
MINUTES

Meeting of the Retirement Board of Trustees of the
FIREMEN'S ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND OF CHICAGO
20 S. Clark Street, Suite 300, Chicago, IL 60603

Regular Meeting No. 1111
Wednesday, June 21, 2023
8:30.a.m.

Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago
Board Meeting No. 1111
June 21, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
20 S. Clark Street, Suite 300, Chicago IL 60603
Agenda

1. Roll Call
 - A. Request from Members of the Public to Address the Board
2. Approval of Administrative Items * **
 - A. Approval of Minutes
Regular Meeting – May 17, 2023
 - B. Minimum Formula Annuities
 - C. Widow's and Children's Annuities
 - D. Refunds
 - E. Death Benefits
 - F. Partial Payments
 - G. Benefit Recalculations
 - H. Requests for Permission
 - I. Removals
3. Request for Approval of Payments Pursuant to Administrative and Court Order *
4. Consideration for Approval of the Following Matters * ** *Hearings beginning at 8:45 a.m.*
 - A. Ordinary Disability
 - i. EMT FF Miguel Hernandez, Truck 57
 - B. Duty Disability
 - i. PM Logan M. Grimes, Ambulance 79
 - ii. PM Eddie Leasure, Ambulance 41
 - iii. PM Michael J. Vojtas, Detached Services
 - iv. EMT FF Ryan Rogers, Engine 110 Atty: Jerome Marconi
 - C. Occupational Disease Disability
 - i. EMT FF Donald Humphrey, Engine 92 Attorney: Jerome Marconi
5. Consideration for Approval of Board Physician Reviews of Disability Recipients *
6. Investment
 - A. Investment Committee Report and Possible Action Regarding Committee Recommendation Related to Rebalancing *
 - B. Investment Report
7. Operating and Expenses
 - A. Operating Cash
 - B. Administrative Expenses for Board Review and Possible Approval *
8. Miscellaneous
 - A. Consideration and Possible Action to Accept 2022 Actuarial Report – Segal * **
 - B. Consideration and Possible Action to Accept 2022 Audit Report – Legacy * **
9. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Approved Ethics and Training YTD Update*
10. Legislative Update
11. Legal Update
12. New Business/Old Business/Correspondence
 - A. EMWQ Contributions – May 2023
13. Adjourn

Note: All times are approximate

** Denotes Action Item*

*** Matters Discussed May Require Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act*

1. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON OR TELEPHONICALLY: President Daniel Fortuna, Secretary Anthony Martin, Trustees Michael Flisk, Zachary Pentek, Craig Slack, Mary Sheridan, Reshma Soni

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Vice-President Anna Valencia

TRUSTEES PRESENT AFTER THE START OF THE MEETING: Trustee Melissa Conyears-Ervin.

OTHERS PRESENT EITHER IN PERSON OR TELEPHONICALLY: Attorneys Mary Pat Burns and Vincent Pinelli, Executive Director Kelly Weller, Fund Staff Lori Lund, Lorna Scott, Jackie Vlahos, Jerod Lockhart, Fund physicians Daniel Samo and Michael Peters, Mark Myslinski, and retired member Dan Sheehan.

On motion by Fortuna, second by Martin, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Meetings Act, to allow trustee Soni to participate remotely due to her inability to attend due to work matters. The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack
Nays: None

A. REQUEST FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

There were no requests for Public Comment.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REGULAR MEETING – MAY 17, 2023

On motion by Martin, seconded by Pentek, that the foregoing minutes be approve. The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

B. MINIMUM FORMULA ANNUITIES:

On motion by Martin, second by Soni that the Minimum Formula Annuities under Item 2-B of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None

C. SURVIVOR'S ANNUITIES - WIDOWS:

On motion by Martin, second Flisk that the Widow's Annuities under Item 2-C of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None

SURVIVOR'S ANNUITIES - CHILDREN:

On motion by Martin, second Soni that the Children's Annuities under Item 2-C of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None

SURVIVOR'S ANNUITIES – TIER II WIDOW'S:

On motion by Martin, second Soni that the Children's Annuities under Item 2-C of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None

D. REFUNDS:

On motion by Martin, second by Pentek that the Refund to the Estate under Item 2-D of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

E. DEATH BENEFITS:

*On motion by Martin, second by Pentek that the Death Benefits under Item 2-E of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:*

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

F. PARTIAL PAYMENTS:

*On motion by Martin, second by Soni the Partial Payments under Item 2-F of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:*

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

G. BENEFIT RECALCULATIONS: (None)

H. REQUEST FOR PERMISSION: (None)

I. REMOVALS:

*On motion by Martin, seconded by Flisk, that the Removals under Item 2-I of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:*

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

3. PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO ADMINISTRATIVE AND COURT ORDERS:

QILDRO ORDERS/SDU CHILD SUPPORT:

*On motion by Martin, seconded by Sheridan that the Payments Pursuant to Administrative and Court Order, and specifically the QILDRO Orders and SDU Child Support Orders listed under Item 3 of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 1**). The vote was:*

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

The Board went out of the regular order of business.

4. HEARINGS:

A. APPLICATION FOR ORDINARY DISABILITY:

16867 MIGUEL HERNANDEZ, EMT FIREFIGHTER, TRUCK 57

After review of the relevant records by the Board and its Physician, a hearing having been held and after due deliberation, there was a motion by Martin, second by Sheridan to grant ordinary disability benefits.

*By roll call vote **ordinary disability benefits were granted** pursuant to Illinois Compiled Statutes, 40 ILCS 5/6-152 and the express findings of the Board, in the amount of **\$3,749.31 month, beginning May 20, 2023.** The vote was:*

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None
Not Present: Valencia*

On motion of Martin, second by Slack to request reexamination of Mr. Hernandez's disability status consistent with the Board's policy. The vote was:

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None
Not Present: Valencia*

After review of the Findings of Fact prepared by Fund counsel, on motion by Martin, second by Flisk to adopt the Findings in the Hernandez matter. The vote was:

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None
Not Present: Valencia*

5. APPROVAL OF BOARD PHYSICIAN REVIEWS OF DISABILITY RECIPIENTS:

On motion by Martin, second by Flisk to approve the Board Physician's recommendations for reexamination scheduling. The vote was:

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

- 6. INVESTMENT:
 - A. INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION RELATED TO REBALANCING:
 - B. INVESTMENT REPORT:

On motion of Martin, second by Slack to accept the Investment Committee Report and approve the recommendation of the Investment Committee to rebalance the portfolio as recommended by the Chief Investment Officer and investment consultant. The vote was:

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

- 7. OPERATING CASH AND EXPENSES:
 - A. OPERATING CASH:
 - B. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES FOR BOARD REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL:

*On motion by Martin, seconded by Pentek, that the Expenditures for Administrative Expenses under Item 7-A of the Board materials be approved (**Exhibit 2**). The vote was:*

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

HEARINGS:

- A. DUTY DISABILITY APPLICATIONS:

19764 LOGAN M GRIMES, PARAMEDIC, AMBULANCE 79

On motion of Martin, second by Pentek to go into executive session as allowed under 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)4. The vote was:

*Yeas:, Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Nays: None*

No action was taken in executive session. Upon return to open session, the following motion was made:

After review of the relevant records by the Board and its Physician, a hearing having been held and after due deliberation, there was a motion by Martin, second by Slack to grant duty disability benefits.

*By roll call vote **duty disability benefits were not granted** pursuant to Illinois Compiled Statutes, 40 ILCS 5/6-151. The vote was:*

*Yeas: None
Nays: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni
Not Present: Valencia*

HEARINGS:

A. DUTY DISABILITY APPLICATIONS:

19764 LOGAN M GRIMES, PARAMEDIC, AMBULANCE 79

On motion by Martin, second by Sheridan to deny Duty Disability Benefits. The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni

Nays: None

Trustee Conyears-Ervin entered the meeting.

19341 EDDIE LEASURE, PARAMEDIC, AMBULANCE 41

After review of the relevant records by the Board and its Physician, a hearing having been held and after due deliberation, there was a motion by Martin, second by Sheridan to grant duty disability benefits to Mr. Leasure limited to his shoulder injury.

*By roll call vote **duty disability benefits were granted** pursuant to Illinois Compiled Statutes, 40 ILCS 5/6-151 and the express findings of the Board, in the amount of **\$5,785.63 a month, beginning May 10, 2023.** The vote was:*

Yeas: Conyears-Ervin, Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni

Nays: None

Not Present: Valencia

On motion of Martin, second by Sheridan to request Continued Case Management of Mr. Leasure's disability status consistent with the Board's policy. The vote was:

Yeas: Conyears-Ervin, Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni

Nays: None

Not Present: Valencia

After review of the Findings of Fact prepared by Fund counsel, on motion by Martin, second by Pentek to adopt the Findings in the Leasure matter. The vote was:

Yeas: Conyears-Ervin, Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni

Nays: None

17216 MICHAEL J VOJTAS, PARAMEDIC, DETACHED SERVICES

Testimony was heard in the foregoing matter.

On motion of Martin, second by Pentek to go into executive session as allowed under 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)4. The vote was:

Yeas: Conyears-Ervin, Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni

Nays: None

HEARINGS:

DUTY DISABILITY APPLICATIONS:

17216 MICHAEL J VOJTAS, PARAMEDIC, DETACHED SERVICES

No action was taken in executive session. Upon return to open session, the following motion was made:

On motion by Martin, second by Flisk, to defer the Vojtas matter to secure additional medical evidence.

The vote was:

Yeas: Conyears-Ervin, Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni

Nays: None

Not Present: Valencia

Trustee Conyears-Ervin left the meeting.

18716 RYAN P ROGERS, EMT FIREFIGHTER, ENGINE 110

After review of the relevant records by the Board and its Physician, a hearing having been held and after due deliberation, there was a motion by Martin, second by Pentek to grant duty disability benefits to Mr. Rogers.

*By roll call vote **duty disability benefits were granted** pursuant to Illinois Compiled Statutes, 40 ILCS 5/6-151 and the express findings of the Board, in the amount of **\$6,479.75 a month, and \$30.00 a month each for two minor children beginning May 5, 2023.** The vote was:*

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Slack, Soni

Nays: Sheridan

Not Present: Valencia

On motion of Martin, second by Soni to request Continued Case Management of Mr. Roger's disability status consistent with the Board's policy. The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Slack, Soni

Nays: None

Not Present: Valencia

After review of the Findings of Fact prepared by Fund counsel, on motion by Martin, second by Slack to adopt the Findings in the Rogers matter. The vote was:

Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Slack, Soni

Nays: Sheridan

Trustee Slack left the meeting.

5. MISCELLANEOUS:

A. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT 2022 ACTUARIAL REPORT – SEGAL:

On motion by Martin, second by Pentek to accept and file the 2022 Actuarial Report as presented by Segal. The vote was:

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni
Nays: None*

B. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT 2022 AUDIT REPORT – LEGACY:

On motion by Martin, second by Flisk to accept and file the 2022 Audit Report as presented by Legacy. The vote was:

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni
Nays: None*

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. APPROVED ETHICS AND TRAINING YTD UPDATE:

The Executive Director presented his report.

On motion by Martin, second by Pentek to approve the Ethics and Training Update as reflected in the docket. The vote was:

*Yeas: Flisk, Fortuna, Martin, Pentek, Sheridan, Soni
Nays: None*

9. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

No Action was taken.

11. LEGAL UPDATE:

The Legal Status Report was distributed to the Board for review. No action was taken.

12. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE:

A. EMWQ CONTRIBUTIONS – MAY 2023:

The May donations made to the EMWQ Charity Fund were distributed to the Board. No action was taken.

13. ADJOURN:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.