

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE
TAMPA FIRE & POLICE PENSION FUND**

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Audio Only: (877) 309-2074 Access Code: 817-441-204

March 24, 2021 1:30 p.m.

The Board of Trustees of the City Pension Fund for Firefighters and Police Officers in the City of Tampa met remotely on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. for a regular meeting with the following members present:

Douglas Burkett, Chairman
Matthew Belmonte
John Cannon
Trevor Hall
Patrick Messmer

Gregory Reed
Dennis Rogero
Gregory Spearman
Ocea Wynn

Additional participants included Mr. Brandon Barclay, active TPD; Dr. Bruce Bohnker, Medical Director; Mr. Joseph Griffin, Actuary; Mr. Brad Heinrichs, Actuary; Mr. Robert Klausner, General Counsel; Mr. Mark Lenker, External CPA; and active and retired plan members.

1. Approved the minutes of the February 23, 2021 regular board meeting. **It was moved by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Spearman and by unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2021 regular board meeting.**

Consent Agenda: Items on the consent agenda shall be acted upon in one motion. If an item requires additional discussion, that item shall be removed from the consent agenda for discussion. [Items 2 – 6] **It was moved by Mr. Messmer, seconded by Mr. Cannon and by unanimous vote to approve consent agenda items 2-6.**

2. Ratified pension benefits.
3. Investment Management Report from Bowen, Hanes & Co. Inc. Noted receipt of the following:
 - a. Investment management report for the month ended 02/28/2021: Market value of investments was \$2,528,929,130.12. Investment return has been +9.1% on the total portfolio so far this fiscal year.
 - b. Addendum distributed at the meeting. Market value of investments as of 03/23/2021 was \$2,551,886,739. Investment return has been +10.1% on the total portfolio so far this fiscal year.
4. Approved billing for services rendered by Klausner, Kaufman, Jensen & Levinson during February 2021:
 - a. General Counsel: \$16,980.00
 - b. Appel: \$2,370.00
 - c. Consulting Fees: \$2,600.00
5. Noted receipt of independent performance measurement report prepared by IPS for the quarter ended 12/31/2020.
6. Noted receipt of Disability Process Timeline of disabilities in process as of 03/16/2021.

Medical Disability

7. Noted receipt of follow-up memo from Dr. Bohnker, Medical Director, regarding S. Rehbein, retired TPD. **Item 7 was received and filed.**

8. Financial Reporting Presentation by Mark Lenker, CPA of Nobles, Decker, Lenker & Cardoso. Financial statements previously received to the Board. December 2020 included for reference.

Mr. Lenker began his presentation by noting that he would be focusing on the three-month period from October to December 2020. He noted that 98% of the Fund's assets were in investments and pointed out that net investment income follows the marketplace, which corresponds with October showing a loss. He highlighted the spike in December contributions as the result of the City's match and the extra pay period that the month contained. Further commenting on December, he stated that the benefits paid out were in line with DROP disbursements for those who exited DROP during the year. Regarding a high figure for administration costs in October, Mr. Lenker advised that it was mostly due to year-end accruals for payments made after September 30th that were attributable to services rendered prior to September 30th. Furthering his report, Mr. Lenker advised that the fund has seen an increase of \$300 million in equities over the course of the year and realized gains were \$100 million over losses for the quarter. As such, he offered that investment management fees were in line with the growth of the Fund. He concluded his report by stating that contributions were the highest they have been over the past five-year period. **It was moved by Mr. Belmonte, seconded by Mr. Rogero and by unanimous vote to accept the Financial Reporting Presentation.**

Old Business

9. Noted receipt of Policy 414 – Payment of Pension Benefits (redline).

Ms. Weber reminded the Board that this item originally appeared on the agenda in March 2020. It is a clarification for sections 8 and 9 benefits and limits held from spouses and children. **It was moved by Mr. Messmer, seconded by Mr. Spearman and by unanimous vote to receive the amendment to Policy 414.**

10. Discussion of independent external audit report prepared by RSM for FYE 09/30/2020.

Ms. Weber opened by continuing the review of the RSM audit discussed at the February 24, 2021 Board meeting. Despite the best efforts of the Actuary, a qualified audit exists. She pointed out that the Board has the opportunity to provide a response to the RSM note on the audit. Mr. Griffin requested time to create such response. Ms. Weber requested Mr. Griffin be allowed to use the draft audit report to prepare the actuarial valuation report so as to not delay any possible 13th check. Mr. Griffin acknowledged the request and informed the Board that he prepared an updated deterministic forecast, as requested by the auditors. He offered that Mr. Lenker's financial report could also be used to further support the 8.5% discount rate in question. Mr. Heinrichs supported Mr. Griffin's comments, stating his own initial concern with the figure, but upon examination of the Fund's leverage of extra monies, understands why it exists. He opined that the rate is supported at any angle of review. Mr. Klausner stated that he concurs with the recommendation to proceed with the actuarial valuation report using the draft audit report and that he is preparing a public records request for RSM's working papers concerning the audit. The floor was opened for questions in which Trustees asked for an expanded explanation of the efforts to resolve the discount rate issue and the possibility of securing a new auditing firm during the review of professionals. Mr. Griffin concluded the discussion by making the Board aware that his response on the audit would contain no corrective action recommendations. **It was moved by Mr. Rogero, seconded by Mr. Reed and by unanimous vote to allow Mr. Griffin of Foster & Foster to use the draft audit report to prepare the actuarial valuation.**

New Business

11. Noted receipt of listing of upcoming conferences. Disclosure of planned attendance, if any.

Ms. Weber noted that the spring FPPTA Trustees Schools will be offered virtually in April two staff members of the Pension Office. It was noted that Mr. Spearman attended the FPPTA New Trustees School in March. Continuing education credits will be offered in May and three other staff members will be attending those courses. **Item 11 was received and filed.**

12. Noted receipt of agenda appearance request by B. Barclay, TPD, regarding purchase of prior service credit.
a. Policy 439 – Buybacks of Past Credited Service

Officer Barclay opened by stating he was hired by TPD in 2010 and attempted to buy back Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office time in 2015 but was denied due to FRS stipulations. He contends that he later discovered that an officer with a similar background to his was allowed to purchase past service credit. Officer Barclay cited several sections of code that allowed for corrections officer's eligibility for service purchase credit. He stated he left the FRS system before being vested. Ms. Weber then clarified that FRS sent subsequent stipulations on time that could be purchased following the individual that Officer Barclay used in his example being allowed to complete his/her buyback. The question was raised of dual-certified corrections officers being eligible. Officer Barclay stated he was dual certified for part of the time he was requesting to purchase. Mr. Klausner recommended tabling the discussion so that further research could be done. **It was moved by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Spearman and by unanimous vote to table the discussion regarding Officer Barclay's eligibility to purchase prior service credit.**

13. Chair's call for any new business items from trustees to be placed on next agenda. None.
14. Chair's report. None.
15. Plan Administration: Update on PAS implementation, annual State report, valuation report, union insurance deductions.

Ms. Weber opened the update by stating that user acceptance training for deliverable 3 had wrapped up. Training for Member Direct would begin soon, with a target parallel date of October 1 and a go-live date in December still on track. She prefaced that statement with news that an issue with insurance files had arisen from the City. The Health Trust is accommodating file sharing; however, the City is unsure of the same capability on their side. If the City file cannot be onboarded, Pension Office staff will have to key entries and changes by hand. Ms. Weber noted she will include this issue with the steering committee agenda. She noted also that the State report had been filed. She further stated that the fire benevolence may take over from the fire union the administration of the supplemental insurance some firefighters have withheld from their pension benefits. While withholdings on behalf of the benevolence has not been done before, she does not foresee any issues and requests Board permission to accept the potential change should it arise. **It was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Reed and by unanimous vote to accept any potential future changes to the administration of the firefighters' supplemental insurance deductions.**

16. Attorney's Report. None.

Litigation Report – Update by attorney, if any. [Items 17 – 18] **Items 17 – 18 were received and filed.**

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| 17. Artz Lawsuit | 2 nd District Court of Appeals Case No. 2D15-1342
Hillsborough County Circuit Court Case No.07-012048 |
| 18. Appel Petition for Writ of Certiorari | 2 nd District Court of Appeals Case No. 2D18-4443
Hillsborough County Circuit Court Case No.17-CA-10758 |

The motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Wynn at 3:02 p.m.

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Douglas Burkett
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Douglas Burkett
Chairman

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Ocea Wynn
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Ocea Wynn
Secretary

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Adam Hollen
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Adam Hollen
Recording Secretary

Notice

No verbatim record by a certified court reporter will be made of this Board meeting, except as noticed for any executive sessions. Notice is hereby given as provided in Section 286.0105, Fla. Stat., that any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Persons needing a special accommodation to participate in any noticed meeting should contact the F&P Pension office at (813) 274-8550 or (888) 335-8550 or the Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8770 (voice) or (800) 955-8771 (TTY). You may also dial 711 from any landline or mobile phone. Additional options for contacting the Florida Relay Service may be found on their website: www.ftri.org Please make your request at least five (5) working days before the scheduled meeting date.

2021 Board meeting schedule – meetings begin at 1:30 p.m.

April 28, 2021
May 26, 2021
June 23, 2021
July 28, 2021

August 25, 2021
September 22, 2021
October 27, 2021

November 17, 2021 –
early due to holidays
December 15, 2021 –
early due to holidays