

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 20, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

Trustees present were Brett R. Besselman (Chair), Stephen R. Whitehead (Vice Chair), Lisa R. Slagle (Secretary), Pete Ng, David Riegor, Earnest W. Wotring (Mayor's Representative), and Albertino "Al" Mays (Citizen Member). Trustees absent were Gerard L. Daniels, David O. Lantrip, and Arif Rasheed (City Treasurer Designee). Also present were staff members Ralph D. Marsh (Executive Director), Ajit Singh (Chief Investment Officer), Dalia "Dolly" De La Cruz (Director of Member Services), Andrea Sharayha (Director of Human Resources), and Adam E. Smith (General Counsel).

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.

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

There was a motion by Albertino "Al" Mays, seconded by Stephen R. Whitehead, to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Tuesday June 15, 2021.
- B. Approval of the report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021.
- C. Approval of the minutes of the Investment Committee meeting held on Wednesday June 16, 2021.
- D. Approval for Ajit Singh (Chief Investment Officer) to travel to Boston, MA to attend the 18th Annual Global ARC Boston 2021 conference to be held on October 25-27, 2021, with complimentary registration, airfare up to \$400, and 3 nights lodging to be paid by Global ARC.

The motion carried.

The Chair provided an update on the Executive Director search noting that several applications have been received and that the executive search firm is currently reviewing these applications. Once the applicants have been vetted by the executive search firm, the Fund's search committee will begin interviewing the candidates.

After 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, the Chair announced that pursuant to Texas government code section 551.071, the Board is going into closed session to obtain the confidential advice of legal counsel.

The Board went into closed session at 10:05 a.m. and resumed open session at 10:24 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. on a motion by David Riegor, seconded by Pete Ng. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa R. Slagle
Board Secretary