

NEW ORLEANS FIRE FIGHTER'S PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

**Martin Gaal
Board President**

**Tommy F. Meagher, III.
Secretary-Treasurer**

SUBJECT:

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Fire Fighter's Pension & Relief Fund**

TIME, DATE AND PLACE:

**June 11, 2014
3520 General DeGaulle
Suite 3001
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130**

Board President Martin Gaal called the meeting to order. The following members of the Board of Trustees were present: Martin Gaal, Tommy Meagher, Nick Lavene, Tim McConnell, Angelo Marchese, Scott Jacobs, and Norman Foster.

Absent: None

Total as follows: Seven (7) members present, no (0) members absent. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 10:14 am.

Also present,

**Pam Meyer
Louis Robein, Board attorney
Paul Mitchell
Kenny Prevost, firefighter
Terry Hampton, retired firefighter
Nick Felton, firefighter
Derrick Francis, Mayor's office
John Petruska, firefighter**

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Jacobs and seconded by Marchese to approve the minutes for the May 2014 meetings.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

COMMUNICATIONS

None

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Erik Waterman and Rachel Martino have requested a refund of contributions.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the refund of contributions of Watermann and Martino.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY

Verdall Hubbard, James Russell, Shawn Oliver, and Anthony J. La Bella, Jr. have made beneficiary changes.

DROP WITHDRAWAL

Ryan Peltier is ending his DROP election.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the DROP withdrawal for Ryan Peltier.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Lavene and seconded by Gaal to go into executive session to review medical documentation and reserve privacy rights to members for Service Connected Disability Pension applications.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Lavene and seconded by Jacobs to come out of executive session to review medical documentation and reserve privacy rights to members for Service Connected Disability Pension applications and the Natchez matter.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

NEW APPLICATIONS:

Ryan M. Peltier: New Fund Fire Captain, age 53 with 33 years of service has applied for a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension effective June 11, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension for Mr. Peltier effective June 11, 2014.

Motion passed.

Lavene Objected

John Foley: New Fund Fire Captain, age 55 with 35 years of service has applied for a Regular Service Pension effective June 15, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a Regular Service Pension effective June 15, 2014 for Mr. Foley.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

DROP APPLICATIONS:

Edward J. Dingeman- New Fund Fire Captain- Age 52-30 years of service.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a DROP application for Mr. Dingeman.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Stephen B. Schmitt- New Fund Fire District Chief- Age 51-30 years of service.

MOTION: Moved by McConnell and seconded by Jacobs to approve a DROP application for Mr. Schmitt.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Autrey Plaisance- New Fund Fire Captain- Age 51-30 years of service

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a DROP application for Mr. Plaisance.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Pensioners:

Joel H. Rousselle, Jr: Died at age 75 on May 10, 2014 with widow and no minor children. He joined the department on June 13, 1960. Benefits began on August 16, 1978. 35 years on benefits.

Edward Stringer: Died at age 67 on April 25, 2014 with a widow and no minor children. He joined the department on June 18, 1981. Benefits began on January 7, 2009. 5 years on benefits.

Louis A. Linn: Died at age 70 on May 19, 2014, leaving a widow and no minor children. Entered the department on January 25, 1964 and retired on June 17, 1983.

Walter J. Nillen: Died at age 78 on May 24, 2014, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on December 10, 1956 and retired on March 17, 1982.

Widows:

Mildred Gerrets: Died at age 88 on May 25, 2014. Benefits began on October 1, 2010. Three years on benefits.

Cheryl A. Merz: Died at age 76 on May 29, 2014. Benefits began on August 1, 2001.

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS

Genevieve G. Brunet: Application for a Line of Duty Widow's Benefit from December 1, 2013 through her death on January 1, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by Jacobs and seconded by Gaal to approve the Line of Duty Widow's Benefit for Mrs. Brunet.

Dorothy A. Harding: Application for a Non-Duty Death Benefit effective retroactive to May 1, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the Non-Duty Death benefit for Mrs. Harding.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Thor Barr: At the May 9, 2014 Board meeting, Mr. Barr's benefit was approved for a 50% Service connected Disability Pension. Mr. Barr has requested that his effective date of retirement be changed from May 9, 2014 to June 1, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the effective date of retirement to June 1, 2014.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board has received Qualified Domestic Relations Orders on behalf of Craig L. Burkel. Approval to implement the QDRO's is being deferred until a later meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to defer implementation the QDRO of Mr. Burkel.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

LEGAL:

Mr. Louis Robein was on hand to provide the Board with an update on various matters being addressed by our legal counsel. He provided the Board with a summary of House Bills that made it to the Senate including HB 27 and HB 94. House Bill 94 established the new retirement age and accrual rates as well as a review committee. HB 111 allows a fire mileage to enter the ballot.

MOTION: Moved by Gaal and seconded by McConnell to appoint Mr. Meagher as the Board representative on pension review committee.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Jacobs and seconded by Gaal to go into executive session for discussion of strategy and negotiations with respect to actual litigation on the following items: Mischler et al v State of Louisiana, Longevity/annual leave and Mandamus litigation.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Lavene and seconded by Jacobs to come out of executive session entered into to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to actual litigation and legislation.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mischler et al v State of Louisiana et al: Mr. Robein discussed the changes filed by the plaintiffs. An injunction hearing is set for July 1, 2014.

Funding Mandamus: (Norman Foster recused himself and left the room.)

The City has publicly stated that it may file for writs of certiorari to the United States Supreme Court. The appeal deadline for any such application is on or about June 19, 2014. A hearing on the mandamus is set for June 26, 2014 before Robin Giaruuso at 9:00 am.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to authorize legal counsel to file an amendment to the mandamus after consulting with the City attorney and the Secretary-Treasurer

Motion passed.

Jacobs abstained McConnell objected

TIMELY FILING OF APPLICATIONS:

All Members applying for Pension, 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.

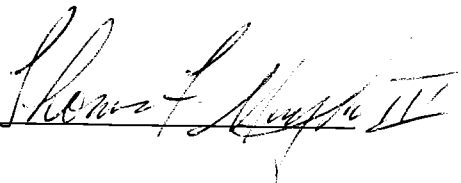
The administrative office will continue to process all paperwork in a friendly, orderly, and timely fashion. We thank all applying members for their continued cooperation. This will enable the Administrative Office and the Board of Trustees to perform their jobs more efficiently.

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is July 9, 2014.

APPROVED:



DATE:

7/10/14