

NEW ORLEANS FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

Martin Gaal
Board President

Thomas F. Meagher, III
Secretary-Treasurer

SUBJECT:

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Firefighters' Pension & Relief Fund**

TIME, DATE AND PLACE:

**April 10, 2019
3520 General DeGaulle
Suite 3001
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130**

The following members of the Board of Trustees were present: Thomas Meagher, Angelo Marchese, Tim McConnell, Al Tervalon, III, Martin Gaal and Norm White. Nick Lavene was absent.

Also present

Pam Meyer

Louis Robein, Board Attorney

Paul Mitchell

Brandon Kershak, active firefighter

A quorum being present, the Board President called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Meagher noted that the Board received a thank you note from Doug Arbo's family.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the March 2019 Regular Board minutes.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Messieurs Lateef Shaheer, Reice O’Keefe and Brandon Tervalon have resigned and are requesting a refund of employee contributions.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the refund of employee contributions for Shaheer, O’Keefe and Tervalon.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

CHANGE OF BENEFICARY

None

DROP WITHDRAWAL

Rodolphe W. Toranto, Jr. is terminating his DROP effective March 31, 2019.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by White to approve the DROP withdrawal for Mr. Toranto effective March 31, 2019.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to go into executive session to discuss medical matters relating to disability applications.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to come out of executive session.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

Rodolphe W. Toranto, Jr. New Fire District Chief, age 56 with 27 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension effective April 10, 2019.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the 50% service connected disability pension which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member’s average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REGULAR RETIREMENT APPLICANTS:

None

PLOP APPROVAL

Robert M. Eiserloh: New Fund Assistant Superintendent, age 56 with 34 years of service has elected to PLOP on his pension benefit effective March 19, 2019.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the PLOP election for Mr. Eiserloh.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

DROP APPLICATIONS effective April 1, 2019

Derek A. Woods: New Fund fire operator, age 51 with 23 years of service is applying for DROP.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the DROP application which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Alfred J Schloegel New Fund Fire Operator age 55 with 30 years of service is applying for DROP.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the DROP application which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Pensioners:

Douglas R. Arbo: died on March 7, 2019 at the age of 77, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on June 21, 1971 and retired on February 10, 1999 after 28 years of service. He spent 20 years on pension.

Charles P. Hutzler, Jr. died on March 12, 2019 at the age of 77 leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on June 17, 1964 and retired on June 17, 1981 after 17 years of service. . He spent 38 years on pension.

Curtis May died on March 20, 2019 at the age of 75, leaving no widow and no minor children. He entered the department on July 9, 1965 and retired on February 17, 1986 after 20 years of service. He spent 33 years on pension.

Widows:

Annamirl F. Heck: died on March 9, 2019 at the age of 75. Benefits began on February 1, 2015 and were paid for 4 years.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to remove the above noted deceased members from the pension rolls.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS

Mrs. Judith Ann Hutzler: Mrs. Hutzler is applying for a Non -Duty Widow's benefit effective April 1, 2019.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the Non Duty Widow's Benefit effective April 1, 2019 for Mrs. Hutzler.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Mrs. Erin Perdue: Mrs. Perdue has provided sufficient additional information to support a Line of Duty Widow's Benefit. She was granted a non-duty benefit effective February 1, 2019.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve a Line of Duty Widow's Benefit effective February 1, 2019 for Mrs. Perdue.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Board members were provided with key financial revenue and disbursement figures for the New and Old system for March 2019.

OLD BUSINESS:

SEB payment history request: No update provided

Information for life insurance: No update provided

NEW BUSINESS:

Board member related party questionnaire: Board members were provided with related party questionnaires for completion today in connection with the 2018 audit. Lavene, who did not attend the meeting, will complete his questionnaire on or about April 22, 2019. A completed questionnaire was obtained for all other Board members serving during 2018. The completed forms will be provided to the auditors by pension staff.

Compliance questionnaire: Mitchell provided each Board member with a copy of a completed Annual compliance questionnaire for their review. The compliance questionnaire was reviewed by members of the Board and attested to by the Board President and Secretary Treasurer.

MOTION: On a motion by Meagher and second by Gaal and in connection with the 2018 audit of the Fund's financial statements, members of the Board have adopted the said completed compliance questionnaire for forwarding to the system's auditors.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosures: Meagher noted that 2018 Personal Financial Disclosure forms are due in Baton Rouge by May 15, 2019. The Retired and Active firefighter representatives of the Board agreed to complete their forms and have them transmitted via fax from the office. Other Board members will submit their forms independent of this group.

Land Acquisition Mr. Meagher lead a discussion regarding the acquisition of certain NORA owned property for a future office building location. He noted that two parcels of land in the Lakeview area have been identified as a potential location for a permanent office location. He is seeking permission to execute an agreement with NORA, recognizing his intent to purchase the property under certain conditions. Those conditions include proper zoning to allow for the building, and parking approvals from the LA DOT, among other things. Board members inquired about the current project including info on total square footage, anticipated construction costs, funding sources, among other things. All board members understood that the letter of intent would allow Mr. Meagher to continue with his efforts to move forward in

obtaining parking, zoning and other data. He noted that he would come back to the Board for final approval to purchase the land at the appropriate time.

MOTION: Moved by Gaal and seconded by Marchese to allow Mr. Meagher to execute an intent to purchase agreement with NORA for a certain tract of land in the Lakeview area and to continue efforts to secure the appropriate zoning, parking and costs estimates.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

LEGAL:

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to go into executive session to discuss legal matters relating to Lakewood and Citco litigation.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to come out of executive session.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

TIMELY FILING OF APPLICATIONS:

All Members applying for retirement, DROP or PLOP must do so 45 days in advance of the scheduled retirement date. All medical documentation for disability applications must be in the administrative office 45 days prior to the scheduled retirement date. Failure to comply with the Fund's rules will cause a delay in the Board taking action and will probably force an extension beyond the member's desired retirement date.

The administrative office will continue to process all paperwork in a friendly, orderly, and timely fashion. We thank all applying members for their continued cooperation. This will enable the Administrative Office and the Board of Trustees to perform their jobs more efficiently.

Members who have recently changed their address or marital status and have not updated their beneficiary form should do so. Please contact the Pension Office during the hours of 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for beneficiary verifications. Your cooperation is appreciated.

APPROVED BY: Thomas F. Meagher III **Date:** 5/15/19