Spokane County Law Enforcement Officers & Fire Fighters Board (LEOFF 1)
Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2019

The Spokane County Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Disability Board met on Friday, May 3, 2019 for a posted regular meeting.

Board Members Present: Jim Finke, Neil Halverson, George Orr, and Teresa Overhauser; Josh Kerns – arrived at 10:24 a.m.

Staff Present: Jamie Burchett, Secretary for LEOFF 1 Board & Jim Kaufman, Board Legal representative and Kristine Redmond, Board Consultant

County Stakeholders: Angela Golden from Spokane Valley Fire, Bruce Millsap of SIA, Patrick Burch and Montie Nesbitt of Spokane Valley Fire, Michelle Plunkitt of SIA, Jim McPhee – outside counsel for SIA were present

10:17 a.m. called to order and discussed closed session for claim, however Board decided to proceed with open session on the matter.

1) Claim 19-02SCSO – Reimbursement for hearing aids; Moved by Theresa Overhauser to approve reimbursement and George Orr seconded; Vote taken with all in favor

2) Claim SCFD3 – 1 – Doctors note still needed to support need for hearing aids; Moved by George Orr to require a doctor’s note before reimbursing and Neil Halverson seconded; All in favor

3) Adoption of recorded meetings presented based on last meeting it being suggested we start recording meetings; In the meetings section of policies proposed language “May record meetings electronically” at end of Section 4; Teresa asked for clarification on length it would be held and Kristine Redmond noted it would be stored indefinitely per LEOFF 1 statute. George Orr motioned that meetings be recorded and that we add language into policy manual and Neil Halverson seconded; Vote taken with all in favor.

10:32 a.m. the recording was started

4) George Orr moved to accept meeting minutes as written and Neil Halverson seconds the motion; Asked if there was any discussion which Jim McPhee voiced a concern; Josh Kerns asked for clarification on if the minutes are accurate and Neil Halverson asked Jim McPhee to provide specifics that need to be discussed. Corrections needed: 1) Preamble language in the policy book needed typo of here in after to be corrected to one word; 2) Section 4 – 2nd paragraph – meeting cancellation section needed to include language that meetings may be cancelled by Board Members and will be provided to Board members; 3) Make sure that it is clear in the revised policy book that it accurately reflects already passed motions; 4) Behavioral/Mental Health section needs to have January 1 – December 31 added to the end; He recommended that could adopt minutes with clean up to those items and this was agreed upon; Vote taken with all in favor

Note: Ron Valencia joined as a stakeholder at 10:35 a.m.
5) Jim Kaufman spoke regarding distinction of executive vs. closed session. Recommend adding language after first paragraph in LEOFF 1 policies Section 4 meetings “Other than closed sessions pursuant to RCW 42.30.140”; Teresa Overhauser motioned to make changes clarifying this language and Josh Kerns seconded; Vote taken with all in favor

6) Jim Finke discussed dental policy including the dollar amount of dental policy; Teresa Overhauser asked for clarification on purchasing dental policy vs. just covering expenses; George Orr clarified that through discussions with stakeholders, could not require them to purchase a policy and Jim Kaufman & Jim Finke expanded on this as well; Concerns were raised about administration being at stakeholder level or at Board along with making sure it was handled consistently; Jim Finke there are 3 options available to entities which were to 1) provide dental insurance; 2) Flat $ amount provided or 3) Have retiree purchase their own coverage; Jim McPhee asked for clarification on maximum dollar amounts and would Board pay above what was covered under a policy provided by a stakeholder; Josh Kerns ask for clarification about who is administrator of watching the maximums which Jim Finke stated each jurisdiction would administer claims. Both Jim Kaufman and Angela Golden pointed out that we didn’t flesh out this administration piece at the subcommittee level; Jim McPhee asked what was purpose of voting members on that subcommittee if no final vote was taken on dental policy?; Patrick Burch commented that would be more efficient at subcommittee level to flesh out issues and then bring to Board.

Recess called at 11:50 a.m.

Back in session at 11:55 a.m.

7) George Orr noted he was in favor of moving on dental policy; Jim Finke asked for discussion; Teresa Overhauser felt one more meeting was in order on this matter and Josh Kerns motioned to table dental policy until a subcommittee meeting was held and affirmative vote of subcommittee has occurred to present to the Board; Seconded by Teresa Overhauser. 3 aye votes from Jim Finke, Josh Kerns & Teresa Overhauser and 2 naye votes from George Orr and Neil Halverson; Motion passed to have one more subcommittee meeting regarding dental policy.

There was no further business to come before the LEOFF Board and the special meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.