

August 7, 2019 NHRS Board of Trustees' Benefits Committee Minutes

NOTE: These minutes from the August 7, 2019 Benefits Committee meeting were approved at the August 29, 2019 Committee meeting.

**Benefits Committee
Board of Trustees
August 7, 2019**

Public Minutes

**New Hampshire Retirement System
54 Regional Drive
Concord, NH 03301**

Committee Members present: Trustee Melvin Friese.

Telephonically present: Trustees George Walker, Bill Hart and Don Roy

Absent: Trustee Christopher Coates

Staff present: Tim Crutchfield, *Chief Legal Counsel*; Mark Cavanaugh, Esq., *Associate Counsel & Compliance Officer*; Diana Crichton, Esq., *Hearings Examiner*; Larry Johansen, *Director of Investments*; Nancy Miller, *Director of Member Services*; and Margaret Astles, *Executive Assistant*.

Telephonically present: George Lagos, *Executive Director*

Chair George Walker called the Benefits Committee meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

Having established a quorum, Chair Walker called for a motion to accept the public and non-public minutes of the June 4, 2019 Benefits Committee meeting. On a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Roy, the Committee voted to approve the minutes, as presented upon a roll call vote with Trustees Walker, Hart, and Roy voting in the affirmative, and Trustee Friese abstaining.

Chief Legal Counsel Crutchfield introduced discussion regarding the annual Benefits Committee Charter review, highlighting staff's recommended revision to clarify the Committee's authority under the Recoupment Policy.

On a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Roy, the Committee voted unanimously on a roll call vote to recommend to the full Board that it adopt the proposed revision to the Charter, as presented.

Mr. Crutchfield initiated a discussion on the administration of multiple beneficiaries and survivor benefits, which is currently under review as a part of the PGV3 implementation project as well as a live case. He explained that this issue is multi-layered, as detailed in Atty. Cavanaugh's memo, and that staff was not seeking Committee action at this time as more research is being done involving NHRS vendors and other plans.

The next agenda topic was a brief legislative update. Mr. Crutchfield explained that recently passed HB 116 changes the reclassification process for certain positions in the state's Department of Corrections (DOC) if they meet the "correctional line personnel" Group II criteria under RSA 100-A. The new process now authorizes the Board to approve such reclassification requests. As such, staff anticipates a significant number of requests soon after the effective date and will be reaching out to DOC staff in an attempt to identify the expected number of positions involved.

Mr. Crutchfield then commented on the recently passed HB 468, which added two new types of earnable compensation for retirement calculation purposes. The first type is an attendance stipend or bonus offered to employees through collective bargaining agreements or policies. The second type is extra-curricular compensation for community college full-time faculty, geared primarily toward summer wages.

Following the conclusion of the public portion of the agenda, on a motion by Trustee Roy, seconded by Trustee Hart, the Committee voted unanimously by roll call to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) to discuss matters that would likely adversely affect the reputation of people other than a member of this public body.

On a motion by Trustee Roy, seconded by Trustee Hart, the Committee unanimously voted by roll call to conclude non-public session. No votes were taken in the non-public session.

With no further business to discuss, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Friese, the Board unanimously voted by roll call to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Astles
Executive Assistant