



MEETING NO: 20-05 D BENEFIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Benefit Review Committee of the Board of Trustees was held via video conference on Thursday May 28, 2020. Present at the meeting were Committee members Copper, Wallace, Miller, Kuehne, Stanish, and Stafford. Staff members present were: Dixon, Seputis, Shuliga, Carter, Janicki-Clark, Collins, Nesson, and Davis.

(20-05-01)(Roll call)

Ms. Copper presided as chairperson and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. All six committee members responded as present to the attendance roll call.

(20-05-02) Approval of the committee meeting minutes from February 27, 2020.

Motion: Stanish
Second: Miller
Ayes: Miller, Wallace, Kuehne, Stanish, Stafford, and Copper
Nays: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

(20-05-03) Candance L. Janowiak – Denial of Temporary Disability

Written materials including medical records, member, employer, and physician questionnaires; written opinions by the psychiatric and medical consultant; and a written statement of claim from the member were provided to the committee members for review prior to the hearing. Ms. Janowiak did not appear for the hearing and requested that her appeal be determined based on the documentation in her file. IMRF staff summarized the contents of Ms. Janowiak's file for the Committee.

(20-05-04) Shannon Carnahan – Denial of Temporary Disability

Written materials including medical records, member, employer, and physician questionnaires; written opinions by the psychiatric consultant; and a written statement of claim from the member were provided to the committee members for review prior to the hearing. Mr. Carnahan did not appear for the hearing and requested that his appeal be determined based on the documentation in his file. IMRF staff summarized the contents of Mr. Carnahan's file for the Committee.

At 1:15 pm Trustee Wallace made a motion to go into closed session to discuss evidence presented in open session in the Janowiak and Carnahan temporary disability appeals pursuant to Section 2(c)(4) of the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Kuehne seconded the motion which was approved by a unanimous 6-0 roll call vote.

At 1:21 pm Trustee Kuehne made a motion to return to open session. Trustee Wallace seconded the motion which was approved by a unanimous 6-0 roll call vote.

(20-05-03)(cont.) Candance L. Janowiak – Denial of Temporary Disability

After deliberation, the Committee recommends that the Board affirm the staff decision denying temporary disability benefits to Ms. Janowiak. The Committee

was not persuaded that the medical records supported Ms. Janowiak’s subjective complaints. Therefore, the Committee was persuaded by the medical and psychiatric consultants’ opinions that the evidence did not show that a disabling condition prevented Ms. Janowiak from performing her job duties as required by Section 7-146 of the Illinois Pension Code for the disability time period.

Motion: Stanish
Second: Stafford
Ayes: Miller, Wallace, Kuehne, Stanish, Stafford, and Copper
Nays: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

(20-05-04)(cont.) Shannon Carnahan – Denial of Temporary Disability

After deliberation, the Committee recommends that the Board affirm the staff decision denying temporary disability benefits to Mr. Carnahan. The Committee was not persuaded that the medical records supported Mr. Carnahan’s subjective complaints. Therefore, the Committee was persuaded by the psychiatric consultant’s opinion that the evidence did not show that a disabling condition prevented Mr. Carnahan from performing his job duties as required by Section 7-146 of the Illinois Pension Code for the disability time period.

Motion: Stafford
Second: Kuehne
Ayes: Miller, Wallace, Kuehne, Stanish, Stafford, and Copper
Nays: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

(20-05-05) Discussion of Early Retirement Incentive Procedures

The Committee and staff discussed existing Board rules and procedures for participating employers seeking to adopt an early retirement incentive. No final action was taken.

(20-05-06) Public Comments

None.

(20-05-07) New Business

None

(20-05-08) Adjournment

Trustee Wallace made a motion to adjourn at 1:34 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Miller. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Chairperson

Date

Clerk

Date