



NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT

MINUTES

NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM LOCAL PENSION BOARD October 25, 2022

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was held in person with the option to Zoom.

The meeting was held in the Tucson Mountain Conference room at the Northwest Fire District Administration Building at 13535 N. Marana Main Street, Marana, AZ 85653, at 1:30 pm.

Bruce Kaplan, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

TAKE ATTENDANCE AND DETERMINE IF A QUORUM EXISTS:

Present:

Zoom: Bruce Kaplan, Chairman
 Michael Olivares, Board Member
 Patrick Brown, Board Member

Absent: Clint Green, Board Member
 Michael J. Brandt, Board Member

Attendance was taken, and a quorum existed with three (3) voting members present.

Additional Attendees (present): Steve Bossé, Attorney for NWFD Local Pension Board, Nichole Robertson, Acting Human Resource Services (HRS) Manager, Sue Miller, Administrative Assistant, and Michael Plunkett, NWFD retiree.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bruce Kaplan, Chairperson, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW, AMEND, AND APPROVAL OF THE JULY 22, 2022, LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES.

Michael Olivares made the following motion, seconded by Patrick Brown and approved unanimously:

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2022, Local Pension Board meeting.

BUSINESS

A. (Bosse)

Review, Discussion and Action to appoint Nichole Robertson as Northwest Fire District Local Pension Board Secretary, Effective October 25, 2022.

Steve Bosse, Local Pension Board Attorney, introduced Business item A., by proposing that Nichole Robertson, Acting Human Resource Services (HRS) Manager be appointed as Pension Board Secretary, effective October 25, 2022.

Michael Olivares made the following motion, seconded by Patrick Brown and approved unanimously.

Motion to approve appointing Nichole Robertson as Pension Board Secretary, effective October 25, 2022.

B. (Bosse)

Review and Consideration to Approve Michael Plunkett's continuation for Accidental Disability Retirement, Effective July 7, 2019, based upon the results from the bi-annual Independent Medical Evaluation, the Report of Findings, and the Accidental Disability Questionnaire.

Steve Bosse, Local Pension Board Attorney, introduced Business item B., by reading the results from the IME report. He noted that nothing had changed in the past two years and recommended that no change should be made to his retirement benefits. As part of the discussion, Michael Plunkett explained the incident and subsequent injuries that led to his medical retirement. Bosse stated that the board had already approved his medical retirement and that this was just a bi-annual review with no change in circumstances.

Patrick Brown made the following motion, seconded by Michael Olivares, and approved unanimously:

Motion to approve Michael Plunkett's continuation of Accidental Disability Retirement, effective July 7, 2019, based on the results of the Independent Medical Evaluation, the Report of Findings, and the Accidental Disability Questionnaire.

C. (Bosse)

Review and Discussion of Russell v. Local Pension Board from the Arizona Court of Appeals.

Steve Bosse, Local Pension Board Attorney, introduced Business item C., by explaining the outcome of a memorandum decision from the Arizona Court of Appeals. He explained the importance of relying on reports and expert evaluations in determining if members qualify for disability benefits. Members of the board discussed the bi-annual review process for members on disability. Nichole Robertson stated that she would generate a list of other medical retirees who may be due for review at the next meeting.

Information only.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Patrick Brown seconded by Michael Olivares and approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.