

# 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:**

March 11, 2026  
5710 General Haig Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70124

This meeting was available via Zoom.

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

Also present:

Louis Robein, Board Attorney  
Paul Mitchell  
Jaime Guichard

A quorum being present, the Board Secretary Treasurer called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Ms. Rambeau has not been confirmed by the City Council, therefore has no authority to vote on matters before the Board.

## COMMUNICATIONS

## REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

The February 2026 minutes require approval. There was no January 2026 meeting due to lack of an agenda.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to accept the minutes of the February 2026 meeting.  
Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

**REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Ben Darden** has resigned after 8 months of employment.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve the refund of contributions to Mr. Darden. Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

**CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY**

Raymond Poche, Robert Reuther, Jr., Richard Bourgeois, Joshua Cooper, Willie Inaa' McKnight, William Parks, III, Kenyon Hughes, Sr., David Martinez, and Joseph W. Gibson, Jr. have submitted updated beneficiary information.

**DROP WITHDRAWAL**

Glen Bagert was terminated and therefore terminating his DROP.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to terminate the DROP of Mr. Bagert effective December 31, 2025. Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

**R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS**

**Dave Dixon** New Fund Fire Operator, age appropriate, with 18 years of creditable service is seeking a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension effective May 5, 2025.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to approve a Regular Service Pension application for Mr. Dixon effective at May 5, 2025, 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 larger. The Board will consider a 50% Service-Connected Disability once the member's medical records are available. Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

**Glen A. Bagert** New Fund Fire District Chief, age appropriate, with 30 years of creditable service is seeking a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension effective January 2, 2026.

No action was taken on this application per member's request. Medical data not complete.

**Mark Grunberg** New Fund Fire Operator, age appropriate, with 30 years of creditable service is seeking a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension effective March 11, 2026.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension application for Mr. Grunberg effective at March 11, 2026, 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 larger.  
Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Larry White** New Fund Fire District Chief, age appropriate, with 30 years of creditable service is seeking a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension effective March 11, 2026.

**MOTION:** Moved by Nelson and seconded by Gaal to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension application for Mr. White effective at March 11, 2026, 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 larger.  
Motion Passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**MOTION:** Moved by Gaal and seconded by Meagher to go into executive session to discuss the 50% Service-Connected Disability application of Mr. Styron.  
Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**MOTION:** Moved by Gaal and seconded by Meagher to come out of executive session regarding discussion on the 50% Service-Connected Disability application of Mr. Styron.  
Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**John Styron** New Fund Fire Apparatus Operator, age appropriate, with 15 years of creditable service is seeking a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension effective May 5, 2025.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to deny a 50% Service-Connected Disability Pension application for Mr. Styron due to insufficient medical information. Mr. Styron will be advised that he is eligible for a Regular Service-Connected Pension payable on he reaches age 50. The Board will also reconsider the application should additional medical information be made available.  
Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

**REGULAR PENSION APPLICATIONS:**

**None**

**PLOP APPROVALS**

**None**

**REVERSE DROP**

**None**

**DROP APPLICATIONS**

**Roman Nelson** Superintendent of Fire, age appropriate with 30 years of service is applying to enter DROP effective January 1, 2026.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the DROP application for Mr. Nelson effective January 1, 2026. 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 larger.  
Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

**Damian J. Burlet** New Fund Fire District Chief, age appropriate with 30 years of service is applying to enter DROP effective July 1, 2026.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve the DROP application for Mr. Burlet effective July 1, 2026. 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 larger.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

### **WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS**

**Mrs. Barbara Koeing** is applying for a Line of Duty Widow's benefit effective March 1, 2026.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Nelson to approve the Line of Duty Widow's benefit effective March 1, 2026 for Mrs. Koeing.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

### **DEPENDENT CHILDREN APPLICATIONS**

None

### **APPLICATIONS PENDING**

None

### **REPORTS OF DEATHS**

#### **Pensioners:**

**William Carrouche** died on February 18, 2026 at the age of 85, leaving no widow or minor children. He entered the department on April 29, 1962 and retired on August 12, 1998 after 36 years of service. He spent 27 years on pension.

**Kelvin K. Koenig** died on February 9, 2026 at the age of 66, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on June 24, 1984 and retired on March 10, 2021 after 36 years of service. He spent 5 years on pension.

**Cleveland Bethley** died on February 4, 2026 at the age of 77, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on October 21, 1976 and retired on April 15, 2002 after 22 years of service. He spent 23 years on pension.

**Ricky S. Berrigan** died on February 15, 2026 at the age of 71, leaving a widow and on minor children. He entered the department on June 24, 1984 and retired on December 9, 1998 with 14 years of service. He spent 27 years on pension.

**Widows:**

**Pearl Knect** died on February 1, 2026 at the age of 105. Her benefits began on May 1, 1987. She spent 38 years on benefits.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Board members were provided with key financial revenue and disbursement figures for the New and Old Systems for February 2026.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**SEB payment history request:** No update provided

**Information for life insurance:** No update provided

**Transfers of contributions from NOMERS** No update provided.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Quick Books Resolution**

Quick Books is requiring a Resolution passed by the Board to allow us to change the Primary Contact, who is no longer engaged by the Fund. The Resolution will name Paul Mitchell as Primary Contact and Jaime Guichard as secondary contact.

**MOTION:** Moved by Gaal and seconded by Meagher to approve the QuickBooks resolution authorizing Paul Mitchell and Jaime Guichard as Primary Contact and Secondary Contacts, respectively.  
Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Biloxi Property real estate listing**

Meagher noted that he has contacted a real estate agent in Biloxi to list the Biloxi property for sale. The listing requires that he sign a listing agreement which provides for sales commissions.

**MOTION: Moved by Nelson and seconded by Roy to authorized Meagher to execute the real estate listing of the Biloxi property.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Status of Appropriation Payments**

Mitchell noted that the City was delinquent for one month's appropriation payment at this point and that we recently received written confirmation from the CAO that our appropriations would be paid. Ms. Rambeau, Finance Director, was not available to provide feed back on this matter. Mitchell and Meagher agreed to follow up with their appropriate sources.

**LEGAL**

Robein noted that 224 longevity payment checks remain undistributed. 438 were picked up on the first day of distribution, 146 on day two and 438 checks were mailed directly to payees.

**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 J. Meagher III DATE: 4/8/2026