

NEW ORLEANS FIRE FIGHTER'S PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

**Martin Gaal
Board President**

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

SUBJECT:

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

TIME, DATE AND PLACE:

**April 13, 2016
3520 General DeGaulle
Suite 3001
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130**

The following members of the Board of Trustees were present: Martin Gaal, Thomas Meagher, Angelo Marchese, Tim McConnell, Nick Lavene, Derrick Muse, and Norman Foster.

A quorum being present, Board President Martin Gaal called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Also present,

**Pam Meyer
Louis Robein, Board Attorney
Nicholas Felton, President Local 632
Paul Mitchell
Derrick Francis, Mayor's office**

COMMUNICATIONS

The Fund received a thank you note from the Milton Hymel family

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2016 regular Board minutes.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2016 Special Board meeting minutes.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2016 Special Board meeting minutes.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2016 regular Board minutes.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Kyle Mathieu and Harold Blouin, Jr have requested refunds of contributions. .

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve the refund of contributions to Mr. Mathieu and Blouin.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY

David Nick and Raymond Edler have submitted current beneficiary forms.

DROP WITHDRAWAL

None

R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

None

ALTERNATIVE ELECTION AS PER R.S.11:3376 F (2)

None

REGULAR RETIREMENT APPLICANTS:

Paul J. Melancon: New Fund Fire Captain, age 51 with 26 years of service is applying for a Regular Service pension effective retroactive to April 1, 2016.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a retirement benefit application calculated at 2 1/2% of his average annual compensation for the first 12 years of service and 3 1/3%% of his average annual compensation for each year of service or portion of a year up to 100% of his average annual compensation for all years over 12 years of service.

McConnell offered a substitute motion, seconded by Foster, to approve a regular service pension benefit calculated at 2 1/2% for the first 12 years of service and for all years or a portion of a year of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% for each year of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If he has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service shall be 3 1/3%, up to 100% of the member's average annual compensation. Foster, McConnell and Muse voted for the substitute motion. Meagher, Lavene, Marchese and Gaal voted against the substitute motion. Substitute motion failed.

A vote on the original motion followed:

Meagher, Marchese, Gaal and Lavene vote for. McConnell voted against.

Motion passed.

LAKEWOOD MATTER

Mr. Larry Bagneris, City Human Relations Commission Executive Director was available to discuss a Lakewood matter with the Board. Mr. Meagher noted suggested that items be taken out of order.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to take items out of order.
Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to go into executive session to discuss legal matters.
Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

MOTION: Moved by McConnell and seconded by Marchese to come out of executive session to discuss legal matters.
Motion passed. **NO OBJECTIONS**

DROP APPLICATIONS: Effective April 1, 2016

Rodolphe W. Toranto, Jr.: New Fund Fire District Chief, age 53 with 25 years of service.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a DROP benefit application calculated at 2 1/2% of his average annual compensation for the first 12 years of service and 3 1/3%% of his average annual compensation for each year of service or portion of a year up to 100% of his average annual compensation for all years over 12 years of service.

McConnell offered a substitute motion, seconded by Muse, to approve a DROP participation for Mr. Toranto effective April 1, 2016 with a regular service retirement benefit in accordance with all conditions of RS 11:3384 to be calculated at 2 1/2% for the first 12 years of service and for all years or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service until the member has reached 50 year of age; and 3 1/3% for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age;. If a member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service shall be 3 1/3% up to 100% of the member's average annual compensation. Foster, McConnell and Muse voted for the substitute motion. Meagher, Lavene, Marchese and Gaal voted against the substitute motion.
Substitute motion failed.

A vote on the original motion followed:

Meagher, Marchese, Gaal and Lavene vote for. McConnell, Muse and Foster voted against.

Motion passed.

Wesley J. Thibodeaux: New Fund Fire District Chief, age 56 with 30 years of service is applying to enter DROP.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a DROP benefit application calculated at 3 1/3%% of his average annual compensation for each year of service up to 100% of his average annual pensionable compensation.

McConnell offered a substitute motion, seconded by Muse, to approve a DROP participation for Mr. Thibodeaux with a regular service retirement benefit in accordance with all conditions of RS 11:3384 to be calculated at 2 ½% for the first 12 years of service and for all years or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service until the member has reached 50 year of age; and 3 1/3% for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age;. If a member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service shall be 3 1/3% up to 100% of the member's average annual compensation.

Foster, McConnell and Muse voted for the substitute motion. Meagher, Lavene, Marchese and Gaal voted against the substitute motion.

Substitute motion failed.

A vote on the original motion followed:

Meagher, Marchese, Gaal and Lavene vote for. McConnell, Foster and Muse voted against.

Motion passed.

Peter J. Manale.: New Fund Fire Captain, age 50 with 24 years of service.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a DROP benefit application calculated at 2 1/2% of his average annual compensation for the first 12 years of service and 3 1/3%% of his average annual compensation for each year of service or portion of a year up to 100% of his average annual compensation for all years over 12 years of service.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: McConnell offered a substitute motion, seconded by Muse, to approve a DROP participation for a regular service retirement benefit in accordance with all conditions of RS11:3384 to be calculated as 2 ½% for the first 12 years of service and

for all years or portion of a year of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and after 50 years of age. If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service shall be 3 1/3% up to 100% of the member's average annual compensation.

Foster, McConnell and Muse voted for the substitute motion. Meagher, Lavene, Marchese and Gaal voted against the substitute motion.

Substitute motion failed.

A vote on the original motion followed:

Meagher, Marchese, Gaal and Lavene vote for. McConnell, Muse and Foster voted against.

Motion passed.

Scott S. Audler: New Fund Fire Operator, age 50 with 25 years of service.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve a DROP benefit application calculated at 2 1/2% of his average annual compensation for the first 12 years of service and 3 1/3% of his average annual compensation for each year of service or portion of a year up to 100% of his average annual compensation for all years over 12 years of service.

McConnell offered a substitute motion, seconded by Muse, to approve a DROP participation for a regular service retirement benefit in accordance with all conditions of RS11:3384 to be calculated as 2 1/2% for the first 12 years of service and for all years or portion of a year of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and after 50 years of age. If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service shall be 3 1/3% up to 100% of the member's average annual compensation.

Foster, McConnell and Muse voted for the substitute motion. Meagher, Lavene, Marchese and Gaal voted against the substitute motion.

Substitute motion failed.

A vote on the original motion followed:

Meagher, Marchese, Gaal and Lavene vote for. McConnell, Muse and Foster voted against.

Motion passed.

Norman Randall, Jr.: New Fund Fire Operator, age 57 with 23 years of service.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a DROP benefit application calculated at 2 1/2% of his average annual compensation for the first 12 years of service and 3 1/3%% of his average annual compensation for each year of service or portion of a year up to 100% of his average annual compensation for all years over 12 years of service.

McConnell offered a substitute motion, seconded by Muse, to approve a DROP participation for a regular service retirement benefit in accordance with all conditions of RS11:3384 to be calculated as 2 ½% for the first 12 years of service and for all years or portion of a year of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and after 50 years of age. If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year beyond 12 years of service shall be 3 1/3% up to 100% of the member's average annual compensation.

Foster, McConnell and Muse voted for the substitute motion. Meagher, Lavene, Marchese and Gaal voted against the substitute motion.

Substitute motion failed.

A vote on the original motion followed:

Meagher, Marchese, Gaal and Lavene vote for. McConnell, Muse and Foster voted against the motion.

Motion passed.

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Pensioners:

Alex J. Seruntine, Jr.: Mr. Seruntine died at the age of 90 on March 23, 2016, leaving no widow or minor children. He entered the department on September 1, 1947 and retired after 20 years of service on March 1, 1967. Mr. Seruntine enjoyed 49 years on pension.

Raymond L. Williams: Mr. Williams died on March 27, 2016, leaving a widow and no minor children, at the age of 71. He entered the department on September 22, 1947 and retired after 20 years of service on October 15, 1970. He collected benefits for 46 years.

McConnell and Foster left the meeting.

Widows:

Gloria M. Hanna: Ms. Hanna died on March 20, 2016 at the age of 84. Her benefits began on December 1, 2003. She received benefits for over 13 years.

Esther B. Binder: Ms. Binder died on March 19, 2016 at the age of 80. Mrs. Binder was eligible for benefits on July 1, 2001 and enjoyed them for nearly 15 years.

Emelda Pecoul Honeycutt: Mrs. Honeycutt died on March 31, 2016 at the age of 87. She began receiving benefits on July 1, 1997 and received benefits for 18 years.

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to go into executive session to discuss legal matters.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

MOTION: Moved by McConnell and seconded by Marchese to come out of executive session to discuss legal matters.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Rose Hymel (Milton): Mrs. Hymel is applying for a Non-Duty death benefit retroactive to March 1, 2016.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a Non-Duty Death Benefit retroactive to March 1, 2016 for Mrs. Hymel.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Genevieve T. Eck (Harold): Mrs. Eck is applying for a Non-Duty death benefit retroactive to January 1, 2016.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve a Non-Duty Death Benefit retroactive to January 1, 2016 for Mrs. Eck.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Mary Daray (Merlin): Mrs. Daray is applying for a Line of Duty death benefit retroactive to March 1, 2016.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a Non-Duty Death Benefit retroactive to March 1, 2016 for Mrs. Daray, deny the Line of Duty benefit and notify the applicant of her right to appeal the decision.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mrs. Gwendolyn Williams (Raymond): Mrs. Williams is applying for a Line of Duty widow's death benefit retroactive to April 1, 2016.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a Line of-Duty Death Benefit retroactive to April 1, 2016 for Mrs. Williams.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

APPLICATIONS PENDING

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

LEGAL:

Mr. Robein noted:

- The IRS application has been filed.
- He has contacted Robin Giarrusso's office and requested a date to discuss scheduling of hearings in the matters of the "alternative interpretation" and ATS matters requiring judicial resolution.
- He is awaiting paper work from the City Attorney's office to complete the Chartis/AIC reconventional demand claims.
- There has been no movement on the Mischler/Tarranto matters.
- In the matter of the Longevity, a second millage vote is expected.
- The courts are expected to rule on the subrogation matter before June 2016.

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:

6/2/16