# MINUTES OF THE WV CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC RETIREMENT BOARD DISABILITY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING OF OCTOBER 4, 2022

A meeting of the West Virginia Consolidated Public Retirement Board Disability Review Committee was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, in the office of the West Virginia Consolidated Public Retirement Board located at 4101 MacCorkle Avenue, SE, Charleston, WV 25304. Due notice had been published.

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by D. Todd Murray, Chair.

## Item 1: Roll call

## Members present:

D. Todd Murray, Chair (via telephone)
Jeff Waybright, representing Auditor John B. McCuskey
Bill Barker
Reginald Patterson (via telephone)

#### Members absent:

Larry Cole

# A quorum was present.

## Also present:

Terasa Miller, CPRB Deputy Director
Nancy Butcher, CPRB Executive Assistant
Alysia Miller, CPRB Paralegal
Tammy White, CPRB Retirement Assistant Manager
Brittney James, CPRB PERS Disability Advisor
Missy Williams, CPRB TRS Retirement Advisor
Jonathan Booher, CPRB Uniformed Services Retirement Advisor

# Item 2: Approval of the August 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Murray stated that he would entertain a motion to approve the Disability Review Committee meeting minutes of August 16, 2022.

Reginald Patterson made a motion to approve the August 16, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Waybright. The motion was adopted.

# **Item 3: Disability Application Reviews**

Chairman Murray stated that he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss

medical disability applications as allowed by West Virginia Code §6-9A-4.

Jeffrey Waybright made a motion that the Disability Committee go into Executive Session. Bill Barker seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

The Disability Committee went into Executive Session at 2:04 p.m.

Chairman Murray reconvened the Disability Committee from Executive Session at 2:06 p.m.

Chairman Murray reviewed with the Committee, the staff's recommendations regarding disability retirement applications from the following systems:

| System | Approved<br>Total<br>Non-Duty | Denied<br>Total<br>Non-Duty | Total |
|--------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| PERS   | 6                             | 3                           | 9     |
| TRS    | 8                             | 1                           | 9     |
| TOTALS | 14                            | 4                           | 18    |

He stated that he would entertain a motion to approve the recommendations of staff and to recommend the same to the Board of Trustees.

Jeffrey Waybright made a motion that the Disability Committee approve the disability retirement applications as recommended by staff and recommend the same to the Board of Trustees. Bill Barker seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

## Item 4: Update on Physicians completing Independent Medical Exams

Terasa Miller, CPRB Deputy Director, reminded the committee of the difficulties that CPRB has had in retaining physicians to complete independent medical exams for disability applicants. Ms. Miller reported that she and Executive Director Jeffrey Fleck had met with Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC) to discuss employing CAMC physicians to conduct exams, but that CAMC was not interested. Ms. Miller noted that Marshall and WVU medicine also previously declined.

Deputy Director Miller informed the committee that CPRB currently employs three physicians to conduct independent medical exams: a psychiatrist in Beckley, a doctor in Charleston, and another doctor that has offices throughout the state. Ms. Miller explained that staff does not find the number of doctors and specialists, nor the locations of the physicians, to be sufficient for examining disabled members throughout the state. Ms. Miller noted that members are not reimbursed for travel expenses

associated with a visit to a Board doctor for a medical exam.

Deputy Director Miller reviewed the current statutory language regarding medical exams for all plans except the Judges Retirement System (JRS) and stated that the member may be retired by the board after a "medical examination." Ms. Miller suggested that the CPRB propose legislation to amend the statute for all plans except JRS to include "telemedicine exam or medical record review" as a means of evaluating disability retirement applications.

There was discussion among the members. The committee agreed that staff should draft proposed legislation for review by the Board.

### Item #5: Old Business

Chairman Murray inquired if there is any old business. None was heard.

# Item #6: New Business

Chairman Murray inquired if there is any new business. None was heard.

# Adjournment

Chairman Murray stated he would entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Reggie Patterson made a motion to adjourn. Jeffrey Waybright seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Todd Murray, Chairman

Jeffrey E. Fleck, Executive Director