

PERSONNEL, PENSION AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
The Metropolitan District
Remote Only
Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Present: Commissioners John Avedisian, Donald Currey, Byron Lester, Maureen Magnan, Dominic Pane, Bhupen Patel, Pasquale J. Salemi, Raymond Sweezy, Alvin Taylor and District Chairman William A. DiBella (9)

Absent: Commissioners Shubhada Kambli, and Alphonse Marotta (2)

Also

Present: Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
Christopher Stone, District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer
Christopher Levesque, Chief Operating Officer
Christopher Martin, Chief Financial Officer
Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Services
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities
Robert Zaik, Director of Human Resources
Robert Constable, Manager of Treasury
Olga Cordova, Manager of Human Resources
Lisa Remsen, Manager of Budget and Analysis
Jamie Harlow, Manager of Labor Relations
Carrie Blardo, Executive Assistant to the CEO
Victoria Escoriza, Executive Assistant
Julie Price, Professional Level Associate
David Silverstone, Independent Consumer Advocate
Becky Sielman, Milliman
Laura Bucher, Milliman
Yelena Pelletier, Milliman

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On motion made by Commissioner Sweezy and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of February 10, 2021 were approved.

MILLIMAN PENSION ADMINISTRATION

Becky Sielman, Laura Bucher and Yelena Pelletier of Milliman led a discussion regarding pension administration.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTANT RFP 2021R-01

Commissioner Taylor appointed Commissioners Currey, Magnan, Pane, Patel and Sweezy to serve as a subcommittee to conduct interviews to make a recommendation to the Personnel, Pension and Insurance Committee.

Without objection, Agenda Item #6 “Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim – Goodwin” and Agenda item #7 “Settlement of Pending Litigation – Suchecki v. MDC”, were both discussed in one executive session.

SETTLEMENT OF WORKERS’ COMPENSATION CLAIM – GOODWIN

At 1:47 P.M., Chairman Taylor requested an executive session to discuss pending litigation.

On a motion made by Commissioner Sweezy and duly seconded, the Personnel, Pension and Insurance Committee entered into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

Those in attendance during the executive session:

Commissioners John Avedisian, Donald Currey, Byron Lester, Maureen Magnan, Dominic Pane, Bhupen Patel, Pasquale J. Salemi, Raymond Sweezy, Alvin Taylor and District Chairman William A. DiBella; Chief Executive Officer Scott W. Jellison; Chief Operating Officer Christopher Levesque, Chief Administrative Officer Kelly Shane; Manager of Human Resources Robert Zaik, Manager of Labor Relations Jamie Harlow, Attorneys Christopher Stone and John Mirtle.

RECONVENE

At 2:16 P.M., Chairman Taylor requested to come out of executive session and on motion made by Commissioner Sweezy and duly seconded, the Personnel, Pension & Insurance Committee came out of executive session and reconvened. No formal action was taken.

To: Personnel, Pension and Insurance Committee for consideration on April 28, 2021

The Chief Executive Officer authorized our workers' compensation attorney and our consultant, Workers' Compensation Trust ("WCT"), to review outstanding workers' compensation cases to determine if, based upon benefits paid and a reasonable projection of future costs, it would be in the District's best interest to approach one or more claimants to explore final resolution and closeout in order limit potential future costs.

With this directive, our counsel and WCT approached counsel for retired MDC employee Richard Goodwin ("Claimant"), and, subject to the requisite approvals, have reached a tentative agreement to close out the Claimant's nine workers compensation files. This tentative agreement is fashioned as a full and final settlement of all future indemnity and medical claims in the amount of \$ 24,900.00. Note that worker's compensation claims typically remain open for the claimant's lifetime.

If this agreement is approved by the Personnel, Pension and Insurance Committee and the Board of Commissioners, the stipulation would presented to the Workers' Compensation Commissioner for final approval.

Staff has reviewed the tentative agreement and recommends approval.

It is therefore **RECOMMENDED** that it be:

VOTED: That the Personnel Pension and Insurance Committee recommend to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to Section B2f of the By-Laws of the Metropolitan District, the Board of Commissioners of The Metropolitan District hereby authorizes District Counsel, or his designee, to execute any and all documents necessary to effect settlement of all Workers' Compensation Indemnity and Medical Claims for Richard Goodwin in the amount of \$24,900.00, subject to the final approval by the Workers' Compensation Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

On motion made by Commissioner Sweezy and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION
WILLIAM SUCHECKI v. METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION

To: Personnel, Pension & Insurance Committee

April 28, 2021

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section B2f of the By-Laws of The Metropolitan District, the Board of Commissioners of The Metropolitan District hereby authorizes District Counsel, or his designee, to settle the pending state lawsuit captioned ***WILLIAM SUCHECKI V. METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION***, Docket No. HHD-CV21-6140580-S, for the total sum of \$96,000.00, subject to the proper execution of any and all documents reasonably necessary to effect said settlement, including but not limited to a general release and the formal withdrawal of said action.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

On motion made by Commissioner Magnan and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judy Allen, West Hartford Resident, spoke regarding the May 3rd District Board Meeting Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date Approved