

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT
Meeting of September 24, 2020**

MINUTES

On September 24, 2020, Jacqueline Dunn called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Pensions and Retirement to order at 9:30 AM. The meeting was conducted by Microsoft Teams Conference App due to the State's recommendation to close the City due to the Covid-19 epidemic.

Ms. Dunn asked the Board to approve the revised procedures of the Rules of Order for Motions, Discussion and Voting. For substantive motions the Chair will state the motion in the affirmative, the Board will consider the motion moved and seconded and then the Chair will ask for any comments or discussion before going into a roll call vote. For a procedural motion, the Chair will ask the Board for discussion, unless there are any objections, the motion will be declared and adopted unanimously. The Board adopted the procedures unanimously.

Present: Jacqueline Dunn
 Ronald Stagliano
 Carol Stukes-Baylor
 Kellan White
 Christopher Rupe
 Marsha Greene-Jones
 Leontyne Freeman
 Brian Coughlin
 Veronica Pankey
 Sharolyn Murphy
 Francois Dutchie

Also Attending: Francis Bielli, Bill Rubin – Board of Pensions
 Ellen Berkowitz, Adam Coleman – Law Department
 Christopher DiFusco, James Cousounis – Investment Unit
 Bernard Buckley, Kristyn Bair – Investment Unit
 Dominique Cherry, Abdel-Aziz Ibrahim – Investment Unit
 Brad Nyce, Bina Kumar, Jeff Francis – Nationwide
 Tom Ginsberg – PEW Trust

Jacqueline Dunn called the meeting to order and stated that the first order of business was the Consideration of the Minutes of August 27, 2020.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0 on a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION OF 111 PENSION APPLICATIONS AND 36 WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0 on a roll call vote.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Case of John W. Crichton, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan B

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

According to Mr. Crichton, on September 27, 2016 while exiting a police vehicle carrying several pieces of equipment, he twisted awkwardly causing an injury.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Leontyne Freeman – Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Approve
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 7-1.

Case of Curtis S. Macy, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan B

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

According to Mr. Macy, on November 5, 2016 he was involved in an automobile accident. He states that he was immediately transported by ambulance to the emergency room of Temple Hospital for treatment for his injuries.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Leontyne Freeman – Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Approve
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 7-1.

Case of Mark A. Evans, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan Y

This is an application submitted by Mark Evans, former Semiskilled Laborer with the Department of Public Property for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Plan “Y”.

According to Mr. Evans sometime in 2003 while lifting office furniture from City Hall to a lift gate and then onto a truck he experienced various pains. Mr. Evans further states that sometime

in 2007 while removing a (old) large hot water tank from a fire station for disposal when he felt a “pop” resulting in multiple injuries.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Leontyne Freeman – Deny
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Deny
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 5-3.

Case of Anthony Staszak, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “Y”

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

According to Mr. Staszak, on May 9, 2017 while riding on the rear of the recycling truck the driver struck two “potholes” and he fell from the vehicle resulting in multiple injuries.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Leontyne Freeman – Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Approve
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Approve
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

Case of Marc Desiderio, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “D”

This is an application submitted by Marc Desiderio, Jr., former Police Officer 1 for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “D”.

According to Mr. Desiderio, on October 27, 2006 while working full duty he experienced pain during the night. Mr. Desiderio states that while returning home his left arm went completely numb and he experienced severe pain in his chest.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Leontyne Freeman – Deny
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Deny
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 5-3.

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Case of Timothy Crooms, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “Y”

This is an application submitted by Timothy Crooms, former HVAC Mechanic II with the Department of Public Property for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Plan “Y”.

According to Mr. Crooms, on February 9, 2017 while lifting a commercial snow blower to relocate it to another part of the building he suffered an injury.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Abstain
Leontyne Freeman – Deny
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Abstain

Christopher Rupe – Deny
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve tied 3-3-2. The Chair voted to approve.

The motion to approve carried 4-3-2.

Case of Marsha Lisby, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “Y”

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

According to Ms. Lisby, on January 4, 2017 she was cleaning and stocking bathrooms in the Airport terminal when she had to go to the stockroom for additional supplies. Ms. Lisby states that as she was reaching up for toilet paper, she immediately felt a “pop” resulting in an injury.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Abstain
Leontyne Freeman – Deny
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Abstain

Christopher Rupe – Deny
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Abstain
Kellan White - Deny
Ronald Stagliano - Abstain

The motion to approve fails 0-4-4. Motion is denied.

Case of Robert D. Morrison, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan “Y”

This is an application submitted by Robert Morrison, former Parking Enforcement Officer-Supervisor with the Philadelphia Parking Authority for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “Y”.

According to Mr. Morrison, on June 27, 2016 while reading a police regulation sign, he was struck “hard” on the left side of his body. Mr. Morrison states that the force of the impact knocked him face first into the pole, causing multiple injuries.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Abstain	Christopher Rupe – Deny
Leontyne Freeman – Deny	Carol Stukes-Baylor - Abstain
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny	Kellan White - Deny
Veronica Pankey – Abstain	Ronald Stagliano - Abstain

The motion to approve fails 0-4-4. Motion is denied.

APPEAL TO CHANGE SURVIVORSHIP OPTION

Case of Deborah Silveti, Appeal of Administrative Denial to Change Survivorship Option from 3 to 4 – Plan D

This is an appeal of an administrative denial by Deborah Silveti to change her survivorship option from 3 to 4 in Plan D.

Ms. Silveti, former Police Officer retired from the Police Department on February 16, 2016. She chose survivorship option 3, naming her grandson Michael Silveti as her survivor.

In a letter to Francis Bielli, Executive Director dated February 13, 2020, Ms. Silveti states that Michael has been disabled since March 2002 and receives disability. She was awarded full custody of Michael on June 6, 2002. She further states she was not aware of option 4 when she retired and is requesting now to change her option.

On February 13, 2020, her request to change her option was administratively denied by Administrator Stacey White. On February 24, 2020, Ms. Silveti appealed the administrative denial.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Deny	Christopher Rupe – Deny
Leontyne Freeman – Deny	Carol Stukes-Baylor - Deny
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny	Kellan White - Deny
Veronica Pankey – Deny	Ronald Stagliano - Abstain

The motion to approve fails 0-7-1. Motion is denied.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Bielli stated that the annual PAPERS forum will be held virtually and consist of six one-hour segments for each session. The presentations will begin November 9th and end on November 24, 2020. The deadline for registration is October 9, 2020 and anyone interested should contact Teresa Devine.

The Board Amendment for the Trustee Election will move to the Ad Board for approval on October 9, 2020. Mr. Cousounis will be available to the Ad Board for questions regarding the amendment.

Litigation Summary – Ms. Berkowitz stated that oral argument is tentatively scheduled for the week of November 9, 2020 in the case of Guadalupe vs. Board of Pensions & Retirement (disqualification).

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 AM.