

City of Auburn Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Disability Board

Wednesday, March 2, 2016 - 10:00 AM – Council Conference Room

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Kelly called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Conference Room located on the first floor of Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street in Auburn. Members present included Chair Kelly, Chair Pro Tem Bill Petersen, and Member Claude DaCorsi. Member Trout and Member-at-large Kurt Vogel were excused. Also present were Board Attorney Doug Ruth, Human Resources and Risk Management Director Rob Roscoe, Compensation and Employee Relations Manager Aaron Barber, and Board Secretary Danielle Daskam.

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

A claim from Bob Wigley was added to the agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes of the February 2, 2016 LEOFF Board Meeting
Motion by Chair Pro Tem Petersen, second by Member DaCorsi to approve the minutes as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

IV UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Pending Disability Leave/Retirement Applications
There was no pending disability leave/retirement application.

- B. Pending Medical/Hearing/Vision/Dental Claims

1 Cali Ann Edwards

Request for reimbursement of equipment in the amount of \$20,077.35

On January 5, 2016, the LEOFF Board tabled Ms. Edwards' claim pending receipt of additional information regarding the medical necessity of the equipment and whether the claims were submitted to Medicare/insurance. No new information was received.

Motion by Chair Pro Tem Petersen, second by Member DaCorsi to table the claim until the next meeting.

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MOTION CARRIED 3-0

V NEW BUSINESS

A. Disability Leave/Retirement Applications

No application for disability leave/retirement was received.

B. Appeals/Requests for Reconsideration

No request for reconsideration was received.

C Medical/Hearing/Vision/Dental Claims

1 Dave Schuur

Request for approval/reimbursement of long-term care expenses for the month of February 2016 in the amount of \$3,978.80 (\$137.20/day).

Motion by Chair Pro Tem Petersen, second by Member DaCorsi to approve the claim in the amount of \$3,978.80

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

2. Sammy Mulkey

Application for long term care at nursing home facility, Life Care Center of Yuma.

Motion by Chair Pro Tem Petersen, second by Member DaCorsi to accept the application for long term care.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

3. Murray Board

Request for reimbursement of medical expenses in the amount of \$65.68.

Motion by Member DaCorsi, second by Chair Pro Tem Petersen to table the claim pending the receipt of additional information relating to the medical necessity of the services.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

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4 J. D. Evans

- a. Request for reimbursement of dental expenses in the amount of \$209 00 for services received on June 12, 2015.

Motion by Chair Pro Tem Petersen, second by Member DaCorsi to approve the claim in the amount of \$209.00.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

- b Request for reimbursement of medical expenses in the amount of \$389 79 for services received in 2014 and 2015

Motion by Member DaCorsi, second by Chair Pro Tem Petersen to approve the claim in the amount of \$389.79

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

5. Michael Corkins

Request for reimbursement of vision examination in the amount of \$170 00 and request for reimbursement of lenses in the amount of \$278.50

Motion by Chair Pro Tem Petersen, second by Member DaCorsi to approve the claim for the vision examination in the amount of \$170 00 and in the amount of \$270.00 for lenses/frames.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

6. John Calkins

Request for reimbursement of dental expenses in the amount of \$238.00 for dental services received on October 21 and December 21, 2015. Mr Calkins' dental expenses were previously found to be medically necessary

Motion by Member DaCorsi, second by Chair Pro Tem Petersen to approve the claim in the amount of \$238 00.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

7 James Kelly

Request for reimbursement of dental expenses in the amount of \$129 00 for dental services received on December 29, 2015. Mr

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Kelly's dental expenses were previously found to be medically necessary

Mr Kelly's claim was postponed until the April 5, 2016 meeting.

8. Bob Wigley

Request for reimbursement of dental expenses in the amount of \$325.00 for services on March 1, 2016. Mr Wigley has not received dental expense reimbursement in 2016.

Motion by Chair Pro Tem Petersen, second by Member DaCorsi to approve the claim in the amount of \$325 00

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

D Other Discussion

1 Update on Insurance Transition

Compensation and Employee Relations Manager Barber updated the Board on the transition of retirees from the Association of Washington Cities Trust medical and prescription plans to The Hartford and Premiera plans.

Mr Barber explained LEOFF 1 members were provided with a benefit card to be used for prescription co-pays. The benefit card would eliminate the need for LEOFF 1 members to submit claims for reimbursement of prescription co-pays to the LEOFF Board. The benefit levels or thresholds on the prescription benefit cards were based on LEOFF 1 member activities/usage in 2014 and 2015 and assuming co-pays in the amounts of \$10, \$20 and \$30. The initial benefit card bank account was established with \$10,000. The prescription benefit card administrator established a benefit cap of \$500 per individual, which proved to be an insufficient amount for some individuals. Since that time, the benefit cap has been lifted.

Mr Barber also reported he investigated the reason for the high amount of prescription co-pays and discovered some members were not presenting their prescription insurance card to the pharmacy. For the first two months of 2016, approximately \$3,200 in prescription costs have been spent by LEOFF 1 members.

Mr Barber stated he continues to work with individual retirees to assist through the transition and to address unusual circumstances.

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Director Roscoe stated that under the Association of Washington Cities Trust plan, the City was required to insure all LEOFF 1 members regardless of other employer provided plans. The City's new plan does not require 100 percent enrollment. Director Roscoe stated the City will be looking at any LEOFF 1 member who had other employer provided insurance available to them and likely discontinue insuring the member under the City's plan to avoid double coverage. The City will continue to pay for any obligation under the LEOFF law

2. Policy and Procedure Manual Update

Board members reviewed a memorandum from Board Attorney Doug Ruth addressing the requests/inquiries from LEOFF 1 member Mick Crawford.

Mr Crawford had asked the Board to identify the authority for the City to require a LEOFF 1 member to purchase Medicare Part B if the member is not eligible for Medicare. Attorney Ruth pointed out that all retirees over the age of 65 may purchase coverage under Medicare Part A and Part B or Part B alone.

Mr Ruth stated according to state statute and Court of Appeals decisions, the City has the authority to require that a person purchase Medicare Part B coverage or lose out on the corresponding reimbursement amount. Additionally, the LEOFF Board policies provide for reimbursement of Medicare premiums.

Attorney Ruth also advised that in 2014, the LEOFF Board sent Mr Crawford a letter urging him to enroll in Medicare Part B to ensure that he is not subject to any reduction in reimbursement levels. Attorney Ruth will follow-up with Human Resources to determine whether there is additional insurance premium expense incurred as a result of Mr Crawford's failure to enroll in Medicare Part B.

The Board also discussed Mr Crawford's request to change policies and procedures to eliminate prior approval for eye examinations and hearing exams. Following discussion, Attorney Ruth suggested including Mr Crawford's proposal for policy amendments in the next presentation of proposed amendments so that the Board can vote on the proposed amendments.

Chair Kelly acknowledged the receipt of a Washington State LEOFF Board Policies Comparisons handout that was distributed

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as part of last year's LEOFF Board Conference. Chair Kelly encouraged Board members to review the document and the benefits that other Boards provide to their LEOFF 1 members.

3. LEOFF Conference

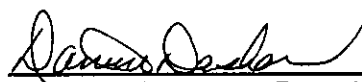
Chair Kelly announced that the next LEOFF Conference will be held in Chelan, May 10-13, 2016.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:43.

APPROVED this 5th day of April, 2016.


JIM KELLY, CHAIR


Danielle Daskam, Board Secretary