

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT
Meeting of March 21, 2019**

MINUTES

On March 21, 2019, Jacqueline Dunn called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Pensions and Retirement to order at 9:40 AM in the Board's Conference Room.

Present: Jacqueline Dunn
 Christopher Rupe
 Marsha Greene-Jones
 Carol Stukes-Baylor
 Ronald Stagliano
 Brian Coughlin
 Sharolyn Murphy

Also Attending: Francis Bielli - Board of Pensions
 Shamika Taliaferro – Board of Pensions
 Bill Rubin – Board of Pensions
 Adam Coleman – Law Dept.
 Christopher DiFusco, Bernard Buckley – Investment Unit
 Jim Cousounis, Tyrone Jordan – Investment Unit
 Rebecca Rhynhart, Kellan White – Controllers Office
 Bina Kumar, Bradley Nyce - Nationwide
 Jeffrey Francis - Nationwide
 Anu Patel – Cheiron
 Brett Warren - Cheiron
 Zachary DeLarose – Wharton School of Business, Student
 Matt Coyne – Vice President, Torrey Cove
 Kweku Obed – Marquette Assoc.
 Jesus Jimenez – Marquette Assoc.
 Ralph Cipriano, Philly Magazine

Jacqueline Dunn called the meeting to order and stated that the first order of business was the Consideration of the Minutes of February 21, 2019.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 21, 2019. Sharolyn Murphy seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried 6-0.

CONSIDERATION OF (169) PENSION APPLICATIONS AND (378) WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve. Carol Stukes-Baylor seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried 5-0-1

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Case of Wendy Danks, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan B

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

According to Ms. Danks, on or about February 11, 2014 while responding to a person screaming call with three other officers she slipped on the ice and sustained multiple injuries.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to table for 30 days. Brian Coughlin seconded the motion.

The motion to table for 30 days carried unanimously 6-0.

Case of Lamar Lipford-Birch, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “B”

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

According to Mr. Lipford-Birch, on or about December 18, 2014 he jumped from a police wagon in response to an assist officer/bank robbery call and sustained an injury to his right ankle. Mr. Lipford-Birch states that the exiting action caused him to slide and he immediately felt something “pull” in his right ankle.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to table for 30 days. Brian Coughlin seconded the motion.

The motion to table for 30 days carried unanimously 6-0.

Case of Anthony Panarello, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “B”

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

According to Mr. Panarello, on September 3, 2008 while assigned to the SWAT unit he was tasked with bringing in equipment from the raid van. Mr. Panarello states that the “breaching ram” was lodged in its metal encasement; he was forcefully attempting to dislodge it when he sustained an injury to his shoulder and neck area.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to table for 30 days. Brian Coughlin seconded the motion.

The motion to table for 30 days carried unanimously 6-0.

Case of Paul J. Owens, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “J”

This is an application submitted by Paul Owens, former Deputy Sheriff with the Sheriff’s Office for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “J”.

According to Mr. Owens on August 4, 2016 while riding the elevator, it malfunctioned causing him multiple injuries.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve. Carol Stukes-Baylor seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 6-0.

Case of Cheryl Womack, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “Y”

This is an application submitted by Cheryl Womack, former Custodial Worker with the Commerce Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “Y”.

According to Ms. Womack, on November 6, 2015 while working at Terminal F she slipped on a substance on the floor and fell.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to table for 30 days. Brian Coughlin seconded the motion.

The motion to table for 30 days carried unanimously 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Case of Nikiesha Johnson, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan B

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on December 7, 2017. A hearing panel was held on February 13, 2019.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Sharolyn Murphy, Esq.:	Approve
Carol Stukes-Baylor:	Approve
Kellan White:	Approve

Case Summary:

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

According to Ms. Johnson, on March 15, 2011 while attempting to remove a driver from a vehicle she felt a “pop” and pain on the left side of her neck.

This is a **SAMMONS** case. This case will be based solely on the opinion within the depositions of Dr. Rocco Costabile and Dr. Menachem M. Meller.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve. Sharolyn Murphy seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 6-0.

Case of David Jackson, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan “Y”

This case was **denied** at the Board meeting held on October 26, 2017. A hearing panel was held on November 7, 2018.

The hearing panel recommendations are as follows:

Sharolyn L. Murphy, Esq.: Deny

Brian Coughlin: Approve. The member showed no signs of hip issues prior to work injury

Kellan White: Approve

Case Summary:

This is an **administrative** application submitted on behalf of David Jackson, former Laborer with the Streets Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “Y”.

According to Mr. Jackson, on October 7, 2011 he was struck by a vehicle and the impact forced him to the ground causing his injuries.

Carol Stukes-Baylor made a motion to table for 30 days. Ronald Stagliano seconded the motion.

The motion to table for 30 days carried unanimously 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director’s Report – Mr. Bielli stated that the first of three letters from the Department of Revenue was sent notifying retirees who have a judgment or lien for real estate or possible water bills that if they fail to resolve their obligation and continue to be non-compliant, their pension benefit may be offset by the Board of Pensions to recover amount owed.

The One Philly Payroll will go live on March 28, 2019 and the percentage for Roth 457 deductions are available now.

- Business and Education Travel Requests

- 1) PAPERS Conference May 29-30, 2019 in Harrisburg, PA

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve anyone wishing to attend the PAPERS conference. Brian Coughlin seconded the motion.

The motion to approve anyone wishing to attend the PAPERS conference carried unanimously 6-0.

- 2) Workers' Compensation Conference in Hershey, PA June 2-4, 2019

Carol Stukes-Baylor made a motion to approve Sharon Thorpe and staff who wished to attend the Workers' Compensation. Marsha Green-Jones seconded the motion.

The motion to approve staff wishing to attend the Workers' Compensation conference June 2-4, 2019 in Hershey, PA carried unanimously 6-0.

- **Litigation Summary** – Ms. Berkowitz stated that there are a number of cases in Common Pleas court and the Dailey case is stayed pending state court proceedings.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to adjourn. Brian Coughlin seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 AM.