

MINUTES

Police Pension Board Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 20, 2020 - 8:15 AM
Richland City Hall | The Parkway Conference Room
625 Swift Boulevard, Richland WA 99352

Police Pension Board Regular Meeting No. 727

Call to Order: Mayor Lukson called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Attendance: Mayor Lukson, Police Representatives Thomas; Moore and Couch; Finance Director Allen, Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers, Payroll Specialist Gagnebin, Christeen Weitz and Elizabeth Chino

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Kent and Administrative Services Director Koch

Presentations: None

Public Comments: None

Minutes:

1. Approve the meeting minutes of the January 16, 2020 Meeting

Mr. Couch moved and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion to approve the January 16, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Moore questioned the allowable timeframe a pensioner has to submit claims for payment. He added that it was his understanding that the six month would be calculated from when the request for payment was received, not from the date of service.

Mayor Lukson reviewed a copy of the Police Pension Board Policy and confirmed that the policy states that all claims must be presented for payment within six-months of the date the expense was incurred. Mr. Couch provided the Board with an example of how claims can be delayed by the insurance, not the pensioner. Mayor Lukson stated that this topic can be discussed later in the meeting if the Board is interested in amending the policy.

Financial Reports and Investments: Mr. Allen announced that the financial reports are not available as they are closing out the year-end reports.

Medical/Dental/Vision/Medicare/Other Claims:

1. Denial of claim for P36

Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers stated that she received an invoice and

Explanation of Benefits relating to P36's claim. The date of service for the claim was February 2019, outside the six month time period to submit claims. Jane Gagnebin added that the claim was not processed by the secondary insurance and it was submitted to the Police Pension Board by the medical provider.

Medicare automatically forwards the Explanation of Benefits to the secondary insurance and that was not done for this claim. An explanation for the delay in submitting the claim was not received. Ms. Rogers stated that she will send correspondence to P36 and request that the claim be submitted to the secondary insurance to process. The Board agreed to this course of action.

2. Consider two Special Requests for P8

The first reimbursement request submitted by P8 for \$5,787.96 is for expenses incurred with American Medical Response (AMR) for transportation expenses. Payroll Specialist, Gagnebin stated that insurance does not cover non-emergency transportation.

P8's in-home caregiver, Elizabeth Chino, provided details of P8's medical condition and stated that the non-emergency transportation services provided by AMR is the only viable method of transportation for P8 to obtain treatment for his wounds. The duration of treatment is currently unknown. Upon completion of treatment, P8 will revert to using Dial-A-Ride for transportation. Ms. Gagnebin provided the Board with a Cost of Care estimation for the Kennewick area. The Board discussed this claim in great detail.

Mr. Moore moved and Mr. Couch seconded the motion to table this issue until a discussion of a negotiated settlement is resolved. Motion carried 5-0.

The second reimbursement submitted by P8 for \$6,743.12 is for payroll taxes incurred during October 1st through December 31st. P8 employs in-home caregivers through Caregiver.com.

Mayor Lukson added that if the Board previously approved the in-home care, these expenses are part of that care. Mr. Allen stated that the Board pays for in-home care expenses and a quarterly tax will follow. There was further discussion about this claim.

Mayor Lukson moved and Mr. Moore seconded the motion to reimburse P8 for the payroll taxes and add the amount to the February Medical/Dental/Vision/Other Claims. Motion carried 5-0.

3. February 2020 Medical/Dental/Vision/Other Claims in the amount of \$21, 311.98.

Mr. Moore moved and Mr. Couch seconded the motion to approve the February Claims as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

Business Items:

1. March 19, 2020 Police Pension Board Meeting

Pension Secretary Rogers announced that she will be out of town during the March 19th meeting and inquired if the Board would like to cancel or reschedule the meeting. Mr. Moore suggested that payroll specialist, Jane Gagnebin fill in for that meeting. Mayor Lukson and Mr. Allen agreed.

2. Independent/Assisted Living Care Expenses for P39

P39's daughter, Christeen Weitz, was present and provided the Board with details of her father's housing situation. She also provided a cost difference for assisted living care and independent living care. Ms. Weitz stated that she paid the prorated amount billed by the assisted living facility. Mr. Moore replied that the Board will reimburse up to \$4,575 per month for assisted living facility expenses, anything incurred after that amount will be the responsibility of the pensioner.

The Board tabled the independent/assisted living care reimbursement expenses for P39 until the March meeting as a credit and corrected bill will be submitted by the pensioner's daughter.

Board Member Comments

Mayor Lukson questioned if the Board is interested in revising the current policy to allow a lengthier time for pensioners to submit claims. Mr. Couch replied that the policy covers Mr. Moore's concerns. The Board discussed this topic and concurred to leave the policy as is.

There was some discussion regarding invoices received for health care services involving out of network charges incurred with anesthesiologists. Often, it is unknown to the pensioner that the anesthesiologist is out of network. Mr. Allen provided insight as to how claims involving anesthesia are typically processed. A brief discussion regarding how to submit claims and who should contact a health advocate to assist with claims followed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk/Police Pension Board Secretary

Approved:

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