



CITY OF AUSTIN
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Benefits and Services Committee Meeting
MINUTES

Public Meeting held in-person and videoconference
Pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.127
4700 Mueller Blvd., Austin, TX 78723
Thursday, June 13, 2024

Committee Members
Present/(Absent)

Diana Thomas, Committee
Chair
Mike Benson †
Chris Noak
(Leslie Pool)
Anthony Ross

Guests:

Paige Saenz, General Counsel
Dr. Harold Skaggs
Eddie Solis, HillCo
Belinda Weaver, City of Austin*

Other Board Trustees
Present/(Absent)

Kelly Crook
Michael Granof
Dick Lavine †
Yuejiao Liu
(Brad Sinclair)
(Ed Van Eenoo)

Others Present

Staff:

Christopher Hanson
Russell Nash
Michelle Mahaini
Sarah McCleary
Jenni Bonds
Mehrin Rahman
Amy Kelley
Yun Quintanilla
Deverett Morrow*
David Kushner*

* Present telephonically

† Present via videoconference

1 Call roll of Committee members

Committee Chair Diana Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. The following Committee members were present in person: Thomas, Noak, and Ross. Mr. Benson was available via videoconference.

2 Review order of business and establish meeting objectives

Committee Chair Thomas reviewed the order of business and meeting objectives with the Committee. There were no changes to the order of business for the meeting.

3 Receive public comments

Committee Chair Thomas asked if there were any members of the public who wished to speak, either now or during an agenda item. There were no comments.

4 Consider approval of the March 6 and March 28, 2024 Benefits and Services Committee minutes

Committee Chair Thomas asked the committee to review the Benefits and Services Committee minutes from March 6 and March 28, 2024. Mr. Anthony Ross moved approval of the March 6 and March 28, 2024 minutes as presented. Mr. Chris Noak seconded, and the motion passed 4-0.

5 Discuss and consider disability retirement application

A. Convene into Executive Session pursuant to sec. 13, art. 6243n, and sec. 551.0785 Texas Government Code, to review disability retirement #2405

B. Reconvene from Executive Session pursuant to sec. 13, art. 6243n, and sec. 551.0785 Texas Government Code, to make recommendations as determined appropriate by the Committee on disability retirement #2405

This agenda item was taken out of order, after agenda item #6.

Trustees convened into Executive Session at 10:14 a.m. and reconvened into open session at 10:16 a.m.

Mr. Noak moved to approve application #2405. Mr. Michael Benson seconded, and the motion passed 4-0.

6 Discuss and consider Funding Policy

This agenda item was taken out of order, after agenda item #4.

Mr. Hanson presented a draft funding policy, which was worked on jointly by COAERS and the City of Austin, as required by State law. Mr. Hanson discussed the possible approval process, including the process for approval by the plan sponsor. He noted that if recommended by the Committee, the draft policy would go to the City Council Audit and Finance Committee in August, then to the COAERS Board in September.

Mr. Ross suggested two technical edits, both of which were noted. Mr. Ross moved to refer to the Board for approval the Funding Policy with the two technical edits as discussed, to be placed on the consent agenda. Mr. Noak seconded, and the motion passed 4-0.

7 Review key meeting takeaways and call for future agenda items

Committee Chair Thomas summarized the actions taken and the information discussed during the meeting and asked for any future agenda items.

As there were no further items to address, the meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

These minutes were approved at the August 30, 2024 Benefits & Services Committee meeting.