



Retirement Board of the Policemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY – JUNE 27, 2024

Board Meeting Agenda
June 27, 2024, 9:00 A.M.

1. Roll Call
2. Requests from Members of the Public to Address the Board
3. Approval of Administrative Items
 - a. Approval of Minutes – Investment Meeting held May 20, 2024
 - b. Approval of Transcript – Investment Meeting held May 20, 2024
 - c. Approval of Minutes – Board Meeting held May 23, 2024
 - d. Approval of Transcript - Board Meeting held May 23, 2024
 - e. Approval of Minutes - Executive Sessions during Board Meeting held May 23, 2024
4. Approval of Board Orders
 - a. Detective Jorge Chavolla - Request for Pension Credit for Prior Service
 - b. Officer Anthony Graffeo –Duty Disability
5. Consideration for Approval of Benefit Applications and Expenses
6. Consideration for Approval of Application for Widow’s Annuity
 - a. Janet Luszczy-Chmielik – Regarding Officer Joseph Chmielik
7. Consideration for Approval of Applications for Credit For Prior Service
 - a. Officer Denise Burciaga
 - b. Officer Yezenia Jimenez
 - c. Officer Numan Nunn
8. Consideration for Approval of Applications for Disability / Reviews
 - a. Hearing for Officer Cynthia Donald – Duty Disability (10:00am)
 - b. Hearing for Officer Sara Hecker – Motion to Reconsider – Duty Disability (11:00)
 - c. Hearing for Officer Janice Harris – Motion to Reconsider– Duty Disability (11:15)
 - d. Hearing for Officer Jeffery Shafer– Duty Disability (11:30)
 - e. Hearing for Officer Roberto Ramirez - Duty Disability (12:30)
9. Legal Review*
 - a. In-process case report
 - b. Other
10. Other Business

*Topics may be discussed in closed session in accordance with the applicable Open Meetings Act provisions.

Board Members Present:

Melissa Conyears-Ervin*	Trustee
Annette Guzman	Trustee
Jill Jaworski	Trustee
John Lally	Trustee
Mike Lappe	Trustee
Jeffrey Levine *	Trustee, Vice President
Brock Merck	Trustee
Michael Stiscak	President, Recording Secretary

Staff Present:

Kevin Reichart	Executive Director
Sarah Boeckman*	Board Counsel
Kay Hylton	Benefits Manager
Bob Crawford	Disability Manager

Consultants and Advisors Present:

Dr. Susan Buchanan*	Board Physician
Richard Reimer*	Board Attorney/Hearing Officer

City of Chicago Office of the Treasurer Staff

Public in Attendance:

Ralph Licari*	Attorney
Gerald Marconi*	Attorney
Cynthia Donald*	Police Officer, CPD
Monica Ortiz	Police Officer, CPD (FOP)
John Catanzara*	Retiree, CPD (FOP)
Ms. Judy Luscinski-Chmielik*	Widow's Annuitant Applicant
Ms. Janet Luscinski*	Sister of Widow's Annuitant Applicant
Dr. Nicole Thompson*^	Witness for disability hearing
Dr. Steven Rothke*^	Witness for disability hearing
Sara Hecker *	Police Officer, CPD
Janice Harris *	Police Officer, CPD
Jeffery Shafer*	Police Officer, CPD
Tom Lonergan	Retiree, CPD
Rosemarie Giambalvo	Retiree, CPD

*Denotes partial attendance

^ Denotes remote attendance

ROLL CALL

Trustee Stiscak called the meeting to order and determined a quorum was present.

REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Trustee Stiscak asked if there were any requests from the public to address the Board. There was one request; annuitant John Catanzara, Fraternal Order of Police.

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The first order of business was review of the minutes of the Investment Meeting held May 20, 2024.

A motion to approve the minutes from the Investment Meeting held May 20, 2024, was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

The next order of business was the review of the transcript for the Investment Meeting held May 20, 2024.

A motion to approve the transcript of the Investment Meeting held May 20, 2024, was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

The next order of business was review of the minutes of the regular Board Meeting held May 23, 2024.

A motion to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting held May 23, 2024, was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

The next order of business was the review of the transcript for the regular Board meeting held May 23, 2024.

A motion to approve the transcript of the Regular Board meeting held May 23, 2024, was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

The next order of business was the review of the minutes of the Executive Sessions held May 23, 2024.

A motion to approve the minutes from the Executive Sessions held May 23, 2024, was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS – Continued

APPROVAL OF BOARD ORDERS

Detective Jorge Chavolla

Application; Credit for Other Service

Board Counsel provided a draft order to the Board.

A motion to adopt and publish the Board Order as submitted for Detective Chavolla was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

Officer Anthony Graffeo

Application; Duty Disability

Board Counsel provided a draft order to the Board.

A motion to adopt and publish the Board Order as submitted for Officer Graffeo was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE I-A Incurred Expenses for the Month of June 2024

A motion to approve the Incurred Expenses as detailed on Schedule I-A was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-A Refunds of Contributions

A motion to approve the Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-A was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-B Refunds of Surviving Spouse’s Contributions

A motion to approve the Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-B was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES – continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-C Refunds of Exempt Rank Contributions

A motion to approve the Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-C was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-D Partial Payment to Heirs of Deceased Annuitants

A motion to approve Payments to Heirs of Deceased Annuitants as detailed on Schedule II-D was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-E Refund of Unused Annuity Accumulations

A motion to approve the erroneous refund as detailed on Schedule II-E was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-F Refund of Contributions Received in Error

A motion to approve the erroneous refund as detailed on Schedule II-F was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-A Annuities with a Summary page

A motion to approve the Annuities as detailed on Schedule III-A, was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-B Annuities to Widows with a Summary page

A motion to approve the Annuities to Widows as detailed on Schedule III-B was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES – continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-C Annuities to Children

A motion to approve the Annuities to Children as detailed on Schedule III-C was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE IV Disability Benefits

Brittany L. Dotson, Claiming Ordinary Disability

A motion to award Brittany Dotson an ordinary disability benefit, as provided for in the Pension Act was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

Jamie Weber, Claiming Occupational Disease Disability

A motion to award Jamie Weber an occupational disease disability benefit as provided for in the Pension Act was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE V Payment of Death Benefits with a Summary

A motion to approve payment of the Death Benefits as indicated on Schedule V was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VII-A PRIOR SERVICE REQUEST UNDER PORTABILITY 40 ILCS 5/5-214.2

A motion to approve the requests to purchase additional pension credit for prior Law Enforcement service under 40 ILCS 5/5-214.2 as detailed on Schedule VII-A was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Levine.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES – continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VII-B REQUESTS TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL PENSION CREDIT UNDER PORTABILITY 40 ILCS 5/5-214.2 AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE 5/5-214(C)

A motion to deny the requests to purchase additional pension credit for prior Law Enforcement service under 40 ILCS 5/5-214.2 and Leave of Absence under 5/5-214 (c) as detailed on Schedule VII-B was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VII-C REQUESTS TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL PENSION CREDIT FOR PRIOR MILITARY SERVICE UNDER 40 ILCS 5/5-214.3

Documentation verified, review and discussion concluded. *A motion to approve the request to purchase additional pension credit for prior military service under 40 ILCS 5/5-214.3 as detailed on Schedule VII-C was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.*

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

REVIEWING APPLICATIONS OUT OF DOCKET ORDER

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-B Continued Annuities to Widows Hearing

This hearing conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the widow's annuity claim of *Judy Luszczy-Chmielik*. *Mrs. Luszczy-Chmielik* appeared before the Board, on her application. The records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to deny the Widow's Annuity to Judy Luszczy-Chmielik as detailed on Schedule III-B Continued was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Levine.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

A motion to appoint Sarah Boeckman as the Hearing Officer for the Credit For Other Service cases scheduled to be heard at this meeting was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES – continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VII-D APPLICATION FOR PENSION CREDIT FOR PRIOR SERVICE - HEARINGS

These hearings were conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the applications to received pension credit for prior service of Officer **Numan Nunn** and Officer **Yezenia Jimenez**.

Officer Jimenez appeared before the Board, without counsel, on her application. The records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to approve the request from Officer Jimenez to purchase additional pension credit for prior Law Enforcement service under 40 ILCS 5/5-214.2 as detailed on Schedule VII-D was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

Officer Nunn appeared before the Board, without counsel, on his application. The records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to deny the request from Officer Nunn to purchase additional pension credit for prior Law Enforcement service under 40 ILCS 5/5-214.2 as detailed on Schedule VII-D was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

Officer **Denise Burciaga's** application is deferred at this time.

General docketed items completed.

A motion to appoint Richard Reimer as the Hearing Officer for all disability cases scheduled to be heard at this meeting was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

HEARINGS

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII-A DISABILITY HEARINGS

Cynthia Donald – Duty Disability Claim

This hearing was continued and conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the disability claim of Officer Cynthia Donald.

WHEREUPON; Trustee Conyers Ervin joined the proceedings

Officer Donald appeared before the Board, with counsel, on her claim for a duty disability benefit. The records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant and her attending physicians, Dr. Thompson and Dr. Rothke.

A motion go into executive session per 2 (c) 4 was made by Trustee Lappe seconded by Trustee Jaworski.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Levine.

WHEREUPON; Trustee Levine left the proceedings.

A motion to enter open session was made by Trustee Guzman, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Levine.

THIS MOTION WAS DELAYED UNTIL LATER IN THE MEETING

A motion to deny Officer Cynthia Donald a duty disability benefit was made by Trustee Lally seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Lally, Lappe, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: Conyears-Ervin, Jaworski.
 Absent: Levine.

A motion to continue the ordinary disability benefit for Officer Cynthia Donald as provided for in the Pension Act was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Levine.

Janice Harris – Motion to Reconsider –Disability Status Hearing

This matter in once again before the Board. Previously this matter was reviewed and duty disability benefits were terminated January 31, 2024. Additional medical records have been supplied. After hearing additional testimony from Officer Harris and reviewing the new records *a motion to reinstate Officer Janice Harris's duty disability effective February 1, 2024, was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.*

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Levine.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII-A DISABILITY HEARINGS Continued

Roberto Ramirez – Duty Disability Claim

The scheduled witness on this claim was no longer available when this matter was called. Therefore, the attorney for Officer Ramirez requested a continuance.

A motion to approve continuing this case was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Guzman.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Levine.

Jeffery Shafer – Duty Disability

This hearing was continued and conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the disability claim of Officer Jeffery Shafer. Officer Shafer appeared before the Board, with counsel, on his claim for a duty disability benefit. The records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

WHEREUPON; Trustee Levine rejoined the proceedings, Trustee Conyears-Ervin left the proceedings.

A motion to continue this matter in order to secure Dr. Levin for testimony in this matter was made by Trustee Guzman seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

Sara Hecker – Motion to Reconsider –Disability Status Hearing

This matter in once again before the Board. Previously this matter was reviewed and duty disability benefits were terminated November 30, 2023. Additional medical records have been supplied. Additional testimony from Officer Hecker was heard.

A motion to enter into executive session per 2 (c) 4 of the open meetings act was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

A motion to exit executive session was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

Trustee Stiscak made a motion, seconded by Trustee Lally, to reconsider barring the testimony of Dr. Bare.

ROLL CALL: For: 0.
 Against: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

Motion fails

A motion to reconsider the Board’s October 26, 2023 ruling terminating Officer Hecker’s duty disability benefits, was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII-A DISABILITY HEARINGS-CONTINUED

A motion to reinstate Officer Sara Hecker’s duty disability effective December 1, 2023, was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Levine.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

A motion by Trustee Levine, seconded by Trustee Lappe is to have the Board’s order explicit that the motion applies retroactively to the date of termination.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

LEGAL REVIEW

A motion to enter into executive session per 2 (c) 11 of the open meetings act was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

A motion to exit executive session was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Jaworski.

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

All business concluded *a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Levine, seconded by Trustee Lally.*

ROLL CALL: For: Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Conyears-Ervin.