

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

**July 8, 2011**

A meeting of the Disability Subcommittee of the Rhode Island Retirement Board (hereinafter "Committee") was held on July 8, 2011 in the Board Room of the Employees' Retirement System, 40 Fountain Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

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

Also in attendance were: Michael Robinson, General Counsel; Dr. Christopher Ley, Medical Advisor; Melissa Malone and Frank Karpinski, Employees' Retirement System.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Recognizing a quorum, Chairperson William Finelli called the meeting to order at 9:06 A.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA**

A draft of the June 3, 2011 meeting minutes was mailed to the Committee members for review, and Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Dingley and seconded by Mr. Boyce, it was:

**VOTED**                      To approve the meeting minutes of June 3, 2011.

The following applications were then presented for consideration:

**RECONSIDERATION HEARING**

**William Kluth**

A 57 year old municipal worker with the city of Newport with 27 years and 9 months of service credit.

Following the reconsideration hearing and upon a motion duly made by Mr. Beardsley and seconded by Mr. Dingley:

**VOTED:** To **Postpone** the determination regarding Mr. Kluth's reconsideration request related to his application for an accidental disability pension.

**MATTERS PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED**

**Jennifer Csizmesia**

A 45 year old municipal water division meter reader and repairman/shopman with the city of Woonsocket with 9 years and 4 months of service credit.

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

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

**Scott Wright**

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

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

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

**Aric Gabrielson**

A 42 year old municipal firefighter with the City of Cranston with 16 years and 6 months of service credit.

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

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

**Carson Orellana Jr.** A 32 year old municipal patrol officer with Smithfield Police Department with 5 years and 7 months of service credit.

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

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

**Louise Pearson** A 56 year old state cook at Rhode Island College with 19 years and 5 months of service credit.

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

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

**Joanne Palazzo** A 52 year old municipal teacher's aide with Central Falls School Department with 1 year 10 months of service credit.

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

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

### **ORDINARY DISABILITY**

**Susan Patrarca** A 53 year old teacher with West Warwick School Department for 21 years.

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

**VOTED:** To recommend that the Retirement Board **Deny** the application for an ordinary disability retirement. Messrs. Finelli and Boyce voting Nay.

**Leo Diggins** A 57 year old teacher with the Providence School Department for 27 years.

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

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

**NEW BUSINESS/DISABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE COMMENTS**

David Bradley

Discussion regarding whether Mr. Bradley may reactivate his request for reconsideration given his prior voluntary withdrawal of the appeal to deny his application for an accidental disability pension. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Dingley and second by Mr. Boyce:

**VOTED:** To postpone a determination on this issue pending further documentation from Mr. Bradley and the Town of East Providence.

Pauline Richards

Discussion regarding whether Ms. Richards may apply for an ordinary disability pension in light of her termination date, and the prior denial of her application for an accidental disability pension. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Dingley second by Mr. Beardsley:

**VOTED:** To postpone a determination on this issue pending further analysis.

Disability Audit Findings

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**VOTED** To adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa A. Malone  
MAM:gsb

September 2, 2011