

Public Safety Memorial Fund Board Minutes April 26, 2018

The Public Safety Memorial Fund Board held an emergency teleconference meeting on Thursday April 26, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem, Oregon. Chair Patricia Patrick-Joling called the meeting to order at approximately 10:20 a.m.

*Administrative Announcement:
This is a public meeting and it is being recorded.*

Attendees

Patricia Patrick-Joling, Chair
Brian Wolfe
Nadine Purington
Colette Peters

Members absent:

Tricia Connolly
Jeff Hering

DPSST Staff:

Linsay Hale, Professional Standards Division Director
Theresa Janda, Executive Assistant to the Director

1. *Minutes for March 9, 2018

Approve minutes for the March 9, 2018 Public Safety Memorial Fund Board meeting.

Collette Peters motioned to approve the minutes from the Public Safety Memorial Fund Board meeting held on March 9, 2018. Nadine Purington seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

2. *Proposed Rule Change for OAR 259-070-0001; Repeals the rule to eliminate unnecessary duplication of statutory language

Jennifer Howald explained the proposed change repeals unnecessary language that is duplicative of language already in statute.

Action Item 1:

File the proposed repeal as a permanent rule.

Brian Wolfe motioned to file the proposed repeal as a permanent rule as stated above. Collette Peters seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Action Item 2:

Fiscal impact statements were provided that found no fiscal impact to small businesses. Determine whether there is any resulting fiscal impact.

The Public Safety Memorial Fund Board found by consensus that there is no fiscal impact from this action

3. *Proposed Rule Change for OARs 259-070-0005 and 259-070-0020; Amends eligibility requirements for discretionary benefits for the purpose of adding clarification to the definitions and processes.

Jennifer Howald explained that this proposed change includes three parts.

- The first is in regard to the alternative coverage pertaining to the health and dental discretionary benefits available through the Fund. This rule change provides clarity on what the available coverage would be, by giving a definition of alternate coverage.
- The rule change extensively adds more process to the consideration for scholarship. In existing rule for scholarship is a single reference to the outdated language of “State institution of higher education”, in an attempt to define something listed in Statute. This was addressed, working with the Department of Justice, by adding a new process to the Administrative rule.
- In addressing the final issue of eligibility the process has been streamlined. As the initial application is received and it is determined that the individual has met the eligibility requirements, going forward, that could be the basis to proceed on the discretionary application process, by removing one step and eliminating the need to make the same determinations about the beneficiary’s eligibility multiple times. This is done by adding a definition to the rule.

Fiscal impacts: Because it is seeking clarification of existing statutory eligibility requirements, the fiscal impact was listed as no fiscal impact or minimal fiscal impact and no small businesses were identified.

Action Item 1:

Approve the filing of the proposed rule change as permanent if no comments are received.

Action Item 2:

Discuss any fiscal impact, if necessary.

Collette Peters motioned to approve the filing of the proposed rule change as permanent. Brian Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

By consensus the Board found that there is no fiscal impact.

4. *Proposed rule Change for OAR 259-070-0050; Adds transition language for the supplemental application for discretionary benefits process change

Jennifer Howald reviewed the effect of the rule change, referencing the previous rule change made at the meeting in July of 2017 regarding the process by which discretionary benefits applications (secondary applications) are submitted and reviewed, whereby each individual application requires a review. Since then the Board authorized staff to go forward with the application process changes and forms were updated. This rule change recognizes that we do have beneficiaries who will continue to receive their benefits under the existing application process. New beneficiaries starting after January 1, 2018 will have applications processed under the new process.

Brian Wolfe motioned to approve this rule change. Collette Peters seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

5. *Malcus Williams (DPSST #33171) – Ashland Police Department; Supplemental Application for Discretionary PSMF Benefits

A supplemental application for benefits was submitted by Ona Williams, spouse of deceased officer Malcus Williams. The initial benefits were considered and approved at an emergency meeting on March 9, 2018, as Officer Williams' death was found to be a qualifying death for the purposes of Memorial fund benefits. Since then a \$25,000.00 lump sum mandatory benefit was delivered to the family. Mrs. Williams has since also decided that she would like to be considered for health and dental reimbursement, which is a discretionary benefit, awarded by this Board. Staff has confirmed that Ona, daughter Brooklyn and daughter Georgia are family members, as defined by statutes that govern the Memorial fund. Staff has also confirmed that at the time of the application there was no alternative health and dental coverage available as defined by ORS and OAR. We have confirmed through the Ashland Police Department that continuation of the health and dental insurance coverage provided through Officer Williams' employment would cost 1,938.00 per month. Savannah Williams' age precludes her from coverage but this does not impact the cost of coverage. Mrs. Williams is requesting 12 months of reimbursement through this application. The cost of the monthly benefit x 12 would total \$23,267.40.

Members of the Public Safety Memorial Fund Board are asked to consider all of the information in the application packet submitted by Mrs. Williams and consider funds available for benefit awards and any anticipated draws on the fund. Linsay Hale passed out the most recent budget report (Attachment E) on the Memorial fund, with numbers current as of 2/28/18. Besides \$25,000.00 already issued to the family there have been no additional checks written from this fund as shown on Attachment E.

Action Item 1:

Consider the application for supplemental benefits submitted by Ona Williams and determine whether or not to award the discretionary benefits being requested.

Action Item 2:

If the decision is made to award the benefits, determine the amount.

Collette Peters motioned to approve the application submitted by Mrs. Williams for supplemental benefits for the full 12 months, as requested. Brian Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Linsay addressed the Chair stating that she will have her sign the appropriate documents at this time and with the Chair's permission, she will facilitate the delivery of the check to the Williams family.

Linsay Hale stated that the original check was delivered through coordination with Chief O'Meara on the behalf of the Public Safety Memorial Fund Board.

3. Next meeting – July 26, 2018

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.