

MINUTES
OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE PENSION COMMISSIONERS
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY PENSIONS

The Ad Hoc Committee on Disability Pensions met in the Sam Diannitto Boardroom, located at the Los Angeles Fire and Police Pensions Building, 701 East 3rd Street, Suite 400, Los Angeles 90013 on Thursday, February 6, 2020.

COMMITTEE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Garrett Zimmon, Chair
Brian Pendleton, Vice Chair
Ruben Navarro

COMMITTEE MEMBER

ABSENT: Paul Weber

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: Ken Buzzell

AD HOC COMMITTEE

SUPPORT STAFF: Greg Mack, Chief Benefits Analyst

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND

POLICE PENSIONS: Raymond P. Ciranna, General Manager
William Raggio, Executive Officer
Rhonda Ketay, Commission Executive Assistant

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: Joshua Geller, Deputy City Attorney

The Ad Hoc Committee will be noted as a Special Board meeting since a quorum of the Board was present. Commissioner Zimmon called the meeting to order at 2:17 p.m. All the above Commissioners were present at the start of the meeting.

Items 2 and 3 were taken out of order.

2. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION FROM LAPD/LAFD PSYCHOLOGISTS

Ms. Kristen Rosauer, Senior Management Analyst I, Disability Pensions Section introduced Dr. Krystle Madrid, Licensed Clinical Psychologist who discussed LAFD's Behavioral Health Program with the Board. Dr. Kevin Jablonski, LAPD's Chief Psychologist, discussed LAPD's program with the Board.

Commissioner Buzzell left the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

The Committee discussed issues regarding suicide, including legal issues concerning the release of patient information, suicide prevention, warning signs and treatment options with both Department psychologists. The Committee discussed possible treatment options for retired

members. Commissioner Navarro pointed out that there are resources through their individual health insurance plans to seek counseling.

The Committee discussed the difficulty in obtaining departmental psychological records for surviving spouses or domestic partners of deceased members. Chair Zimmon suggested disseminating information to members that suggest ensuring that their medical records can be released in the event of an unexpected end of life event.

3. DISCUSSION ON MODIFICATIONS TO BOARD OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR DISABILITY HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE COMMITTEE ACTION

Ms. Kristen Rosauer, Senior Management Analyst I, Disability Pensions Section discussed the report with the Board.

Ms. Corina Lee, LAPPL, and Mr. Thomas Wicke, Esq. provided public comment.

The Committee heard and discussed public comments regarding disability hearings including the length of hearings, requiring a list of witness names and a summary of the witness testimony ten days prior to the hearing, receiving board packages for disability applicants further in advance of the scheduled hearing, physician witness testimony, and establishing a subset of commissioners to preside over disability hearings.

1. DISCUSSION ON INFORMATION FOR SURVIVOR APPLICATIONS BASED ON A MEMBER'S SUICIDE AND POSSIBLE COMMITTEE ACTION

Ms. Kristen Rosauer, Senior Management Analyst I, Disability Pensions Section discussed the report with the Board. Mr. Thomas Wicke, Esq., and Ms. Corina Lee, LAPPL, joined Ms. Rosauer at the table to discuss possible solutions in obtaining medical records.

Motion

Commissioner Navarro moved to require the surviving spouse or the decedent's authorized representative, in death by suicide cases, to sign a release for medical records, including mental health records, for the disability pension application to be processed, which was seconded by Commissioner Pendleton and approved by the following vote: ayes, Commissioner Navarro, Pendleton, and Chair Zimmon – 3; nays – none.

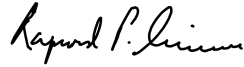
4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

There were no public comments.

The Ad Hoc Committee meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.



President



Secretary