

NOTE: These minutes from the October 29, 2012, Benefits Committee meeting were approved at the December 7, 2012 Committee meeting.

**Benefits Committee
Board of Trustees
October 29, 2012**

Public Minutes

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

Committee Members: Kate McGovern, Ph.D., *Chair, telephonically;* Don Roy, *telephonically;* George Walker, *telephonically;* Jack Wozmak.

Staff: George Lagos, *Executive Director;* Tim Crutchfield, Esq., *Chief Legal Counsel;* Nancy Miller, *Director of Member Services;* Denise Call, *Director of Employer Services.*

Chair McGovern called the meeting to order at approximately 1:40 p.m. and requested a motion to accept the public minutes of the September 10, 2012, Benefits Committee as presented. Moved by Trustee Wozmak, seconded by Trustee Walker, the motion passed unanimously.

On a motion by Trustee Wozmak, seconded by Trustee Walker, the Committee unanimously approved a temporary adjournment to consult with legal counsel under RSA 91-A:2, I(b), to review possible recoupment cases. Following an adjournment of approximately forty minutes, the Committee voted unanimously to reconvene its meeting on a motion by Trustee Walker, seconded by Trustee Wozmak. At that time, Trustee Wozmak made a motion to seek recoupment in four pending matters based on the procedures approved by the Board at its October 9, 2012 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Walker and approved unanimously.

The Committee then reviewed the administrative appeal of K. Valliere on the issue of whether she met the statutory requirement for membership as an elected official under RSA 100-A:3, I(a). The case had been referred to the Committee by the full Board at its August meeting, and the Committee had initially reviewed the matter at its September 10th meeting but requested additional information from staff regarding Ms. Valliere's service credit. Atty. Crutchfield stated that staff had confirmed that Ms. Valliere had accrued 17 years and 5 months of uninterrupted service credit from the date of her initial enrollment in April 1995 through August 2012 based on contributions submitted on her behalf.

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The Committee engaged in a lengthy discussion acknowledging the impact of the Hearings Examiner's recommendation on Ms. Valliere balanced against the clear statutory requirements for membership as an elected official. On a motion by Trustee Wozmak, seconded by Trustee Walker, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Board that it approve the Hearings Examiner's recommendation in the matter of K. Valliere.

Mr. Lagos and Atty. Crutchfield then updated the Committee on staff's review of the administrative appeals process.

On a motion by Trustee Wozmak, seconded by Trustee Walker, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Timothy Crutchfield