

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:

**September 10, 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, Angelo Marchese and Tim McConnell.

**Norman Foster was absent
Scott Jacobs has resigned from the Board.**

Total as follows: Five (5) members present, one (1) member absent. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.

Also present,

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

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

Tim McConnell posed questions regarding the comments provided by Mr. Conefry. He suggested that we discuss the comments noted in the minutes with Mr. Conefry as well as reflect in the minutes that the board had discussions on several of the charts in Conefry's report and make corrections as needed.

MOTION: Moved by Marchese and seconded by Gaal to approve the minutes for the August 2014 meeting following adjustments as needed.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

COMMUNICATIONS

LAPERS- Conference is scheduled for September 7, 2014 through September 10, 2014 in New Orleans at the Marriott. All board members and the deputy director are registered to attend.

NCPERS- Conference scheduled for October 2014 in New Orleans. Board members wishing to attend should contact Ms. Melancon. Paul Mitchell and Thomas Meagher are schedule to attend.

The Fund received a thank you note form the Gary Thomas family.

REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS

None

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY

James Parker, III, Lawrence H. Hudson IV, Stephen Cordes, Hugh Black, and Edwin S. Hattier, Jr. have requested changes to their beneficiary forms.

DROP WITHDRAWAL

None

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

NEW APPLICATIONS:

Jamie H. Harris: New Fund Fire Educational Officer, age 41 with 16 years of service is applying for a 66 2/3% Service Connected Disability Pension effective retroactive to July 22, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by McConnell and seconded by Meagher to approve a 66 2/3% Service Connected Disability Pension effective retroactive to July 22, 2014.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Robert W. Wild, Jr.: New Fund Fire Captain, age 56 with 35 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension effective September 11, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by Lavene and seconded by Marchese to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension effective retroactive to September 11, 2014.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Joseph M. Fincher: New Fund Fire Captain, age 56 with 34 years of service is applying for a Regular Service Pension effective September 20, 2014.

MOTION: Moved by McConnell and seconded by Meagher to approve a Regular Service Pension effective retroactive to September 20, 2014.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

DROP APPLICATIONS:

Robert J. Pitre, Sr.: New Fund Fire Captain, age 50 with 34 years of service is making an application to enter DROP.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Lavene to approve the DROP application for Mr. Pitre effective October 1, 2014.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

REPORTS OF DEATHS

Pensioners:

Frank J. Reis- died 07/28/2014-No widow and no minor children. Ent. Dept. 2/1/1954-21 Years of service. Retired: 6/22/1975-39 years on pension. Age: 89

Claude J. Labasse—died 8/12/2014-With widow and no minor children. Ent. Dept. 4/8/1957, 26 years of service. Retired: 2/18/1984-30 years on pension. Age: 81

Anthony Cosentino-died 8/2/2014-No widow and no minor children. Ent. Dept. 6/10/1946-21 years of service. Retired: 3/31/1967-47 years on pension. Age: 93

Charles A. Najolia-died 8/5/2014-No widow and no minor children. Ent. Dept. 7/3/1953-22 years of service. Retired: 1/15/1975-39 years on pension. Age: 85

Andre F. Theriot III-died 8/23/2014-With widow and no minor children. Ent. Dept 9/10/1973-35 years of service. Retired: 11/4/2008-6 years on pension. Age: 68

Gary E. Thomas-died 8/20/2014-With widow and no minor children. Ent. Dept. 3/28/1967-22 years of service. Retired: 1/17/1989-25 years on pension. Age: 79

Thomas D. Coogan, Sr.-died 8/31/2014- With widow and no minor children. Ent. Dept. 12/17/64, 21 years of service. Retired: 1/26/1985-29 years on pension, age 66

Widow:

Pamela C. Thompson-died 7/23/2014-Split benefit with sister Angela Foster. Brother was Karl Thompson who died while he was an active firefighter. Date of Benefit:8/31/2003-11 years on benefits. She received 40% of her brothers' benefit. Age: 58

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

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS

None

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Mrs. Michael O'Neil: This widow has submitted a letter of appeal. She also requests an appeal hearing seeking a 66 2/3% disability.

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to establish a hearing committee.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mr. Meagher requested volunteers for the hearing committee. Members accepting positions on the hearing committee include Meagher, Gaal, Marchese and McConnell. The Secretary Treasurer will confer with legal counsel and candidate for appeal to set a mutually convenient time for the appeal hearings. Dates and time of the hearing will be provided once confirmed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Actuarial valuation method:

In connection with the Board's desire to resolve the mandamus litigation, seek judicial approval and work out a payment solution which minimizes the financial impact on the City's budget while maintaining actuarial soundness Board members have agreed to adjust its actuarial valuation method for the calendar years 2009 to present. This motion is made with the understanding that the City will fund the resultant actuarially required contribution (ARC).

MOTION: Moved by Gaal and seconded by Meagher to change the Fund's actuarial valuation method from the Aggregate Level Cost Method to the Individual Entry Age Normal Cost Method with Level Dollar, Open Amortization of the Unfunded Actuarial Liability over 30 years, and further to change the smoothing period in the Asset Valuation Method from 3 years to 7 years for the period 2009 to present.

Motion Passed

NO OBJECTIONS

LEGAL:

MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by McConnell to go into executive session to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to actual litigation and legislation.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

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

Craig L. Burckel: QDRO approval

MOTION: Moved by Lavene and seconded by Meagher to approve the QDRO on the advice of legal counsel.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Mischler et al v State of Louisiana et al: Mr. Robein noted that at the hearing before Judge Kelly, the Louisiana Attorney General successfully argued that the Governor, Legislators and Treasurer should be excluded from the suit. His motion for change in venue from Baton Rouge Parish to Orleans Parish was also successful. Mr. Robein then discussed the timing of the plaintiff's challenge which was uncertain at this time.

Longevity Litigation: A hearing before Judge Kern Reese is scheduled for September 30, 2014 at 9:00 am. It will address the back pay entitlements under the judgment. The pension liabilities are to be addressed later.

Funding Mandamus: The Administration was informed by the Judge at the last hearing that the entire mandamus amount is due and payable. The Board, in connection with its effort to secure funding has changed its actuarial funding method. The Administration noted thru legal counsel that it is the City Council's responsibility to budget additional funding. Council President Stacy Head indicated that the City Council will appropriate an additional funding. The next court hearing is scheduled for October 3, 2014.

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.

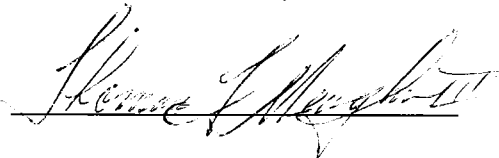
The administrative office will continue to process all paperwork in a friendly, orderly, and timely fashion. We thank all applying members for their continued cooperation. This will enable the Administrative Office and the Board of Trustees to perform their jobs more efficiently.

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 12:30 pm. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is October 8, 2014.

APPROVED:



DATE:

10/9/14