

## **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, June 15, 2021 at 10:05 a.m.

Trustees present were Brett R. Besselman (Chair), Stephen R. Whitehead (Vice Chair), Lisa R. Slagle (Secretary), Gerard L. Daniels, Pete Ng, David Riegler, David O. Lantrip, Arif Rasheed (City Treasurer Designee), Earnest W. Wotring (Mayor's Representative), and Albertino "Al" Mays (Citizen Member). Also present were Jeri Brooks (One World Strategy Group, LLC), Tony Essalih (Cornerstone Government Affairs), Ted Delisi and Jarod Love (Delisi Communications), and staff members Ralph D. Marsh (Executive Director), Ajit Singh (Chief Investment Officer), Claudia McInnis (Director of Finance and Administration), Dalia "Dolly" De La Cruz (Director of Member Services), Andrea Sharayha (Human Resources Manager), and Adam E. Smith (General Counsel).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and invited comments from the public. No comments were received.

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

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Tuesday May 18, 2021.
- B. Approval of the report of the Budget and Audit Committee meeting held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.
- C. Approval of the report of the Memorial Committee meeting held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.
- D. Approval of the minutes of the Investment Committee meeting held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.
- E. Approval of the minutes of the Personnel and Procedures Committee meeting held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.
- F. Approval of the report of the Special Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 1, 2021.
- G. Approval of the minutes of the Special Personnel and Procedures Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

The motion carried.

Earnest W. Wotring and Arif Rasheed entered the meeting room at 10:07 a.m. and 10:11 a.m., respectively.

The Board welcomed Jeri Brooks (One World Strategy Group, LLC), Tony Essalih (Cornerstone Government Affairs), Ted Delisi and Jarod Love (Delisi Communications) who each gave an update on the Fund's governmental relations and the Texas Legislature activity.

The Chair reviewed the revisions to the Personnel and Procedures Committee policies.

There was a motion by Lisa R. Slagle, seconded by David Riegler, to approve the revisions to the Personnel and Procedures Committee policies, as presented. The motion carried.

The Chair informed the Board that the Fund has reached its maximum allowable deduction slots as confirmed by its Fund's custodian, BNY Mellon, and therefore cannot accommodate payroll deduction to handle retirees' membership dues contribution.

The General Counsel provided updates on the Fund's lawsuits against the City of Houston and City officials related to Senate Bill 2190 in the 85th Texas legislature and on the declaratory judgment relating to informal marriage.

Lisa R. Slagle asked about a future agenda item she previously requested regarding analyzing Fund operations and structure for possible cost savings purposes.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m. on a motion by David O. Lantrip seconded by Gerard L. Daniels. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa R. Slagle  
Board Secretary