

## **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, August 20, 2019 at 10:02 A.M.

Trustees present were Brett Robert Besselman (Chair), Stephen R. Whitehead (Vice Chair), Lisa R. Slagle (Secretary), Juliet N. Higgins, Gerard L. Daniels, David O. Lantrip, Arif Rasheed (City Treasurer Designee), Earnest W. Wotring (Mayor's Representative), and Albertino "Al" Mays (Citizen Member). Trustee Position IV is vacant. Others present were staff members Ralph D. Marsh (Executive Director), Jonathan W. Needle (Chief Legal Officer), Ajit Singh (Chief Investment Officer), and Dolly De La Cruz (Director of Member Services).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

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

There was a motion by Lisa R. Slagle, seconded by David O. Lantrip, for approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, July 16, 2019. The motion carried.

There was a motion by David O. Lantrip, seconded by Albertino "Al" Mays, to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, July 16, 2019;
- b. Report of the Budget and Audit Committee meeting held on Tuesday, July 16, 2019;
- c. Minutes of the Investment Committee meeting held on Tuesday, July 16, 2019; and
- d. Accept registration, roundtrip airport transfers, three nights of hotel accommodation, and airfare expenses from Gilardi & Co LLC for David O. Lantrip to attend the ValueEdge Advisors LLC "2019 Public Funds Forum" to be held on September 3-5, 2019 in Park City, UT.

The motion carried.

The report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 noted the following: The Director of Member Services reported that one retiree and two adult beneficiaries are not in compliance with the 2018 employment activities and earnings verification reporting. The members' benefit payments will be suspended beginning in July and will not be paid until the required documents have been submitted.

The Chair discussed the social media communications and suggested Trustees take necessary precaution when posting pension fund-related information on their personal social communications media.

The Director of Member Services reviewed the forms regarding refund of contributions.

There was a motion by Stephen R. Whitehead, seconded by David O. Lantrip, for approval of the forms regarding refund of contributions. The motion carried.

The Chair announced that the Board was going into closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 551.071 for confidential advice of legal counsel on an issue of spousal status.

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

The Board resumed open session at 10:30 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, noting that a further legal suit was filed as well as a request for review of an appellate opinion with the Supreme Court of Texas.

The Chief Legal Officer provided an update on an appeal of a disability determination.

The Board noted the attendance of Trustee David O. Lantrip at the TEXPERS “Advanced Trustee Training” held on August 17, 2019 in Frisco, TX.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:38 A.M., on a motion by Albertino “Al” Mays, seconded by David O. Lantrip. The motion carried.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Slagle  
Board Secretary