

MINUTES

METROPOLITAN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT BOARD

IN LINE OF DUTY COMMITTEE

September 16, 2025

The Metropolitan Employee Benefit Board's In Line of Duty Committee met on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 in the Sonny West Conference Room, Howard Office Building, 700 President Ronald Reagan Way, Nashville, Tennessee at approximately 9:49 a.m.

Committee Members present: Chair: Jonathan Puckett; Vice-Chair: Christy Pruitt-Haynes; Members: Shannon Hall and Edna Jones. Alternate: Robert Weaver

Board members present: B.R. Hall, Sr.

Others present: Christina Hickey, Metro Human Resources, Nicki Eke and Hannah Zeitlin, Attorneys, Metro Legal Department, Vickie Hampton and Kim Binkley, Davies, and Dr. Kenton Dodd, Civil Service Medical Examiner.

Christina Hickey opened the floor to nominations for Committee Vice-Chair.

Shannon Hall nominated Christy Pruitt-Haynes for Committee Vice-Chair. Jonathan Puckett seconded. A vote was taken on the nomination for Committee Vice-Chair and was approved without objection.

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.

Kim Binkley, Davies, reviewed the claim with the Committee. She stated this claim pertains to a 62-year-old male at the time of the injury on duty. She stated he does have an open claim for hypertension and hyperlipidemia and was diagnosed with AFIB September of 2023. She stated a claim was filed and all the medical records were sent to RRS for review and the report stated that the hypertension is causally related to the claimant's diagnosis of AFIB based on the data that shows it contributes 50% to the risk of AFIB onset and other contributing factors. She stated that Davies maintains its denial based on both 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 word presumed is being used and that it should relate to the presumption under the law.

The employee was present and addressed the Committee regarding when he was diagnosed with AFIB and those claims being compensable.

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

The Committee discussed other contributing factors that are not covered under the presumption, the medical record showing all the contributing factors for AFIB and already having a covered presumption claim.

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

With nothing further presented the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Shannon B. Hall, Director
Human Resources

Jonathan Puckett, Chair
In Line of Duty Committee