

MINUTES

METROPOLITAN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT BOARD

PENSION COMMITTEE

January 20, 2017

The Metropolitan Employee Benefit Board's Pension Committee met on Friday, January 20, 2016 in the Sonny West Conference Room, Howard Office Building, 700 2nd Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Committee Members present: Chair: W. Todd Henry; Vice-Chair: Talia Lomax-O'dneal; Members: Christine Bradley and B. R. Hall, Sr. Alternate member(s): Edna J. Jones and Stephanie Bailey.

Others present: Christina Hickey, Metro Human Resources, Nicki Eke, Attorney, Metro Legal Department and Dr. Matthew Hine, Civil Service Medical Examiner, (CSME).

The meeting was called to order and Christina Hickey stated the first order of business is to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the Committee.

B.R. Hall nominated Todd Henry for Chair and Christine Bradley for Vice-Chair of the Medical and Life Committee.

Christine Bradley stated that she declines. Christine Bradley nominated Talia Lomax-O'dneal for Vice-Chair of the Medical and Life Committee.

Todd Henry seconded the nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair.

A vote was taken on the nominations for Committee Chair and Vice-Chair and was approved unanimously by the Committee.

BENEFIT BOARD ITEMS

The Human Resources staff submitted the following for the Committee's consideration and appropriate action:

Christina Hickey noted that there is some new medical information for the Committee to review and that this Committee only makes a recommendation to the full Board for a vote.

1. Disability pension request – employee from Sheriff's Office.

Christina Hickey stated that this disability pension request resulted in a tie vote and procedurally was sent to the Committee for further discussion.

The employee was present.

Byron Grizzle, Sheriff's Office, was present.

Todd Henry informed the Committee that the CSME recommends denial of the disability pension request.

Dr. Matthew Hine stated that the new medical information does not change his recommendation. He stated that the review of the medical record does not cause him to believe that the employee's health would be at imminent risk or significant harm should he be exposed to the standard responsibilities of his job.

There was some discussion regarding consistent abnormal blood pressure readings in the medical record, being around inmates and safety.

Dr. Matthew Hine reviewed some of his recommendations for blood pressure maintenance, risk factors and the diagnosis but no specific cause.

There was further discussion of the pressures noted in the medical record from physician's visits, and physicals (stress tests) with Metro.

Dr. Matthew Hine reviewed there are some elevated pressures however the medical record shows no specific cause to the elevated pressures or ischemic changes noted in the record and there are family stressors.

There was some discussion of the employee's job description, which requires physical stamina, exposure to hazards, and stressful situations if the employee returned to work.

Byron Grizzle stated there are numerous stressors in the work environment.

There was further discussion regarding the medical record, whether or not he was examined by the CSME and his family history.

Dr. Matthew Hine did state that there is increased blood pressure with activity, however, if there were any irregularities with his heart rate during exercise tests, or anything that would indicate insignificant oxygen supply to the heart muscle, he would recommend approval.

The employee discussed wanting to continue to work, his blood pressure, medications, family history and side effects from some of those medications.

After some discussion regarding the condition of uncontrolled blood pressure, his job duties, and the work environment, B.R. Hall moved for approval of the request for a medical disability pension for 6 months. Talia Lomax-O'dneal seconded.

Christine Bradley offered an amendment to the motion of adding vocational case management.

A vote was taken on the amended motion to approve the request for a medical disability pension for 6 months, with vocational case management and was approved without objection.

With nothing further presented, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:05 a.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**John P. Kennedy, Interim Director
Human Resources**

**W. Todd Henry, Chair
Pension Committee**