



**Yuma County Sheriff's Office
Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Local Board
Special Meeting**

November 03, 2016

Members present: Greg Ferguson
Dave McDowell
Richard Meraz
Brenna Paulin
Frank Pereda

Members absent: None

Others present: Nora Mejia-Rico, Secretary
Eric Frost, PSPRS Member

A special meeting of the Local Board of the Yuma County Sheriff's Office Public Safety Personnel Retirement System was held Thursday, November 03, 2016, at the Yuma County Sheriff's Office.

Chairman Ferguson called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

The board reviewed the minutes of the April 26, 2016 special meeting. Ms. Paulin motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. McDowell seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Old Business

None

New Business

The local board reviewed the application for an Accidental Disability Retirement by Mr. Eric Frost. Mr. Frost was present at the hearing. Chairman Ferguson stated the following: 1) Mr. Frost signed the waiver of confidentiality allowing the local board to hear the case in an open public meeting; 2) Mr. Frost submitted his claim on September 19, 2016, and that the board met within the 60 day criteria; 3) the application was screened by Nora Mejia-Rico for completeness; and 4) Mr. Frost submitted medical records pertinent to the claim. Chairman Ferguson further stated the board would need to decide on one of three options: 1) to either direct the local board secretary to research doctors to conduct an Independent Medical Evaluation (IME), 2) request the applicant to obtain further medical evidence OR 3) deny the application.

Chairman Ferguson proceeded to agenda item 2.B, discussion and possible legal counsel to represent the local board in this case. After a brief discussion, the local board members agreed to continue with Mr. Frost's accidental disability hearing without legal counsel.

The local board members then returned to agenda item, 2.A, discussion and possible action to accept application for an Accidental Disability by Eric Frost. The board members asked Mr. Frost several questions regarding his medical condition(s), physicians that treated him, doctor's notes, workman's compensation's process, status and their IME report, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) documents, and the January 2016 accident. Mr. Frost answered all their questions; he explained his doctor's appointments/visits and his situation with workman's compensation to the board.

The board members advised Mr. Frost of the disability process as follows: 1) Sufficient medical evidence needs to be submitted to the local board for them to determine continuation of the disability process; 2) If there is not enough evidence, the board can request additional evidence to be submitted to the board; 3) If there is enough evidence, then an IME will be conducted; 4) Board's decision is based on the medical evidence obtained in that IME report; 5) Phoenix Office reviews the case to determine if the case meets the requirements; and 6) If the Phoenix Office disagrees with the local board's decision, they can appeal and request the board to review the case again.

The board members discussed with Mr. Frost regarding the medical evidence that he submitted for the local board to review. After the discussion, the board members agreed that the medical evidence was lacking proof of the medical condition(s) being diagnosed, what caused the condition(s) and the effect of the condition(s) to his job duties, and the correlation of the medical condition(s) to the accident. Mr. McDowell motioned to allow Mr. Frost to provide additional medical evidence to the board that would accurately describe the sustained injuries/medical conditions as it relates to the January 17, 2016 accident and to the filing of his medical disability, and allow the submission not to exceed sixty (60) days from today's hearing. Sgt. Meraz seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

New Members: The secretary advised the board members of the new PSPRS members: Kyle Christophel, date of hire 05/02/16; Vanessa Turner, date of hire 08/01/16; Erick Cisneros, date of hire 08/29/16; Francisco Duarte and Quinton Parker, their date of hire 10/10/16. Their medical evaluations were reviewed for pre-existing medical conditions. Letters of pre-existing condition(s) were sent to Kyle Christophel, Vanessa Turner, Erick Cisneros, and Francisco Duarte on November 01, 2016. The secretary advised the board that Mr. Parker has a pre-existing condition(s); however, he separated from employment prior to receiving notice. Ms. Paulin motioned to approve the new PSPRS members and to acknowledge those that had pre-existing conditions. Sgt. Pereda seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Separated Members: The secretary advised the board members that the following PSPRS members have separated from employment with the Yuma County Sheriff's Office: Erick Cisneros, date of separation 06/04/16; Frank Flores and David Stoltz-McCormick, their date of separation 06/11/16; Rolando Molina, date of separation 06/12/16; Gerardo Juvera, date of separation 08/22/16; Rigoberto Diaz, date of separation 09/30/16; Eric Frost, date of separation 10/22/16; and Quinton Parker, date of separation 10/31/16. Ms. Paulin motioned to approve PSPRS members that have separated from Yuma County. Sgt. Meraz seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

The next quarterly meeting was scheduled for December 14, 2016, at 3:00 p.m., however, if the local board receives Mr. Frost's additional medical evidence before then, a special meeting will be convene pertaining to his Accidental Disability application.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.


Norazel B. Mejia-Rico, Secretary of the Board