

OF75001

TYPE OF RECORD: PERMANENT

CATEGORY OF RECORD: MINUTES

CITY DEPARTMENT: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

YEAR: 1975

MINUTES

FIREMEN'S PENSION BOARD

January 20, 1975

The Grand Junction Firemen's Pension Board met at 8:15 a.m. with City Manager Harvey Rose presiding. Board members present were Victor Vance, Pat Bittle, Eldon Avery, Clarence Cooper, and Cecil Campbell. Also attending were Gerald Ashby, R. T. Mantlo, Edward Billings, and Jim Martin, from CRLS representing Mr. Billings.

The meeting was called to order by Harvey Rose. The first item of business was a letter of December 30, 1974, relating to the physical condition of Edward Billings which was submitted by Paul D. Wubben, M.D.

December 30, 1974

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

RE: BILLINGS, Mr. Ed

Mr. Ed Billings on November 25 and 26, 1974, was given pulmonary function tests, a treadmill exercise electrocardiogram, and had arterial blood gases drawn. The treadmill exercise electrocardiogram was read as "negative", meaning no apparent cardiac disease. The pulmonary function tests did not make sense, particularly when compared with those done on 5-31-73. Accordingly, the pulmonary function tests and arterial blood gases were repeated on 12-5-74. These were discussed with Dr. James, an internist and head of the pulmonary function lab. Dr. James also looked at the chest x-ray which he did not judge to be significantly abnormal.

We concluded that the results of Mr. Billings' pulmonary function studies are inconsistent with each other. Certainly, in explanation, no one can test the same each time, depending on many conditions. Also it is very difficult for the examiner to determine if the person being tested is giving maximum effort. It would be impossible for the changes in these pulmonary function tests to be present without an inconsistent effort on the part of Mr. Billings.

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In summary the pulmonary function tests show minimal obstructive changes, but certainly they do not demonstrate significant lung disease. These changes are probably not any more than would be expected in a man of his age and weight, who smokes, is out of condition and who drinks too much. Probably, with proper physical conditioning and temperate habits, Mr. Billings' performance could be improved to that of normal for his age and weight.

Yours truly,
/s/ Paul Wubben
PAUL D. WUBBEN, M. D.

PDW/d1

cc: Dr. James

Because the Board Members had received a copy of the above letter, Mr. Rose read aloud only the last paragraph. Mr. Ashby stated that in view of this letter and the letter from G. Paul Smith, it would appear Mr. Billings is fit to come back to the Fire Department. He pointed out that the Board has two options: (1) to return Mr. Billings to work, or (2) to leave him on the Fire Pension and return him to work.


It was moved and seconded to remove Mr. Billings from the Fire Pension and return him to work.

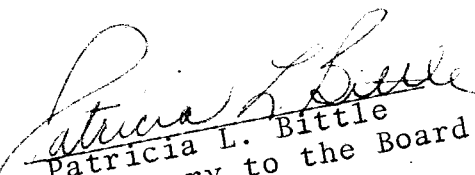
Mr. Martin referred to sections of the letters submitted by Dr. Smith, 10-31-74, and Dr. Wubben 12-30-74, relating to Mr. Billings' heart condition. He asked that before voting on the above motion the Board consider a third option. City Attorney Ashby agreed that such an opinion would establish a clear starting point for Mr. Billings.

Eldon Avery moved to amend the motion to read: Mr. Billings removed from the Firemen's Pension and returned to work which action would be contingent upon an examination by a third physician. Motion passed unanimously.

It was agreed that the Board should select the physician, and Bittle, Secretary to the Board, was directed to notify Mr. Billings of his appointment and to notify Mr. Martin of the results of examination.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Harvey M. Rose, Pres

ATTEST: 
Patricia L. Bittle
Secretary to the Board