

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:

**July 12, 2017
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, Nick Lavene and Beverly Gariepy. Timothy McConnell and Derrick Muse were absent.

Also present

Pam Meyer

Paul Mitchell

Louis Robein, Board Attorney

Kenny Prevost, retired firefighter

Chad Brown, Deputy Finance Director

A quorum being present, Board President Martin Gaal called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Derrick Muse informed the Board that he would not attend the meeting.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the June Regular Board minutes.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

None

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY

None

R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal 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 Gaal and seconded by Marchese 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

Andrew D. Lain, Sr.: New Fund Fire Captain, age 60 with 17 years of service is applying for a 66 2/3% Service Connected Disability effective July 12, 2017.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a 50% Service connected disability for Mr. Lain effective July 12, 2017, and advise the member of his right to appeal the decision denying the 66 2/3% service connected disability.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

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

None

APPLICATIONS TO REVOKE DROP

The following members have elected to revoke their earlier decision to enter DROP:
Eugene Richardson, Nicholas Lavene, Peter Manale, Theodore A. Kreger, Jr., Wayne E. Collongues, Kenneth G. Kirsch, Alfred J Schloegel, Edward E. Poole, and David F. Nick

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the applications to revoke DROP for the individuals listed.

Motion Passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

DROP APPLICATIONS

Eugene Richardson: Mr. Richardson, New Fund operator, age 56 with 17 years of service is electing to start DROP effective June 1, 2013

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve the DROP application for Mr. Richardson effective June 1, 2017 calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average annual compensation for the member's 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 at 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..

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Nicholas C. Lavene: Mr. Lavene, a New Fund operator, age 56 with 37 years of service, is applying to enter DROP effective January 1, 2013.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve a DROP Pension benefit effective July 1, 2017 calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average annual compensation for the member's 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 at 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% of the member's average annual compensation up to 100% of the member's average annual compensation.

Motion passed. Lavene recused himself.

NO OBJECTIONS

DROP WITHDRAWAL effective July 2, 2017

Gary M. Savelle is requesting termination of his DROP period due to retirement.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve the DROP termination request of Mr. Savelle.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REGULAR RETIREMENT APPLICANTS:

Gary M. Savelle: New Fund Fire Deputy Chief, age 52 with 30 years of service is applying for a Regular Service pension effective July 3, 2017.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve a Regular Service Pension benefit calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average annual compensation for the member's 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 at 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.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

DROP APPLICATIONS: Effective September 1, 2017

Jamie S. Lampard: New Fund Fire District Chief, age 61 with 30 years of service is applying to enter DROP.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to approve a DROP Pension benefit effective July 1, 2017 calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average annual compensation for the member's 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 at 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.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Pensioners:

Leonard F. Sabel: Mr. Sabel died on June 23, 2017 at the age of 94, leaving no wife or minor children. He entered the department on February 2, 1948 and retired on January 25, 1974 after 26 years of service. He spent 43 years on pension.

Livingston M. Tabor: Mr. Tabor died on June 29, 2017 at the age of 67, leaving no widow and no minor children. He entered the department on September 10, 1973 and retired on December 28, 2004 after 31 years of service. He spent 12 years on pension.

Widows:

Kathleen S. Arntz: Ms. Arntz died on June 18, 2017 at the age of 66. Her benefits began on May 1, 1999. She spent 18 years on benefits. .

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Marchese to remove the above noted deceased members and widow from the pension 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 2017. Mr. Lavene would like to add the total number of active members to the financial data.

OLD BUSINESS:

SEB payment history request: Mitchell noted that the Fund was seeking a response from Mr. McConnell and the City attorney regarding a request for SEB payment information made by workmen's compensation on behalf of the City to retirees. McConnell did not attend the meeting.

Old System Reserve: Meagher reminded the Board that the Old System's reserves will be depleted at year end. Without a reserve benefit payments to the Old Fund members could be missed or delayed if the appropriations are not received timely from the City. He noted that Norman Foster considered returning a reserve amount to the Old Fund earlier this year and asked that efforts be made to consider placing a reserve back in the Old Fund. Ms. Gariepy indicated that she would look into the matter.

FNBC Loans: Meagher noted that meetings continue with the FDIC. The matter was discussed in executive session.

NEW BUSINESS:

2017 Board elections: The Board was reminded that the nomination period is July 17-21, 2017. Notices have been issued.

Life insurance coverage: Meyer has followed up with the carrier on the insurance coverage. She indicated that the carrier will be able to provide more information in the coming weeks regarding the timing of coverage and members covered.

LEGAL:

Mr. Robein led the discussion on the following:

- There has been no response from the City Attorney on the applicable accrual rates for NOFF reinstatements/rehires.
- There has been no activity in the Mischler matter. Abatement period extends for three years after the last legal action. Case will not go forward until filing fees are paid.
- The appeal to the alternative interpretation was filed during April. Oral arguments are possible by late summer
- The Lakewood matter is discussed in executive session.
- The 2010 consent Judgement requires no action as funding is in place. The City has not dismissed the 2012 action, which was resolved as well.

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

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

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: Thomas F. Maguire IV Date: 8/11/17