

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:

**July 13, 2022
2401 Westbend Parkway
Suite 3001
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130**

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:

**Pam Meyer
Teresa Kehoe
Louis Robein, Board Attorney**

A quorum being present, the Board Secretary Treasurer called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

Meagher noted that the June 2022 minutes require approval.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to accept the minutes of the June 2022 meeting.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Cornell Meredith 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. Meredith.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY

Keith Martin and George Vockroth have updated their beneficiary forms.

DROP WITHDRAWAL

Barrett Williams is terminating DROP due to retirement.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to approve the DROP withdrawal of Mr. Williams.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to go into executive session to discuss the medical records of the disability applicants.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Pierre Lassalle, a New Fund Fire operator, age 46 with 18 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability pension effective July 13, 2022.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve the 50% Service Connected Disability application for Mr. LaSalle 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 or 50% of his last month's salary, whichever is greater.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Douglas Shanahan, a New Fund Fire Captain, age 39 with 13 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability pension effective July 13, 2022.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve the 50% Service Connected Disability application for Mr. Shanahan 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 or 50% of his last month's salary, whichever is greater.
Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

Barrett Williams, a New Fund Fire Captain, age 54 with 26 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability pension effective July 13, 2022.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to defer the 50% Service Connected Disability application for Mr. Williams pending the outcome of an additional medical examination and approve a regular pension benefit 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.
Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

REGULAR PENSION APPLICATIONS:

Anthony G. Williams, a New Fund Fire Operator, age 57 with 21 years of service is applying for a Regular Service pension effective July 5, 2022.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve the Regular Service Connected retirement application for Mr. Williams effective July 5, 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

PLOP APPROVALS

Pierre Lassalle, New Fund Fire operator is applying for PLOP.

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Anthony Williams, New Fund Fire Captain is applying for PLOP.

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REVERSE DROP

None

DROP APPLICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Members

Arnold Boudreaux died on May 30, 2022 at the age of 92 leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on February 20, 1952 and retired on March 4, 1973 after 21 years of service. He spent 49 years on pension.

Thomas Simmons died on July 2, 2022 at the age of 80, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on December 13, 1963 and retired on April 19, 1980 after 16 years of service. He spent 42 years on pension.

Kyes King died on June 2022, leaving no widow and no minor children. He entered the department on July 31, 1978 and retired on March 17, 1989 after 11 years of service. He spent 33 years on pension.

Alec J. Mulvihill died on June 12, 2022 at the age of 28 leaving no wife or minor children. He entered the department on October 16, 2016. He was an active employee at the time of death.

Widows:

None

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS

None

APPLICATIONS PENDING

None

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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

Personnel Committee

Members of the personnel committee provided the Board with recommendations of their work. During the discussion, members of the committee noted that they reviewed the job requirements/responsibilities of Teresa Kehoe and Thomas Meagher. With respect to Ms. Kehoe’s position of Payroll Administrator, they also reviewed pay ranges from several area public entities concluding that Ms. Kehoe current responsibilities do not match the pay scale in the current public fund/government job market. Additionally, Mr. Meagher’s salary does not meet the salary of a 10 year fire captain. Discussion also followed on a longevity structure for employees.

MOTION: Moved by Gaal and seconded by Krsak to approve the three recommendations of the personnel committee which include: 1. An increase in the salary of Teresa Kehoe to the average/median pay determined by the committee effective July 16, 2022. 2. An increase in the salary of Thomas Meagher to equal that of a 10 year fire captain effective July 16, 2022, and 3. To adopt a longevity structure which allows for salary increases annually of at least 2% to be approved by the Board at the December meeting and effective on January 1 of each year.

Motion passed

NO OBJECTIONS

NEW BUSINESS

None

LEGAL:

American Pension Consultants: The Triche trial has moved to a plea agreement. Settlement terms include payment to the Fund and prison time.

Longevity 2022 Mr. Robien provided information on the number of checks distributed during the 2022 Longevity distribution.

ACT 516

Mr. Robien noted that the State Legislature passed this cancer related bill effective for retirees beginning retirement Jan 23, 2023 and later. The bill allows members who are diagnosed with cancer within 10 years of retirement (versus five for current retirees) to be covered by workmen’s compensation. The cancer is deemed to be work related. Coverage is limited to retirees with 10 years of service and age 55, 20 years of service and age 50 and all retirees with 25 or more years of service.

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:

 Date: 8/10/2022