

# NEW ORLEANS FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

---

---

**Martin Gaal**  
**Board President**

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

**SUBJECT:**

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**  
**Firefighters' Pension & Relief Fund**

**TIME, DATE AND PLACE:**

**June 9, 2021**  
**2401 Westbend Parkway**  
**Suite 3001**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana 70130**

**This meeting was held via zoom.**

**The following members of the Board of Trustees were present: Thomas Meagher, Martin Gaal, Stephen Roy, Branden Krsak, Norman White and Roman Nelson. Alcide Tervalon was absent.**

**Also present:**

**Pam Meyer**

**Louis Robein, Board Attorney**

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

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Meagher noted that NCPERS will host a fall conference in Scottsdale AZ September 26-27, 2021. Members should review their calendars and conference agendas and notify the Fund if they plan to attend. There will also be a pre conference NAF certification class if members are interested.

## **REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES**

**MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve the May 2021 Regular Board minutes.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

**None**

**CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY**

Staff noted that Joseph Cosentino updated his beneficiary forms.

**R.S. 11:3376 DISABILITY APPLICATIONS**

**James Watkins:** New Fund Fire operator, age eligible with 14 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability effective June 9, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation up to 100% of pensionable salary.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Michael S. DeRouche** New Fund Fire Fighter, age eligible, with 34 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability effective June 25, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation up to 100% of pensionable salary.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Timothy T. Hughes** New Fund Fire Operator, age eligible, with 31 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability effective June 9, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the

member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation up to 100% of pensionable salary.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

Norman Randall, Jr. New Fund Fire Operator, age eligible, with 27 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability effective June 9, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to deny a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension and provide a Regular Service Pension which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation up to 100% of pensionable salary. The member will be notified that he has the right to appeal the decision and provide additional medical support.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

**REGULAR PENSION APPLICATIONS:**

None

**PLOP APPROVALS**

Robert Henderson, James Watkins, Michael DeRoche and Timothy Hughes have elected to PLOP a portion of their retirement benefit.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve the PLOP election for these members.

Motion passed.

NO OBJECTIONS

**REVERSE DROP**

None

**DROP WITHDRAWAL**

None

**DROP APPLICATIONS**

**Mark J. Grumberg**: New Fund Firefighter, age eligible, with 30 years of service is making an application to enter DROP effective November 1, 2020.

**MOTION**: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a DROP application which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation up to 100% of pensionable salary.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Richard Veazey**: New Fund Operator, age eligible, with 30 years of service is making an application to enter DROP effective June 1, 2021.

**MOTION**: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a DROP application which provides that benefits are calculated at 2 ½% of the member's average 60 month compensation for the first twelve years of service and all years of service until the member has reached 50 years of age; and 3 1/3% of his average 60 month pensionable compensation for all years of service and any portion of a year beyond 12 years of service and 50 years of age; If the member has beyond 30 years of service the retirement benefit for each year or portion of a year shall be 3 1/3% of the average 60 month pensionable compensation up to 100% of pensionable salary.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**REPORTS OF DEATHS**

None

**WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS**

**Mrs. Mary Crain** is applying for a Line of Duty Death benefit effective April 1, 2021.

**MOTION**: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy to approve a regular death benefit effective May 1, 2021. There was not sufficient support to approve a Line of Duty benefit at this time.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**APPLICATIONS PENDING**

None

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Board members were provided with key financial revenue and disbursement figures for the New and Old system for May 2021.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**SEB payment history request:** No update provided

**Information for life insurance:** No update provided

**Office Building update:** Mr. Meagher noted that a zoning variance hearing went smoothly. Safety and Permits is seeking info on parking.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Pension Board Elections**

Mr. Meagher noted that the Board, in accordance with State Statutes, will conduct an election this year. He provided the Board with election procedures and key dates.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the election process presented to the Board.

Motion passed

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**LEGAL:**

The **SEB litigation** will be briefed on May 3, 2021.

**Citco** matter appeal was denied.

**Triche** matter is delayed until August 2021.

**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: 7/14/2021