

NOTE: These minutes from the March 29, 2018 Benefits Committee meeting were approved at the April 25, 2018 Committee meeting.

**Benefits Committee
Board of Trustees
March 29, 2018**

Public Minutes

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

Committee Members: George Walker, *Chair, telephonically*; David McCrillis, Don Roy, *present*. Bill Hart, *telephonically*. Germano Martins, *absent*.

Staff: George Lagos, *Executive Director*; Mark Cavanaugh, Esq., *Associate Counsel & Compliance Officer*; Tim Crutchfield, Esq., *Chief Legal Counsel*; Carolyn Johnson, *Hearings Examiner*; Nancy Miller, *Director of Member Services*; and Margaret Astles, *Executive Assistant*.

Chair Walker called the Benefits Committee meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

On a motion by Trustee McCrillis, seconded by Trustee Roy, the Committee voted to approve the Public and Non-Public minutes from the January 30, 2018 Benefits Committee meeting as presented. The motion passed 3-0. Trustee Hart abstained.

Associate Counsel Cavanaugh gave a status update on administrative rules. He noted that proposed revisions to Ret. 309.01 regarding Gainful Occupation have been submitted to the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) and that he was able to work with OLS to find mutually-acceptable language for a Final Proposal. The Board is expected to take action on this Proposal at its April 10, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Cavanaugh then reported that the Interim Rules regarding Ret. 300 and 400 had been approved by JLCAR and that action is also expected by the Board at its April 10, 2018 meeting.

Next, Chief Legal Counsel Crutchfield and Attorney Johnson introduced proposed staff revisions to the administrative appeal rules under Ret 200 in an effort to address various issues which have been identified over time. The extensive review of these rules is the first in many years and Mr. Crutchfield noted that there are five major proposed revisions:

1. Adding the authority to compel depositions.
2. Extending the length of time the presiding officer has to provide a recommendation from 60 days to 75 days after the close of the record.
3. Providing a uniform 15 days for the filing of, and replying to, motions.
4. Removing the requirement that an assertion presented in a motion must be granted if the other party does not address it.

5. Clarifying wording and punctuation.

Mr. Crutchfield stated that no action was requested at today's meeting and Committee members should contact him directly if they had any questions or comments on the proposed revisions.

Moving to disability matters, on motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Roy, the Committee voted to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) to discuss matters that would likely adversely impact the reputation of someone other than a member of the public body on a roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Walker, Roy, McCrillis, and Hart.

On a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Roy, the Committee voted unanimously to conclude the non-public session.

No votes were taken during the non-public session.

Back in public session, on a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Roy, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Board that the annual re-examination requirement in regard to L.T. be waived permanently.

On a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee McCrillis, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Board that the state annuity portion of the benefit for A.E. be discontinued for non-compliance of the Gainful Occupation filing requirement beginning with the June 2018 payment.

The Committee also reviewed the disability reconsideration case of M.O. as referred to it last month by the Board. However, due to Trustee Martins' inability to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict, the Committee decided to table further consideration until all Committee members could participate in the discussion.

With no further business to conduct, on a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee McCrillis, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Astles