

# NEW ORLEANS FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

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**Martin Gaal  
Board President**

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

**SUBJECT:**

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

**TIME, DATE AND PLACE:**

**November 10, 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, Stephen Roy, Branden Krsak, Norman White, Alcide Tervalon, Martin Gaal and Roman Nelson.**

**Also present:**

**Pam Meyer**

**Teresa Kehoe**

**Louis Robein, Board Attorney**

**Varrick Dyer, firefighter**

**Mark Porche, firefighter**

**Frank James, writer financial publication**

**A quorum being present, the Board Secretary Treasurer called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.**

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES**

Meagher noted that the October 13, 2021 minutes require approval.

**MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the October 2021**

**Regular Board minutes.  
Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**REFUND OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Ken Cobette** requested a refund of contributions. He resigned.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve the refund of contributions.

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY**

**None**

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

**Joseph M. Rodrigue:** New Fund Fire Captain age eligible with 28 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension effective November 10, 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**

**Peter S. Uli, Jr:** New Fund Fire Captain, age eligible, with 33 years of service is applying for a 50% Service Connected Disability Pension effective November 10, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Roy defer action on retirement.

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**REGULAR PENSION APPLICATIONS:**

**Aaron A. Dugan :** New Fund Firefighter, age eligible with 13 years of service is applying for a Regular Service Pension effective November 5, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve 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.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Steven D. Lambert:** New Fund Fire Captain age eligible with 28 years of service is applying for a Regular Service Pension effective October 20, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve 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.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

### **PLOP APPROVALS**

**Aaron A. Dugan** is seeking approval for a 12 month PLOP.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve the 12 month PLOP request for Mr. Dugan.

Motion passed.

**NO OBJECTION**

### **REVERSE DROP**

**Peter S. Uli, Jr.** is seeking approval for a reverse DROP.

This matter is deferred,

### **DROP WITHDRAWAL**

**Peter S. Uli, Jr.** is seeking a withdrawal from DROP.

This matter is deferred.

### **DROP APPLICATIONS**

**Glynn R. Vasquez:** New Fund Firefighter, age eligible, with 23 years of service is making an application to enter DROP effective November 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**

#### **Members and QDRO:**

**Charles M. St. Romain** died on October 10, 2021 at the age of 80, leaving a widow and no minor children. He entered the department on November 29, 1966 and retired on December 29, 1991 after 25 years of service. He spent 29 years on pension.

**Joseph Meyer** died on October 17, 2021 at the age of 84, leaving no widow or minor children. He entered the department on July 27, 1959 and retired on May 126, 1979 after 20 years of service. He spent 42 years on pension.

**Cheryl Ann Perez Roesch**, a QDRO recipient, died on September 29, 2021 at the age of 71. Her benefits began on January 1, 2007. She collected benefits for 14 years.

**Emile C. Ripp, Jr.** died on October 3, 2021 at the age of 80, leaving no widow and no minor children. He entered the department on May 26, 1962 and retired on November 1, 1982, after 20 years of service. He spent 39 years on pension.

#### **Widows:**

**Elizabeth R. Schulingkamp** died on October 28, 2021 at the age of 63. Her benefits began on September 1, 2008. She collected benefits for 13 years.

**MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to remove the members, QDRO and widows from the rolls.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**WIDOW'S APPLICATIONS**

**Mrs. Eula T. Guidry (mother of Joshua Guidry)** has applied for pre-retirement Survivor Benefit by a named beneficiary effective July 10, 2021.

Meagher noted that the active firefighter passed away at home. His on duty logs are being reviewed to determine if the cause of death was job related and qualifies member survivor for a 66 2/3% benefit. When completed, an update will be provided to the Board.

**MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Krsak to approve a pre-retirement benefit effective July 10, 2021.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Mrs. Patricia Meyer** is applying for a Non Duty Death benefit effective October 1, 2021.

**MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a regular death benefit for Mrs. Meyer effective October 1, 2021.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Mrs. Martha St. Romain** is applying for a Non Duty Death benefit effective November 1, 2021.

**MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve a regular death benefit for Mrs. St Romain effective November 1, 2021.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**APPLICATIONS PENDING**

**Dane Urbeso** has completed his application for a survivor benefit as provided in the QDRO between his parents following the death of his mother, Cheryl Roesch.

**MOTION: Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to approve the survivor benefit as required by the Urbeso QDRO.**

**Motion passed.**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**St. Romain:**

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

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

**Office Building update:** Mr. Meagher noted that the second floor of the building was poured and framing of the interior walls has begun.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**OIG** Mitchell noted that he has received a preliminary report from the review performed by the **OIG** on the investment process of the Fund. Written responses to the findings were provided to the staff of the **OIG**. A zoom meeting is scheduled later today to review and discuss the findings. The **OIG** will then produce a final report, which will require responses and corrective actions, where necessary.

**LEGAL:**

**Triche** matter is delayed until March 2022.

**Gerald Foster QDRO** Mr. Robein acknowledged receipt and review of the QDRO of Gerald Foster, noting that the document was suitable for adoption.

**MOTION:** Moved by Meagher and seconded by Gaal to adopt the QDRO submitted by Gerald Foster.

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 J. Hughes III Date: 12/8/2021