

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF AND RETIREMENT FUND

A special meeting of the Houston Firefighters' Relief and Retirement Fund (HFRRF) Board of Trustees convened at the Fund offices at 4225 Interwood North Parkway on Friday, January 19, 2018, at 10:20 a.m.

Trustees present were David L. Keller, Jr., (Chair), Francis "Frank" X. Maher (Secretary), Garry W. Blackmon, Sr., Juliet N. Higgins, Brett R. Besselman, Arif Rasheed, Earnest W. Wotring, Albertino Mays, and Lisa Slagle. Trustee absent was Stephen R. Whitehead (Vice Chair). Others present were staff members Ralph D. Marsh (Executive Director), Jonathan W. Needle (Chief Legal Officer) and Ajit Singh (Chief Investment Officer).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

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

Retired Fund Member William "Bill" Hausinger thanked the Board of Trustees for their good work.

David L. Keller, Jr., (Chair), administered the oath of office to Lisa Slagle (Citizen Member), and Garry W. Blackmon, Sr., (Trustee Position IV).

The Chair noted Committee assignments for calendar year 2018.

There was a motion by Garry W. Blackmon, Sr., seconded by Albertino Mays, to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, as presented.

There was a motion by Albertino Mays, seconded by Juliet N. Higgins, to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda:

- a) Report of the Pension Benefits Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.
- b) Minutes of the Investment Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.
- c) Report of the Budget and Audit Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.
- d) Minutes of the Personnel and Procedures Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.
- e) Approval of invitation for Ajit Singh to attend the Morgan Stanley Investment Management's "Global Investor Conference" to be held on January 31-February 1, 2018 to be held in New York, NY with registration and meals to be paid by Morgan Stanley Investment Management.
- f) Approval of Invitation for Ajit Singh and Ryan Montalbano to attend the Morgan Stanley Investment Management's "Global Asset Allocation Forum" to be held on March 1, 2018 to be held in New York, NY with registration and meals to be paid by Morgan Stanley Investment Management; and,
- g) Note approval extended to Tony L. Pierce (Member Board of Directors) by the Chairman to attend the NPEA Winter board meeting that was held January 11-14, 2018 in Naples Florida with all travel expenses paid by NPEA.
- h) Approval of invitation for Jonathan W. Needle to speak at the "Market's Group Annual Texas Real Estate Forum" to

be held on February 8, 2018 in Austin, TX with complimentary conference registration fee, reimbursement for airfare and 1 night lodging to be paid by the Market's Group .

The motion carried.

The Report of the Pension Benefits Committee held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 noted the following: Approval of 1 application for the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) to be effective January 1, 2018; Approval of General On-Duty Disability benefits under Section 6(c) of the statute as shown on Member Services Report (2); Committee recommendation to the Board on proposed Board interpretation of Section 4(a) of the Statute; Committee recommendation to the Board of proposed policy changes regarding the pro-rated death benefit; and, Committee recommendation to the Board of proposed policy regarding the medical re-evaluation of individuals receiving disability benefits, for recipients under the age of 65.

There was a motion by Juliet N. Higgins, seconded by Brett R. Besselman, to accept the revisions recommended by the Pension Benefits Committee to the Fund's Pension Benefits Policies, as presented, adding only consistent spelling of a term. The motion carried.

The Executive Director provided an update on provisions of SB 2190 as it relates to the annual Risk Sharing Valuation Studies (RSVS) noting the required addendums have been submitted to the Texas Pension Review Board.

The Chief Legal Officer provided an update on an appeal of disability determination, noting that except for periodic reports, this matter could await new activity before the next board consideration.

The Chief Legal Officer provided an update on the lawsuit of the City of Houston concerning the constitutionality of the Fund's statute, pending before the Texas Court of Appeals.

The Chief Legal Officer provided an update on the City's litigation against the Fund's former actuarial firm.

The Chair called for nominations for the Chairman of the Board for calendar year 2018. There was a nomination by Garry W. Blackmon, Sr., seconded by Brett R. Besselman, of David L. Keller, Jr., to serve as the Chairman of the Board for the 2018 calendar year. There were no other nominations. David L. Keller, Jr., was elected unanimously.

The Chair called for nominations for the Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees for calendar year 2018 noting the absence of Stephen R. Whitehead and a January 2018 new term date for Trustee Position III. There was a nomination by Francis "Frank" X. Maher, seconded by Juliet N. Higgins, of Stephen R. Whitehead, to serve as the Vice Chairman of the Board for the 2018 calendar year. There were no other nominations. Stephen R. Whitehead was elected unanimously.

The Chair called for nominations for the Secretary of the Board for calendar year 2018. There was a nomination by Juliet N. Higgins, seconded by Albertino "Al" Mays, of Francis "Frank" X. Maher to serve as the Secretary of the Board for calendar year 2018. There were no other nominations. Francis "Frank" X. Maher was elected unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m. on a motion by Garry W. Blackmon, Sr., seconded by Albertino Mays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis "Frank" X. Maher
Secretary