

## **MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF AND RETIREMENT FUND**

A regular meeting of the Houston Firefighters' Relief and Retirement Fund (HFRRF) Board of Trustees convened at the Fund offices at 4225 Interwood North Parkway, Houston, Texas 77032 on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

Trustees present were Brett Robert Besselman (Chair), Stephen R. Whitehead (Vice Chair), Lisa R. Slagle (Secretary), Gerard L. Daniels, David O. Lantrip, Arif Rasheed (City Treasurer Designee), Earnest W. Wotring (Mayor's Representative), and Albertino "Al" Mays (Citizen Member). Trustee absent was Juliet N. Higgins. Trustee Position IV is vacant. Others present were staff members Ralph D. Marsh (Executive Director), Jonathan W. Needle (Chief Legal Officer), and Ajit Singh (Chief Investment Officer). Also present were Jeri Brooks and Chelbi Mims (One World Strategy Group) and Martin Hubert and Justin R. Jordan (Cornerstone Government Affairs).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silence.

There was a motion by Stephen R. Whitehead, seconded by David O. Lantrip, for approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019. The motion carried.

There was a motion by David O. Lantrip, seconded by Earnest W. Wotring, to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019;
- b. Report of the Budget and Audit Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019; and,
- c. Minutes of the Investment Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019.

The motion carried.

The report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 noted the following: approval of applications for membership into the Fund as shown on Member Services Report (2) Class 2018C and Member Services Report (3) Class 2018D, with a pension effective date of May 16, 2019.

Jeri Brooks, Martin Hubert, Chelbi Mims, and Justin R. Jordan each gave an update on the Fund's governmental relations.

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The Board noted the attendance of Trustee David O. Lantrip's at the International Foundation on Employee Benefit Plans (IFEBP) Advanced Trustees and Administrators Institute held on June 22-24, 2019 in San Francisco, California; and Trustee Gerard L. Daniels' attendance at the IFEBP Education Certificate Series on Retirement Plan Basics, Public Sector 401, 403, 457 Plans and 401(k) Plans held on June 22-30, 2019 in San Diego, CA.

David O. Lantrip departed the meeting room at 10:30 A.M.

Earnest W. Wotring departed the meeting room at 10:32 A.M.

The Chief Legal Officer provided an update on Fund litigation against the City of Houston related to Senate Bill 2190 in the 85th Texas legislature, reviewing the recent Court of Appeals ruling in favor of the City of Houston.

The Chair announced that the Board was going into closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 551.071 for confidential advice of legal counsel regarding the Fund litigation against the City of Houston related to Senate Bill 2190 in the 85th Texas legislature.

The Board went into closed session at 10:43 A.M.

The Board resumed open session at 10:59 A.M.

There was a motion by Lisa R. Slagle, seconded by Gerard L. Daniels, to continue the Fund's challenge to Senate Bill 2190 of the 2017 legislature, including, if Fund counsel are in common agreement and consulting with Board officers and the Executive Director, bringing a further legal suit. The motion carried with Arif Rasheed abstaining.

The Chief Legal Officer provided an update on an appeal of a disability determination, noting no new development.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 A.M., on a motion by Stephen R. Whitehead, seconded by Albertino "Al" Mays. The motion carried.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Slagle  
Board Secretary