

MINUTES

METROPOLITAN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT BOARD

IN LINE OF DUTY COMMITTEE

October 23, 2025

The Metropolitan Employee Benefit Board's In Line of Duty Committee met on Thursday, October 23, 2025 in the Sonny West Conference Room, Howard Office Building, 700 President Ronald Reagan Way, Nashville, Tennessee at approximately 9:31 a.m.

Committee Members present: Chair: Jonathan Puckett; Vice-Chair: Christy Pruitt-Haynes; Members: Shannon Hall and Edna Jones. Alternate: Robert Weaver
Others present: Christina Hickey, Metro Human Resources, Nicki Eke Attorney, Metro Legal Department, Vickie Hampton, Davies, and Dr. Kenton Dodd, Civil Service Medical Examiner.

The Human Resources staff submitted the following for the Committee's consideration and appropriate action:

1. Public Comment Period

A maximum of five (5) persons who write their names on the sign-up sheet provided at the meeting will be allowed to comment on matters that are germane to items on the Agenda. Comments are limited to a maximum of two (2) minutes per person. To provide comment, you must sign up prior to the beginning of the meeting.

There were no public comments.

Christina Hickey noted that the actions taken at this Committee are recommendations to the full Board.

2. In line of duty medical care appeal – Employee from the Fire Department.

Vickie Hampton, Davies, was present.

The employee and Dewey Branstetter, attorney, were present.

Ms. Hampton stated this claim pertains to a 52-year-old male at the time of the injury on duty. She stated he filed a claim for hypertension and has had borderline blood pressures starting with his initial employment. She stated that he did not have a diagnosis of hypertension that is pre-existing and was not hired on a waiver. She stated that his borderline blood pressures do play a role when it comes to risk assessment and reviewed other risk factors for the diagnosis. She stated that Davies maintains its denial based on the RRS reviews which states that the medical evidence shows that the diagnosis primarily arose independent of the scope of employment and the condition is not presumed to be related.

There was some discussion of how the Framingham data was used to score his risk for developing hypertension, the presumption and the RRS review.

After some discussion of the RRS review and the Framingham data, the Committee felt that in spite of the RRS's conclusion it was appropriate to approve the claim considering his specific medical records.

Edna Jones moved to overturn the denial and approve the claim. Christy Pruitt-Haynes seconded, and the Committee approved without objection.

With nothing further presented the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**Shannon B. Hall, Director
Human Resources**

**Jonathan Puckett, Chair
In Line of Duty Committee**