



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

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

Friday – March 21, 2025

Board Meeting Agenda
March 21, 2025, 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 February 24, 2025
 - b. Approval of Transcript - Investment Meeting held February 24, 2025
 - c. Approval of Minutes – Board Meeting held February 27, 2025
 - d. Approval of Transcript - Board Meeting held February 27, 2025
 - e. Approval of Minutes - Executive Session during Investment Meeting held February 24, 2025
 - f. Approval of Minutes - Executive Sessions during Board Meeting held February 27, 2025
4. Approval of Board Orders
 - a. Officer Daniel A. Johnson – Duty Disability
5. Consideration for Approval of Benefit Applications and Expenses
6. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Physician's Recommendations
7. Consideration for Approval of Applications for Disability / Reviews
 - a. Hearing for Officer Jemal King – Duty Disability
 - b. Hearing for Lieutenant Galen Caldwell – Duty Disability
 - c. Status Hearing for Officer Vasilios Kefalas – Duty Disability
 - d. Status Hearing for Officer Robert J. Smith – Duty Disability
8. Legal Review*
 - a. In-process case report
 - b. Other
9. 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
John Lally	Trustee, President
Thomas Lonergan	Trustee
Brock Merck	Trustee
Brian Wright	Recording Secretary

Staff Present:

Kevin Reichart	Executive Director
Paul Rzeszutko	Benefits Manager

Consultants and Advisors Present:

Dr. Peter Orris *	Board Physician
Richard Reimer*	Board Attorney/Hearing Officer

Public in Attendance:

Ralph Licari *	Attorney
Michael Rothman *	Attorney
Beth Svec	CPD
Jemal King *	CPD
Galen Caldwell *	CPD
David DiSanti *	FOP
Monica Ortiz *	FOP
Robert Smith *	CPD
Vasilios Kefalas *	CPD
Others in attendance not identified	

*Denotes partial attendance

^ Denotes remote attendance

ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary Wright determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at approximately 9:34 a.m.

REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

There were no requests from any members of the public to address the Board.

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The first order of business was approval of the minutes and transcripts of the Investment Meeting held February 24, 2025 and the Board Meeting held February 27, 2025.

A request was made to amend the February 27, 2025 Board Meeting minutes to reflect that the zoom conference call for the child annuity for Thomas Flynn was audio only.

A motion was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Wright to approve the minutes and the transcript of the Investment Meeting held February 24, 2025 and the minutes and transcript of the Board Meeting held February 27, 2025 provided the Regular Meeting minutes are amended to reflect that the zoom conference call for the child annuity for Thomas Flynn was audio only.

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

The next order of business was approval of the minutes of the Executive Sessions of the Investment Meeting held February 24, 2025.

A motion was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Wright to approve the minutes of the Executive Sessions held during the Investment Meeting on February 24, 2025.

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

The next order of business was approval of the minutes of the Executive Sessions of the Board Meeting held February 27, 2025.

A motion was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Wright to approve the minutes of the Executive Sessions held during the Regular Meeting on February 27, 2025.

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

APPROVAL OF BOARD ORDERS

Officer Daniel A. Johnson

Application; Duty Disability

Board Counsel provided a draft order to the Board for Officer Daniel A. Johnson. Officer Johnson was not present and was represented by Attorney Ralph Licari as counsel. Attorney Licari submitted a Motion to Defer Approval of the Board Order until further information can be obtained from the City as to whether the City will allow Officer Johnson to return to work.

A motion was made to defer the Board Order until the Investment Meeting to be held on March 31, 2025 was made by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Lonergan.

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

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES

DOCKET: SCHEDULE I-A Incurred Expenses for the Month of February 2025

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

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

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-A Refunds of Member Contributions

A motion to approve the contribution Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-A was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Merck.

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

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-B Refunds of Surviving Spouse Contributions

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

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

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

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

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

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES - continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-A Annuities with a Summary Page

A motion to approve the Annuities with summary as detailed on Schedule III-A was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Merck.

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

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

A motion to approve the Annuities to Widows with summary as detailed on Schedule III-B was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Merck.

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

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-D Child Support Orders

A motion to approve the Child Support Orders as detailed on Schedule III-D was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Merck.

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

DOCKET: SCHEDULE V Payment of Death Benefits with a Summary

A motion to approve payment of Death Benefits with summary as indicated on Schedule V was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Merck.

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

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VI Pension Credit – Military Leave in Service 5/5-212

Military documentation was verified for purchase of prior military credit.

As detailed in Schedule VI, requests to purchase pension credit for military service while on leave from the city pursuant to Section 5-212 of the Code.

A motion to approve the requests to purchase pension credit for military while on leave from City service as detailed on Schedule VI was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Merck.

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

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES - continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VII-C – Military Credit 5/5-214.3

Military documentation was verified for purchase of military credit while on leave from the City. As detailed in Schedule VII-C, requests to purchase pension credit for military service while on leave from the City pursuant to Section 5-214.3 of the Code.

A motion to approve requests to purchase pension credit for military service while on leave with the City under 40 ILCS 5/5-214.3 as detailed on Schedule VII-C was made by Trustee Merck, seconded by Trustee Lonergan.

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

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PHYSICIAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no final recommendations to consider.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII DISABILITY HEARINGS

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

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

Officer Jemal King– Duty Disability

This hearing was conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the duty disability claim of Officer Jemal King.

Officer King appeared before the Board, with Attorney Ralph Licari as counsel, on his claim for a 75% duty disability benefit. Records were reviewed and the claimant requested to change his claim from duty disability to ordinary disability.

A motion to award an ordinary disability benefit to Officer Jemal King was made by Trustee Conyears-Ervin, seconded by Trustee Wright.

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

Lieutenant Galen Caldwell – Duty Disability

This hearing was conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the disability claim of Lieutenant Galen Caldwell.

Lieutenant Caldwell appeared before the Board, with Attorney Ralph Licari as counsel, on his claim for a 75% duty disability benefit. Records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to award Lieutenant Galen Caldwell a duty disability benefit at 75% was made by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Lonergan.

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

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII DISABILITY HEARINGS - continued

Whereupon a brief recess was had.

Officer Vasilios Kefalas – Status Hearing

This status hearing was conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the duty disability claim of Officer Vasilios Kefalas.

Officer Kefalas appeared before the Board, with Attorney Rothmann as counsel, on his continued claim for duty disability.

Records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

Whereupon another brief recess was had.

Further records for Officer Kefalas were reviewed and further testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to enter into executive session for deliberation per 2 (c) 4 of the Open Meetings Act was made by Trustee Conyears-Ervin, seconded by Trustee Lonergan.

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

A motion to return to open session was made by Trustee Conyears-Ervin, seconded by Trustee Wright.

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

A motion to continue this matter for Officer Vasilios Kefalas until the April Board meeting was made by Trustee Wright seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.

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

Officer Robert J. Smith – Status Hearing

This status hearing was conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the duty disability claim of Officer Robert J. Smith.

Officer Smith appeared before the Board without counsel. Records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to enter into executive session for deliberation per 2 (c) 4 of the Open Meetings Act was made by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.

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

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII DISABILITY HEARINGS – continued

Officer Robert J. Smith – Status Hearing - continued

A motion to return to open session was made by Trustee Lonergan, seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lonergan, Merck, Wright.

 Against: 0.

Absent: Guzman, Jaworski, Levine.

A motion to continue the status hearing until the fall of 2025, for Officer Robert J. Smith was made by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Lonergan.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lonergan, Merck, Wright.

 Against: 0.

 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski, Levine.

LEGAL REVIEW

There were no legal topics discussed.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business discussed.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lonergan, Merck, Wright.

 Against: 0.

 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski, Levine.