

# **NEW ORLEANS FIRE FIGHTER'S PENSION AND RELIEF FUND**

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**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:**

**June 9, 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, Derrick Muse, and Norman Foster. Nick Lavene was absent.**

**A quorum being present, Board President Martin Gaal called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.**

**Also present,  
Pam Meyer  
Louis Robein, Board Attorney  
Paul Mitchell  
Kenny Prevost, retired firefighter  
Derrick Francis, Mayor's office**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Moved by Gaal and seconded by Marchese to approve the minutes of the May, 2016 regular Board minutes.

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

Wesley Thibodeaux and Eric Eschete have requested a refund of contributions paid while in DROP.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the refund of contributions to Mr. Thibodeaux and Eschete.

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY**

Carl Thiele, Vincent Ragusa, Richard Gautreaux, Curtis May, and Joseph Wheeler, Sr., 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:**

None

**DROP APPLICATIONS:** Effective June 1, 2016

None

**REPORTS OF DEATHS**

**Pensioners:**

**Louis E. Roussel, Jr.:** Mr. Roussel died at the age of 69 on May 5, 2016 leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on September 11, 1969 and retired with 30 years of service on October 31, 1999. He spent 17 years on pension.

**Alton C. Wilder, Jr.:** Mr. Wilder died on May 27, 2016 at the age of 78 leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on June 29, 1960 and retired with 14 years of service on November 16, 1975. He spent 40 years on pension.

**Widow:**

**Mrs. William Harrell, Sr.:** Mrs. Harrell died on April 12, 2016 at the age of 91. Her benefits began on February 1, 1985.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal 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 Marchese to go into executive session to review medical documentation and reserve privacy rights to members applying for a Service Connected Disability Pension and pending applications.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to come out of executive session to review medical documentation and reserve privacy rights to members applying for a

**Service Connected Disability Pension applications and pending applications.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Mrs. Mary Roussel:** Mrs. Roussel is applying for a non-duty death benefit retroactive to June 1, 2016.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a Non-Duty Death Benefit retroactive to June 1, 2016 for Mrs. Roussel.

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

### **APPLICATIONS PENDING**

**Don E. Houston Jr.:** Mr. Houston wishes to appeal the Board's decision and will provide additional medical information in the coming months. No action taken.

**Mrs. Merlin Daray:** Mrs. Daray is appealing the Board's decision. We have received additional information which does not support approval of a Line of Duty benefit. The family is expected to provide additional information. No action taken.

### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

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

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Expense Committee:** Members deferred review of travel and related reimbursements until a future date.

**LEGAL:**

Mr. Robein led the discussion on the following.

- House Bills 56, 57, 58 and 59 were discussed.
- Matters concerning the alternative interpretation and SEB offsets are set for hearing in Giarrusso's court on September 13, 2016 at 9:00am.
- The Chartis/AIG reconventional demand settlement document has been fully executed by elected trustees. Signatures of former trustees are being collected. The City attorney is gathering signatures of elected officials, Norman Foster and Tim McConnell.
- There has been no movement on the Mischler/Tarranto matters.
- In the matter of the Longevity, a second millage vote is expected however discussions on a second funding source have not started.

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

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to come out of executive session to discuss legal matters.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to give Mr. Robein the authority to respond to the OIG and establish limits on the content of information to be provided to the OIG and released to the public.

Foster moved and McConnell seconded a substitute motion:

**Motion to provide the information requested after redacting the birthdate on all information requested.**

**Foster and McConnell voted for the substitute motion. Meager, Marchese, Muse, and Gaal voted against. Substitute motion failed.**

A vote on the original motion followed.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**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:**

**7/20/16**