May 30, 2024 PSERB Benefits and Appeals Committee Meeting



PSERS Board Room 5 North 5th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101 and via MS Teams [Sunshine]

Chair Ms. Ann Monaghan Vice Chair Mr. Brian Reiser Cmt. Member Dr. Pamela Brown Cmt. Member Rep. Torren Ecker Cmt. Member Sen. Katie Muth Committee Liaison Jennifer Mills Board Secretary Terrill J. Sanchez

1. Call to Order

The Committee met on May 30, 2024 virtually and in-person at 5 North 5th Street in Harrisburg, PA. Chair Ann Monaghan called the meeting to order at 12:30 P.M. Terrill Sanchez took roll call and confirmed Committee quorum.

Committee Member Attendance:

Chair Ann Monaghan In Person Vice Chair Brian Reiser In Person Dr. Pamela Brown Virtual Rep. Torren Ecker Virtual (in @ 12:44) Absent Sen. Katie Muth

Additional Board Designee Attendance:

Jason Davis In Person
Eric DiTullio Virtual
Susan Lemmo In Person
Richard Vague In Person
Kevin Busher Virtual
Christopher Craig Virtual
Lloyd Ebright In Person

Michael Heckmann Virtual Veronica Hoof In Person Jordan Laslett In Person Patrick Lord Virtual Matt McCarry In Person Jill Vecchio Virtual Morgan Wagner Virtual

2. Approval of Published Agenda or Requested Amendments

Brian Reiser moved to approve the published agenda with Dr. Pamela Brown seconding. The motion passed with one (1) absent being Sen. Katie Muth.

3. Approval of March 21, 2024 Minutes

Dr. Pamela Brown moved to approve the minutes with Brian Reiser seconding. The motion passed with one (1) absent being Sen. Katie Muth.

4. Public Comment

Terrill Sanchez noted that Brian Kimmet, from Rock the Capitol, was present and recording but did not request public comment.

5. New Business

5.1 Executive Session

At 12:33 P.M., Brian Reiser moved to enter **Executive Session** with Dr. Pamela Brown seconding, to discuss Adjudications. The motion passed with one (1) absent being Sen. Katie Muth.

The Committee resumed public session at 12:48 P.M.

5.1.1 Account of Nelson [Docket No. 2019-09]

Ann Monaghan moved the following:

MOTION: In the matter of Charles H. Nelson (Deceased) under claim of Jean Nelson, Docket No. 2019-09, the Benefits and Appeals Committee of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board (the "Board") moves to recommend that the Board adopt the proposed Opinion and Order of the Board and dismiss Claimant's appeal with prejudice.

Brian Reiser seconded.

The motion passed with one (1) absent being Sen. Katie Muth.

5.1.2 Account of Zilinskas [Docket No. 2021-01]

Ann Monaghan moved the following:

MOTION: In the matter of Mark J. Zilinskas, Docket No. 2021-01, the Benefits and Appeals Committee of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board (the "Board") moves to recommend that the Board adopt the proposed Opinion and Order of the Board and dismiss Claimant's appeal with prejudice.

Dr. Pamela Brown seconded.

The motion passed with one (1) absent being Sen. Katie Muth.

5.1.3 Account of Prusick [Docket No. 2019-11]

Ann Monaghan moved the following:

MOTION: In the matter of David J. Prusick, Docket No. 2019-11, the Benefits and Appeals Committee of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board (the "Board") moves to recommend that the Board adopt the proposed Opinion and Order of the Board and dismiss Claimant's appeal with prejudice.

Brian Reiser seconded.

The motion passed with one (1) absent being Sen. Katie Muth.

5.2 Executive Staff Review Committee (ESRC) Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the ESRC reports for April 5, 2024. It was noted that most of the appeals came from members who had errors on their retirement applications and claimed to have not received the error letters. By not responding timely, the benefit effective date is not preserved. The Committee asked staff how many error letters are sent each year and to look into alternatives, such as sending the error letters via certified mail. Jennifer Mills noted that staff recently implemented a new error letter process for retirement applications that eliminates a deadline to respond so the member can preserve their original benefit effective date. Staff will provide a future update on the process as well as outreach efforts to follow up with members who do not respond to the error letters. The Committee also asked how a member is notified of an adjustment to their account. The education sessions scheduled in August will cover what a member can see in their MSS account and how an adjustment is processed.

6. Next Meeting Agenda Items

Two adjudications were placed on the August committee agenda.

7. Motion to Adjourn

At 1:02 P.M., Brian Reiser moved to adjourn with Dr. Pamela Brown seconding. The motion passed with one (1) absent being Sen. Katie Muth.

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