for disability out of sequence to accommodate members and interested parties present.

The following disability applications were then presented and deliberated upon by the Committee.

MATTER PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED

Martin Cappelli, Jr. A 36 year old municipal patrol sergeant with the City of Cranston for 11 years and 4 months.

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

VOTED To recommend that the Retirement Board **Approve** the application for an accidental disability.

ORDINARY DISABILITY

Edward Young A 46 year old state correctional office with the Department of Corrections for 23 years and 7 months.

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

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

MATTER PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED

Aric Gabrielson A 42 year old municipal firefighter with the City of Cranston for 16 years and 6 months.

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

VOTED To **Postpone** a decision on the application for an accidental disability retirement pending further documentation.

HEARING ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY

Edward Whalen

A 51 year old municipal firefighter with the Barrington Fire District for 21 years and 9 months.

Following Attorney William Conley, Jr.'s presentation and Mr. Whalen's testimony upon a motion made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Beardsley it was:

VOTED

To recommend that the Retirement Board overturn its previous decision and **Approve** Mr. Whalen's application for accidental disability retirement.

ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY

Scott Wright

A 40 year old municipal firefighter with the Cranston Fire Department for 12 years and 9 months.

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

VOTED

To **Postpone** a decision on the application for an accidental disability retirement pending further documentation.

MATTERS PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED

Louise Lovering

A 47 year old state certified nursing assistant with RI Veterans Home for 2 years and 7 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by three physicians retained 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** the application for an accidental disability retirement. Mr. Boyce voting Nay.

Dianne Brien

A 46 year old state, community living aide with MHRH for 5 years and 10 months. **Deceased**

VOTED

To recommend that the Retirement Board move to accept legal counsel's recommendation to refer this

matter to the Executive Director for an administrative decision.

ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY

Lynus Berube, Jr. A 56 year old state semi-skilled laborer with Rhode Island College for 26 years and 2 months.

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

VOTED To **Postpone** a decision on the application for an accidental disability retirement pending further documentation.

Janice Evans A 57 year old state housekeeper with Rhode Island College for 15 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 Ms. Rodriguez and seconded by Ms. Mambro-Martin it was:

VOTED To **Postpone** a decision on the application for an accidental disability retirement pending further documentation. Mr. Boyce not present for vote.

Rosemary L'Heureux A 47 year old state certified nursing assistant with MHRH/Eleanor Slater Hospital for 1 year and 8 months.

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

VOTED To recommend that the Retirement Board **Approve** the application for an accidental disability retirement for 50% of Ms. L'Heureux's compensation as of the date of her retirement pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws § 36-16-15(b).

Louise Pearson A 56 year old state cook with Rhode Island College for 19 years and 5 months.

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

VOTED

To **Postpone** a decision on the application for an accidental disability retirement pending further documentation.

Stephen Tufts

A 55 year old state correctional officer with the Department of Corrections for 28 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. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Boyce it was:

VOTED

To recommend that the Retirement Board **Approve** the application for an accidental disability retirement for 50% of Mr. Tufts' compensation as of the date of his retirement pursuant to Rhode Island General Law § 36-16-15 (b).

ORDINARY DISABILITY

Joseph Burrell

A 56 year old state bridge maintenance worker with the Department of Transportation for 10 years and 10 months.

After reviewing the application, supporting documentation, the medical reports submitted by three physicians retained 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 **Approve** the application for an ordinary disability retirement.

Post Retirement Review

James Leduc

A motion was made by Mr. Boyce and seconded by Mr. Beardsley to accept the report into the Administrative Record. Unanimously approved.

Jerry Prete

A motion was made by Mr. Boyce and Mr. Beardsley to accept the report into Administrative Record. Unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Subcommittee, and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Melissa A. Malone
MAM:gsb

February 25, 2011