

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, January 21, 2020 at 10:01 a.m.

Trustees present were Brett R. Besselman (Chair), Lisa R. Slagle (Secretary), Gerard L. Daniels, Pete Ng, David Riegler, David O. Lantrip, Arif Rasheed (City Treasurer Designee), and Albertino "Al" Mays (Citizen Member). Trustees absent were Stephen R. Whitehead (Vice Chair) and Earnest W. Wotring (Mayor's Representative). Others present were staff members Ralph D. Marsh (Executive Director), Ajit Singh (Chief Investment Officer), and Adam E. Smith (Acting General Counsel).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

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

The Chair invited comments from the public. No comments were received.

The Chair called for a vote by the elected members of the Board on the Citizen Member position on the Board. There was a motion by Pete Ng, seconded by David O. Lantrip, to re-appoint Lisa R. Slagle to the citizen member position for a two-year term on the Board of Trustees effective January 1, 2020. The motion carried.

The Chair administered the oath of office to elected Board members Gerard L. Daniels (Trustee Position V), David Riegler (Trustee Position II), and re-appointed Board member Lisa R. Slagle (Citizen Member) for their new terms.

The Chair called for election of the HFRRF Board of Trustee Officers for calendar year 2020. There was a nomination by David O. Lantrip, seconded by Albertino "Al" Mays, to re-elect Brett R. Besselman as Board Chair, Stephen R. Whitehead as Vice Chair, and Lisa R. Slagle as Secretary, for calendar year 2020. The motion carried. There were no other nominations received.

There was a motion by David O. Lantrip, seconded by Pete Ng, to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019. The motion carried.

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

- a. Report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019.
- b. Minutes of the Investment Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019.
- c. Minutes of the Personnel and Procedures Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019.

The motion carried.

The report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 noted the following: Denial of the pension disability re-application under Section 6(b) of the Statute as shown on Member Services Report (1), based on additional information provided by the applicant which was not previously submitted to the Committee.

The Chair announced that the Board would hear an appeal of a Pension Benefits Committee determination and was going into closed session under Government Code 551.078 to deliberate upon the relevant medical records to determine disability benefits. The Board went into closed session at 10:06 a.m.

The Board came out of closed session and resumed open session, the Chair so announcing at 11:31 a.m.

There was a motion by Pete Ng, seconded by David Riegor, to reverse the Pension Benefits Committee decision thereby granting the disability benefit. The motion carried.

The Acting General Counsel provided updates on the Fund lawsuits against the City of Houston and City officials related to Senate Bill 2190 in the 85th Texas legislature and on the appeal of a disability determination.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m., on a motion by David O. Lantrip, seconded by Pete Ng. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa R. Slagle
Board Secretary