

WEST PALM BEACH FIREFIGHTERS PENSION FUND
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
January 9, 2002

Tom Sheppard called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. at FOF Hall, West Palm Beach, Florida. Those persons present were:

TRUSTEES

T. Sheppard
D. Merrell
D. Allison

OTHERS

Bonni Jensen, Hanson, Perry & Jensen, Fund Counsel
Scott Baur & Margie Adcock, Pension Resource Center

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the meeting held December 12, 2001. A motion was made, seconded and carried 3-0 to approve minutes of the meeting held December 12, 2001.

DISBURSEMENTS

Margie Adcock reviewed the disbursement list. A motion was made, seconded and approved 3-0 to pay all listed disbursements.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Scott Baur advised the Board that he had some procedural questions on how rollovers and buybacks to the Fund would be handled. For example, he wanted to know who would pay for the Actuary to do the calculations. There was a lengthy discussion that followed. Bonni Jensen recommended that the Board wait to do anything until the Legislation passes, which should be in April or May. It was requested that a memorandum be sent to the stations advising that the Fund cannot make any calculations or anything else related to the new negotiated benefits until the Legislation passes. There was then a discussion on which benefits are retroactive until October 1, 2001. It was noted that the 25 and out benefit was not made retroactive and would become effective upon passage of the Legislation. (For further discussion on the 25 and out benefit see Attorney Report.)

ATTORNEY REPORT

Bonni Jensen discussed the status of the collective bargaining agreement that contains the new negotiated pension benefits and advised that there was a small problem that should be worked out tomorrow among the City and the Union. It was decided that Tom Sheppard would call the Union President to see if it would be possible to have the 25 and out benefit be retroactive, as it would impact the receipt of the thirteenth check for those members who want to retire and/or DROP prior to March 31, 2002.

Ms. Jensen then advised that the Summary Plan Description booklets were shipped to the printer and are expected to be done by the end of the week. Tom Sheppard advised that he would try to schedule some workshop meeting dates for the Participants to receive the Summary Plan Descriptions and have a presentation on the Plan.

Ms. Jensen reported that she sent out a second request for the new hires to sign an Acknowledgement and Waiver for the pre-existing conditions noted in their pre-hire physicals.

Rick Roberts entered the meeting. There was then a discussion about the status of negotiations again. The Board asked Mr. Roberts to see if the 25 and out benefit could be retroactive to January 1, 2002. It was determined that Ms. Jensen would provide a letter to Mr. Roberts for the meeting with the City that stated that the Board would like to see the 25 and out benefit retroactive to January 1, 2002. There was then a lengthy discussion about the calculations that would be necessary for those Participants that wanted to purchase time. The Board called Brad Armstrong by teleconference to discuss the cost of calculating the cost of purchasing time. Mr. Armstrong noted that it would cost less if he received a batch of calculations to do at one time as opposed to receiving them one at a time. Mr. Armstrong advised that he would be able to provide a chart whereby a Participant could estimate the amount owed if they wanted to purchase time. It was noted that Mr. Armstrong would be at the March meeting to present the Actuarial Valuation and would bring a chart of the buyback amounts for calculation purposes. A motion was made, seconded and carried 3-0 to allow for Participants to have a one-time free calculation to determine the cost of purchasing time done anytime in their career, with any subsequent calculations to be paid by the Participant. It was noted that by providing the chart whereby a Participant could estimate the amount owed, they would be able to better make a decision on when to use their one-time free calculation.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business and the next meeting being scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, 2002 at 1:30 P.M. at the Union Hall, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Sheppard, Secretary