

May 29, 2018
NHRS Board of Trustees Benefits Committee

NOTE: These minutes from the May 29, 2018 Benefits Committee meeting were approved at the August 1, 2018 Committee meeting.

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

Public Minutes

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

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

Staff: George Lagos, Executive Director; Mark Cavanaugh, Esq., Associate Counsel & Compliance Officer; Diana Crichton, Hearings Examiner; 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 1:38 pm.

Chief Legal Counsel Crutchfield introduced Diana Crichton, NHRS's new Hearings Examiner, replacing Attorney Carolyn Johnson, who will be retiring in June.

On a motion by Trustee Martins, seconded by Trustee Hart, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the public and non-public minutes of the April 25, 2018 Benefits Committee meeting.

On a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Martins, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the full Board that it approve the proposed revisions to the Ret 300 and 400 rules to begin the rule making process, as presented.

Trustee Hart commented on the excellent work done by the staff revising the Ret 300 and 400 rules as it was not a simple task.

On a motion by Trustee McCrillis, seconded by Trustee Hart, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the full Board that it approve the proposed revisions to the Ret 309.01 in accordance with the Conditional Approval, as presented.

Attorney Cavanaugh reported on the Disability Reexamination review. He noted that it is staff's intent to recommend that the Disability Review Policy and Procedures be revised once the amendments to 309.01 are adopted by the Board and filed with the Office of Legislative Services to reflect that re-examinations of retirees with excess earnings will be discretionary and not mandatory. He then reviewed the summary of the results to date, noting that of the 33 cases identified for re-exams, 25 of those were the result of IME recommendations; 4 were the result of the GO process and 4 were ad hoc Board decisions based on its statutory discretion. Atty. Cavanaugh also noted that even with psychiatric exams being more costly, the IME costs to date appear to be reasonable.

There was no further business to be discussed.

On a motion by Trustee Hart, seconded by Germano Martins, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Astles
Executive Assistant