

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:

**December 20, 2023
5710 General Haig Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70124**

This meeting was available via Webex.

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

Also present:

Louis Robein, Board Attorney

Paul Mitchell

Pam Meyer

Teresa Kehoe

Louis Carrier

A quorum being present, the Board Secretary Treasurer called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Meagher noted that the Opel/ LATEC conference will be held from Feb 7-9, 2024. The conference is local and all Board members have been registered.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

Meagher noted that the November 2023 minutes require approval.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to accept the minutes of the October 2023 meeting.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

None

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY

Mr. Nolan Trosclair and Donald Armelin have requested a change in beneficiary forms.

DROP WITHDRAWAL

None

R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

Thomas D. Howley: New Fund Fire District Chief, age eligible with 31 years of service is applying for a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension effective December 20, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension application for Mr. Howley effective December 20, 2023, 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

Louis Carrier: New Fund Fire Public Information Officer, age eligible with 16years of service is applying for a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension effective December 20, 2023. Mr. Carrier was present for this meeting and met with the Board in executive session.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to deny a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension application for Mr. Carrier 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

Mr. Carrier was informed that he has the right to appeal this decision and that he should provide the Board and the Board's physician with additional medical information to support his application.

REGULAR PENSION APPLICATIONS:

None

PLOP APPROVALS

None

REVERSE DROP

None

DROP APPLICATIONS

Mr. Michael Donaldson: New Fund Fire Captain, age eligible with 30 years of service is applying to enter DROP effective December 1, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a DROP application for Mr. Donaldson effective December 1, 2023, 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

Mr. Paul A. Templer, Jr.: New Fund Fire Captain, age eligible with 30 years of service is applying to enter DROP effective December 1, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a DROP application for Mr. Templer effective December 1, 2023, 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

WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS

Mrs. Wanda Hickman is applying for a Non- Line of Duty widows benefit effective November 1, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a Non-Line of Duty widow's benefit for Mrs. Hickman effective November 1, 2023.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Cheryl Washington is applying for a Non- Line of Duty widows benefit effective December 1, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by White to approve a Non-Line of Duty widow's benefit for Mrs. Washington effective December 1, 2023.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Jean Arnone is applying for a Line of Duty widows benefit effective December 1, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to deny a line of duty benefit and approve a Non-Line of Duty widow's benefit for Mrs. Arnone effective December 1, 2023.

Mrs. Arnone has the right to appeal the decision and provide additional information to support her application.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

APPLICATIONS PENDING

None

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Members

Alphonse J. Antone, Jr. died on November 13, 2023 at the age of 79, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on January 24, 1964 and retired on February 12, 1987 with 23 years of service. He spent 36 years on pension.

Robin Washington died on November 11, 2023 at the age of 69, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on August 13, 1976 and retired on July 11, 1988 with 11 years of service. He spent 35 years on pension.

Donald J. Conrad died on November 29, 2023 at the age of 67, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on July 12, 1971 and retired on August 3, 1986 after 7 years of service. He spent 37 years on pension.

Peter M. Frisch died on November 29, 2023 at the age of 73, leaving no widow and no minor children. He entered the department on July 12, 1971 and retired on August 3, 2005 after 34 years of service. He spent 18 years on pension.

Dale Messina died on December 5, 2023 at the age of 83, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on April 5, 1971 and retired on January 16, 1976 after 4 years of service. He spent 47 years on pension.

Herman E. Cancienne died on December 11, 2023 at the age of 86, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on December 14, 1961 and retired on September 1, 1983 after 19 years of service. He spent 40 years on pension.

Widows:

Nancy Mondy died on December 1, 2023 at the age of 85. Her benefits began on September 1, 1996, 27 years ago.

Glenda Veller died on November 3, 2023 at the age of 80. Her benefits began on April 1, 2002, 21 years ago.

MOTION: Moved by Gaal and seconded by Nelson to remove the deceased members from the rolls.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Board members were provided with key financial revenue and disbursement figures for the New and Old Systems for November 2023.

OLD BUSINESS:

SEB payment history request: No update provided

Information for life insurance: No update provided

NEW BUSINESS

Lakewood Restoration

Meagher provided the Board with information regarding a potential investment opportunity regarding Lakewood Restoration.

Personnel Committee

Salary adjustments for 2024: Roy noted that the Board committed to adopting the City pay raise last year which provided for raises during 2023 and an 2.5% pay raise effective January 1, 2024. Additionally, Roy noted that the Fund's policy was to pay the Secretary Treasurer at the rate of a 10-year captain.

MOTION: Moved by Roy and seconded by Gaal to pay the staff at 2.5% pay raise effective January 1, 2024 and adjust the salary of the Secretary Treasurer to that of a ten-year captain.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

LEGAL:

Robein discussed current State legislation which requires access to meetings via electronic means to meet ADA requirements. The Board currently makes all meetings available via WEB ex

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

TIMELY FILING OF APPLICATIONS:

All Members applying for retirement 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. Nagler III Date: 2/15/2024