

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:

**August 10, 2022
5710 general Haig Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70124**

This meeting was available via Web-ex.

The following members of the Board of Trustees were present: Thomas Meagher, Branden Krsak, Alcide Tervalon, Martin Gaal, Stephen Roy and Roman Nelson. Norman White was absent.

Also present:

Louis Robein, Board Attorney

A quorum being present, the Board Secretary Treasurer called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Meagher noted that the Louisiana Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems (LAPERS) and National Conference of Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS) are meeting soon. LAPERS will meet in New Orleans on Sept 18-20 and NCPERS is schedules for a police and fire conference in Nashville, TN.

Board members are encouraged to attend both conferences. Registration will be handled by the office staff. Hotel and travel for Nashville should be done by each member.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to approve attendance to the LAPERS and NCPERS conference for members and staff requesting to attend.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

Meagher noted that the July 2022 minutes require approval.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to accept the minutes of the July 2022 meeting with minor corrections.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Evan J. Donnelly a member with five years of service, has resigned and requested a refund of employee contributions.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to approve the refund of employee contributions to Mr. Donnelly.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

CHANGE OF BENEFICARY

Michael Windsay, Brandon Krsak, Andrew Lain and Marc Tremblay have updated their beneficiary forms.

DROP WITHDRAWAL

None

R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

None

REGULAR PENSION APPLICATIONS:

None

PLOP APPROVALS

None

REVERSE DROP

None

DROP APPLICATIONS

Eric Frederick: New Fund Firefighter, age appropriate with thirty years of service is applying to enter DROP.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to approve the DROP application for Mr. Frederick effective August 1, 2022 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 30 years or more 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 up to 100% of pensionable salary.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Hanson J. Smith: New Fund firefighter age appropriate with 30 years of creditable service is applying to enter DROP.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve the DROP application for Mr. Smith effective July 1, 2022 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 30 years or more 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 up to 100% of pensionable salary.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Members

None

Widows:

Mrs. Virginia Simmonds died on May 19, 2022 at the age of 85. Her benefits began on July 1, 1993, 28 years ago.

MOTION: Moved by Gaal and seconded by Meagher to remove the members and widows from the rolls.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS

Mrs. Mary Jo Byrd Cantrell is applying for a non-duty widow's benefit effective February 1, 2022.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a non-duty widow's benefit for Mrs. Cantrell effective February 1, 2022.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Denise Monk-Simmons is applying for a non-duty widow's benefit effective August 1, 2022.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a non-duty widow's benefit for Mrs. Simmons effective August 1, 2022.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Kirsten E. Steeves (mother of Alec J. Mulvihill) is applying for a survivor's benefit by named beneficiary effective June 13, 2022.

Action deferred

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Andrew Lain is a retiree who selected a joint and survivor benefit. His wife has died. Mr. Lain is requesting a pop-up in benefits.

Action deferred.

Barrett Williams is seeking a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension. Addition medical information was received and discussed.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the 50% Service Connected Disability pension effective July 13, 2022 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 30 years or more 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 up to 100% of pensionable salary.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Board members were provided with key financial revenue and disbursement figures for the New and Old system for July 2022.

OLD BUSINESS:

SEB payment history request: No update provided

Information for life insurance: No update provided

Office Building update: Mr. Meagher noted that the final billings are being compiled. The construction did not exceed estimates by much. A full accounting will be presented to the Board next month.

NEW BUSINESS

None

LEGAL:

American Pension Consultants: Mr. Robein delivered a check in excess of \$200,000, received from legal counsel of Mr. Triche in partial fulfillment of his plea agreement.

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. Myhr Date: 9/14/2022