

MINUTES

An electronic recording will be made available to the public online at the Board's website without charge within 10 days. Please note that you consent to such recording by attending, participating, or speaking at such meetings.

Present:

Jacqueline Dunn
Brian Coughlin
Raashida Fleetwood
Andrea Rose
Tanya Davis
Marsha Greene-Jones
Carol Stukes Baylor
William Sierra
Tara Mohr

Also Attending:

Francis Bielli – Executive Director, Board of Pensions
Shamika Taliaferro- Deputy Director, Board of Pensions
Aiween Rattliff, Prachi Sathe- Board of Pensions
Denise McNeil, Henry Fields, Tyesha Wilson- Board of Pensions
Christopher DiFusco, Chief Investment Officer
Bernard Buckley- Deputy Chief Investment Officer
Josh Stein- Chief Compliance Officer
Abdel-Aziz Ibrahim, Louis DiRenzo, Tyrone Jordan- Investment Unit
Lavonia Jenkins, Marianna Fazylova – Investment Unit
Crystal Daniels, Kristyn Sauerwald- Investment Unit
Ellen Berkowitz, Christopher Hirokawa, Tam Tran- Law
Brian Miracle- Controller's Office
Bina Kumar, Matt Ring-Nationwide
Damaris Rivera- Fairview Capital
Kweku Obed- Marquette
Sam Wragg- Employee Disability Risk Management
Nadir Jones- Mayor's Office

Jacqueline Dunn stated that the first order of business is a motion to adopt the rules of order that the Board has approved and used for its virtual public meetings and in-person public meetings. The purpose is to help ensure that accurate and complete audio-visual recordings of the meeting occur to comply with the Code's requirements.

The motion to adopt the new procedures for the meeting carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF March 26, 2026

The motion to approve the Minutes of March 26, 2026, carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION OF (145) PENSION APPLICATIONS AND (56) WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS

The motion to approve carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Case of Anthony K. Georgia, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan "A"

This is an application submitted by Anthony Georgia, former Firefighter with the Fire Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan "A".

According to Mr. Georgia, on July 17, 2023, while performing an apparatus inspection his right hand slipped from the handle of the compartment door and was injured when the downward force he applied caused a "pop" in his hand followed by extreme discomfort.

The motion to approve carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Case of Steven W. Pasaitis, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “A”

This is an application submitted by Steven Pasaitis, former Firefighter with the Fire Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “A”.

According to Mr. Pasaitis, on July 11, 2024, while pulling a five-inch hose line during a four-alarm fire he injured his left shoulder. Mr. Pasaitis reports that he continued to work despite the pain and discomfort and only sought relief when he returned to the station.

The motion to approve carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Case of Shaun Swayngim, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “A”

This is an application submitted by Shaun Swayngim, former Fire Service Emergency Medical Technician with the Fire Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “A”.

According to Mr. Swayngim, on November 5, 2023, while treating a male patient in the rear of the ambulance he was violently attacked by the drug influenced patient. Mr. Swayngim reports that the initial assault began with a blow/smack to the face and tackle into the service bench injuring his lower back. Mr. Swayngim further reports that he sustained multiple blows to the body, injuring his ribs, neck, and upper body. The assault continued in the cramped area until his partner was able to seize and pull the drug influenced male off him. Lastly, Mr. Swayngim reports that he was transported to the ER for treatment while the patient fled the scene and was ultimately apprehended by the police.

The motion to approve carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Case of John Jaskel, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “B”

This is an application submitted by John Jaskel, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. Jaskel, on April 26, 2017, while attempting to arrest an armed individual attempting to enter Overbrook High School he injured his back/lower back and right shoulder. Mr. Jaskel states that following a brief foot pursuit a struggle ensued; the offender tackled him to the ground where the grappling continued until the offender was subdued and the weapon was secured. On July 28, 2019, Mr. Jaskel reports that while responding to a “well-being” check he and his partner discovered a male deceased by a gunshot wound to the head. Mr. Jaskel further reports that he sustained injuries to his legs and lower back while assisting in the transfer of the body from the vehicle to the loading dock; his coworker lost their grip, the body shifted, and he was left holding the full body weight while pain radiated throughout his back, legs, and feet.

Brian Coughlin- Deny
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Deny

Andrea Rose- Deny
Willie Sierra- Abstain
Tara Mohr- Deny
Carol Stukes Baylor- Deny

The motion to approve failed 0-7-1.

Case of Chantel N. Morgan, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “B”

This is an application submitted by Chantel Morgan, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Ms. Morgan, on September 22, 2020, while on assignment to pick up and transport a deceased body from the morgue at Temple Hospital to the Office of the Medical Examiner she injured her neck, right shoulder, back/lower back, and legs. Ms. Morgan states that she and her partner struggled to remove the body from the upper level of the refrigeration unit unaware of the body’s substantial weight. Ms. Morgan further states that they successfully pulled the body down from its location, but her hold faltered causing the body and Ms. Morgan to fall. Thereafter, Ms. Morgan and her partner were able to secure the body into a body bag which they had to drag/carry to the patrol wagon since no stretcher was available. As they maneuvered through the morgue, hallway, and stairs dragging/lifting the body bag Ms. Morgan reports experiencing a sharp pull and excruciating pain in her back/lower back.

Brian Coughlin- Deny
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Deny

Andrea Rose- Deny
Willie Sierra- Deny
Tara Mohr- Deny
Carol Stukes Baylor- Deny

The motion to approve failed 0-8.

Case of Rafeeq E. Strickland, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “B”

This is an application submitted by Rafeeq Strickland, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. Strickland, on October 11, 2010, while assisting with an arrest he was struck by a co-worker in the head with an (ASP) police metal stick. He reports that he suffered extreme head trauma and pain along with a head laceration which required five staples to close. The aftereffects of this injury are reported to be light sensitivity, nausea, memory loss, intense headaches, and unbalance. On September 24, 2012, Mr. Strickland reports that he was responding to a “priority” call when he crashed into a fence, struck his head against the vehicle’s headrest, and loss consciousness. Lastly, on December 7, 2021, Mr. Strickland reports that while handcuffing an aggressive offender he was kicked in the face. Mr. Strickland notes that he felt extreme pain, dizziness, and nausea to the extent that he vomited. He further reports seeking treatment for PTSD and the effects of a concussion; light sensitivity, headache, and intermittent ear ringing.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Deny
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Deny
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

Jaqueline Dunn- Deny

The motion to approve failed 4-5, with the Co-Chair casting the tie-break vote. Motion denied.

Case of John G. Curley, Administrative Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “D”

This is an **administrative** application submitted by John Curley, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “D”.

According to Mr. Curley, on June 6, 2021 while transferring the body of a deceased male from the rear of his patrol wagon to the loading platform of the morgue he injured his left shoulder, neck, and lower back. Mr. Curley reports that the male was found hanging in the basement of a residence, he and his partner detached and lowered the body, placed him in a body bag and carried him upstairs and outside to the patrol wagon and proceeded to the Medical Examiner’s Office. Mr. Curley reports that during the transfer from the patrol wagon, he hoisted and pushed the body onto the loading dock while simultaneously morgue personnel forcefully pulled the body causing him to be thrust into the dock. Mr. Curley further reports that after climbing onto the loading dock he lifted the body both vertically and horizontally onto the metal gurney further intensifying his pain and discomfort.

Brian Coughlin- Deny
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Deny

Andrea Rose- Deny
Willie Sierra- Deny
Tara Mohr- Deny
Carol Stukes Baylor- Deny

The motion to approve failed 0-8.

Case of Corine N. Sapp, Application for Service-Connected Death Benefits under Pension Plan “Y”

This is an application submitted by Corine Sapp spouse of the late Timothy D. Sapp Sr., former Heavy Equipment Operator II with the Streets Department for Service-Connected Death benefits under Pension Plan “Y”.

According to Mrs. Sapp on or about January 24, 2026, five days preceding his death, her husband was sleeping for short periods of time and not adequately resting. Mrs. Sapp further reports that sometime during the morning of January 28, 2026, her husband reported that he was exhausted and experiencing shortness of breath before being assigned his final job. Mrs. Sapp reports that her husband suffered a heart attack once he completed his last assignment.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Approve
Marsha Greene-Jones- Approve
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Approve
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Approve
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

Tanya Davis motioned to defer this case to a hearing panel Brian Coughlin seconded the motion. The motion to approve carried unanimously.

Case of Boubacar Sylla, Administrative Appeal Denial of DROP Eligibility Under Pension Plan “Y”

Boubacar Sylla was rehired August 25, 2014. His first retirement he elected 36 months of the Partial Lump Sum Option Program (PLOP).

On December 22, 2025, he received an eligibility denial letter for the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) program which he entered December 20, 2021. Contributions were stopped.

On January 30, 2026, Boubacar Sylla received an administrative denial letter by mail and email. He was administratively denied because he previously participated in the PLOP program.

On March 6, 2026, Mr. Sylla’s letter to appeal the administrative denial was received.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Approve
Marsha Greene-Jones- Approve
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Approve
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Approve
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

Carol Stukes-Baylor motioned to defer this case to a hearing panel Andrea Rose seconded the motion. The motion to approve carried unanimously.

Hearing Panel Summary for Edward C. Kaiser, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “16”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **January 30, 2025**. A hearing panel was conducted on **March 11, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Jacqueline Dunn:	Deny the appeal
Brian Coughlin:	Approve the appeal
Andrea Rose:	Deny the appeal

*Employee provided medical evidence available electronically

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by Edward Kaiser, former Deputy Sheriff with the Office of the Sheriff for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “16”

According to Mr. Kaiser, on February 23, 2022 while entering the men’s locker room at the Criminal Justice Center he slipped on a puddle of accumulated water from a leak in the ceiling. Mr. Kaiser states that he immediately informed his Sergeant of the incident (fall), the leak, and his sustained injuries. Mr. Kaiser reports he sustained injuries to his neck, back, lower back, and left knee. He further states that he struck his head and suffered a concussion despite his efforts to brace himself. He reports continuing to deal with its aftereffects, post-concussion syndrome, anxiety, and depression.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Approve

Jaqueline Dunn- Deny

Andrea Rose- Deny
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Deny
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

The motion to approve failed 4-5, with the Co-Chair casting the tie-break vote. Motion denied.

Hearing Panel Summary for Jamar D. Kennedy, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “16”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **January 22, 2026**. A hearing panel was conducted on **February 11, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Francois Dutchie, Esq.:	Approve the appeal
Lief Erickson :	Deny the appeal
Willie Sierra:	Approve the appeal

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by Jamar Kennedy, former Laborer with the Streets Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “16”.

According to Mr. Kennedy, on July 3, 2023, after throwing trash into the hopper of a trash truck, he went to assist his co-worker/partner and observed that when he grabbed a bag he was unable to close his hand. Mr. Kennedy states that only after removing his glove did he notice the pronounced swelling in his right hand and wrist.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Approve
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Deny
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

The motion to approve carried 5-3.

Hearing Panel Summary for David H. Stewart, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “A”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **July 23, 2025**. A hearing panel was conducted on **February 18, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Stacey Anderson:	Approve the appeal
Andrea Rose:	Approve the appeal
Carol Stukes-Baylor:	Approve the appeal

*Employee provided medical evidence available electronically

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by David Stewart, former Fire Service Paramedic with the Fire Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “A”.

According to Mr. Stewart, on March 30, 2017, while lifting a fall victim from the floor to the stretcher he injured his lower back. On January 7, 2021 while lifting a stretcher with an obese patient to its height for transport he reports experiencing lower back pain. Lastly, on September 27, 2021, an obese patient threw herself onto the floor of the ambulance refusing to get onto the stretcher for safe transport. Mr. Stewart reports that while he and his partner attempted to lift her by her armpits the patient resisted by pushing backwards with her full body weight causing him lower back pain. Mr. Stewart reports that the patient’s action and intense back pain caused him to release his grip and drop the patient.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Approve
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Approve
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Approve
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

The motion to approve carried 7-1.

Hearing Panel Summary for Dana Kuzma, Application for Service-Connected Death Benefits as the Common-Law Spouse of Sean Williamson under Pension Plan “A”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **September 4, 2025**. A hearing panel was conducted on **March 18, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Willie Sierra:	Deny the appeal
Francois Dutchie, Esq.:	Deny the appeal
Andra Rose:	Deny the appeal per Regulation 7.3

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by Dana Kuzma, common-law spouse, for Service-Connected Death benefits under Pension Plan “A”

Sean Williamson former Fire Lieutenant died June 18, 2022 during the building collapse of an active fire. Mr. Williamson was posthumously promoted to the rank of Fire Captain. On May 8, 2023, Dana Kuzma applied for Service-Connected Death Benefits as the common-law spouse. Ms. Kuzma’s written statement details that she met Mr. Williamson during the summer of 2003, that Mr. Williamson was divorced with a seven-year-old son, that she has two daughters and was separated from her husband, and they began to date in the late summer/early fall of 2004. In the summer of 2005, Ms. Kuzma and her daughters moved into Mr. Williamson’s residence. Lastly, following Ms. Kuzma’s divorce, the couple purchased a home sometime during the fall of 2007.

Brian Coughlin- Abstain
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Deny

Andrea Rose- Deny
Willie Sierra- Deny
Tara Mohr- Abstain
Carol Stukes Baylor- Deny

The motion to approve failed 0-6-2.

Hearing Panel Summary for Nicholas Dienno, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “B”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **December 2, 2025**. A hearing panel was conducted on **February 18, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Stacey Anderson:	Approve the appeal
Andrea Rose:	Approve the appeal
Carol Stukes-Baylor:	Approve the appeal

*Employee provided medical evidence available electronically

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by Nicholas Dienno, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. Dienno, on July 3, 2020, while transporting a prisoner to the hospital for medical treatment he sustained injuries to his shoulder, back/lower back, arms, hands, and nerve damage following an attempted escape and violent scuffle with the prisoner in his custody. Mr. Dienno reports that following his discharge the prisoner asked to use the bathroom, it was while his partner was handcuffing him that he pushed past his partner and attempted to flee. Mr. Dienno reports that he was able to slow him down by tripping him, but he eluded his grasp and became combative. Mr. Dienno further reports that during the altercation the prisoner was slammed to the ground, pinning both of his arms beneath the thrashing prisoner. With his partner on his back, he continued to wrestle with the prisoner to gain leverage and ultimately control the prisoner. Additional officers arrived and the conflict ended with him being handcuffed and escorted from the hospital.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Approve
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Approve
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Approve
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

The motion to approve carried 7-1.

Hearing Panel Summary for John J. McLaughlin Jr., Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “B”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **October 23, 2025**. A hearing panel was conducted on **March 11, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Jacqueline Dunn:	Approve the appeal
Brian Coughlin:	Approve the appeal
Andrea Rose:	Approve the appeal

*Employee provided medical evidence available electronically

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by John McLaughlin, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. McLaughlin, on June 29, 2020, he was in the passenger seat of a patrol vehicle that was struck by a speeding vehicle which caused him to be thrown into the computer mounted center as the patrol vehicle spun out. Mr. McLaughlin suffered injuries to his left knee and leg, along with various bodily contusions as a result of the impact.

The motion to approve carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Hearing Panel Summary for Alphonso Murdock III, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “B”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **October 23, 2025**. A hearing panel was conducted on **February 11, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Francois Dutchie, Esq.:	Deny the appeal
Lief Erickson :	Approve the appeal
Willie Sierra:	Approve the appeal

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by Alphonso Murdock, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. Murdock, he has sustained several injuries during the course of his employment; on September 27, 2006 he reports that while exiting his vehicle to assist another officer with an arrest he heard and felt a pop in his left knee. On July 2, 2009, Mr. Murdock reports straining his lower back, right shoulder, and knees while grappling with a male who was resisting arrest. On August 21, 2012, Mr. Murdock reports that while assisting another officer to subdue and restrain a violent mentally challenged person he injured his right hand and wrist during the struggle. On September 7, 2014, Mr. Murdock reports that while driving his patrol vehicle he was violently struck on the passenger side which caused the vehicle to spin around while slamming his left side into the door. Lastly, on August 22, 2021 Mr. Murdock reports that a male in medical crisis attacked the medics and he intervened to stop the assault. Mr. Murdock reports that a fight ensued, he was struck on the left side of his face and was compelled to use his baton and control holds to restrain and ultimately apprehend the unruly male.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Deny
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Approve
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Deny
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

The motion to approve carried 5-3.

Hearing Panel Summary for Cherron L. Smith, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “B”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **December 2, 2025**. A hearing panel was conducted on **March 11, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Brian Coughlin: Approve the appeal

Andrea Rose: Approve the appeal

Jacqueline Dunn: Approve the appeal

*Employee provided medical evidence available electronically

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by Cherron Smith, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Ms. Smith, on March 6, 2021, while in foot pursuit of a suspect she and the suspect got into a physical altercation. Ms. Smith reports that during the struggle she pulled the suspect from beneath a parked vehicle, clutched the backpack with her left hand, and injured her wrist as he forcefully lurched forward as she maintained her grip and pulled backward. She reports immediately feeling a “pop” in her wrist, dropping to her knees, releasing her hold while her partner wrestled with the suspect, and then reengaging; the suspect was punching and kicking, and she was punching with her left hand and grappling to subdue the suspect. It was following the incident that she noticed the swelling and incapacity to move or use her left hand/wrist.

The motion to approve carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Hearing Panel Summary for Curtis A. Turner, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits under Pension Plan “Y”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on **September 26, 2024**. A hearing panel was conducted on **February 11, 2026**.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Francois Dutchie, Esq.:	Approve the appeal
Lief Erickson :	Approve the appeal
Willie Sierra:	Approve the appeal

Case Summary:

This is an application submitted by Curtis Turner, former Grounds and Facility Maintenance Worker with the Department of Parks and Recreation for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “Y”.

According to Mr. Turner, on December 20, 2021, while lifting a snowplow onto the rear of a maintenance vehicle he felt a “pop” and immediate pain in his back/lower back. Mr. Turner reports that he was unable to stand upright due to the intense pain.

Brian Coughlin- Approve
Raashida Fleetwood- Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones- Approve
Tanya Davis- Approve

Andrea Rose- Approve
Willie Sierra- Approve
Tara Mohr- Approve
Carol Stukes Baylor- Approve

The motion to approve carried 7-1.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report

- All the required information for the PAF has been submitted to the Actuary
- A hard copy of the experience study will be provided once the final review is completed.
- Financial disclosure due May 1, 2026.
- Prachi sent out and will review today information regarding the RFI for the pension payroll modernization system.
- Brian Coughlin made a motion to move forward with the RFI pension payroll modernization system. Andrea Rose seconded the motion.
*Motion carries unanimously

Litigation Summary

- No additional updates.

The motion to adjourn carried unanimously on a roll call vote at 10:05 AM.