



Joint Pension Board
Wednesday, May 17, 2023
1:00 p.m.
269 Melrose Street, Providence
Transportation Board Room

Members Present: Normand Benoit; Christopher Durand; Steven Sousa; Kathy Nadeau; and Lisa Hanson

Absent Members: Nick DeCristofaro

Also Present: Scott Avedisian, CEO; Maureen Ruzzano, Human Resource Chief Compliance Officer, RIPTA; Courtney Marciano, Senior Executive Officer; Jamie Pereira, Chief of Security; and Edward Pare, III, Esq., Board Counsel.

Call to order: Mr. Sousa called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m., indicating that a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 1: **Approval of March 15, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Benoit makes a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2023, meeting. Ms. Nadeau seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Durand; Mr. Sousa; and Ms. Hanson.

Agenda Item 2: **Public Comment**

1. Joe Cole:

- a. Mr. Cole first commends the five (5) fixed-route drivers who are set to retire. Thanks them for their collective years of experience and wishes them the best in their retirements. He also reminds JPB members that their positions need to be filled and that the Authority needs to continue to focus on recruitment efforts.

Agenda Item 3: **Convene as Pension Benefit Sub-Committee**

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Aridia Rodriguez, Bus Operator. Ms. Rodriguez requested her Late Pension become effective on May 1, 2023, in the amount of \$2,159.53 per month.

Mr. Benoit makes a motion to approve the pension benefits request. Mr. Durand

seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Ms. Nadeau; Mr. Sousa; and Ms. Hanson.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Firouz Pazhouhandeh, Bus Operator. Mr. Pazhouhandeh requested his Late Pension become effective on June 1, 2023, in the amount of \$3,061.99 per month.

Ms. Nadeau makes a motion to approve the pension benefits request. Mr. Durand seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit; Mr. Sousa; and Ms. Hanson.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Peter Dziedzic, Bus Operator. Mr. Dziedzic requested his Late Pension become effective on June 1, 2023, in the amount of \$2,180.83 per month.

Ms. Nadeau makes a motion to approve the pension benefits request. Mr. Durand seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit; Mr. Sousa; and Ms. Hanson.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for John Brown, Bus Operator. Mr. Brown requested his Late Pension become effective on June 1, 2023, in the amount of \$1,056.32 per month.

Ms. Nadeau makes a motion to approve the pension benefits request. Mr. Durand seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit; Mr. Sousa; and Ms. Hanson.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for David Nolli, Bus Operator. Mr. Nolli requested his Late Pension become effective on June 1, 2023, in the amount of \$1,624.63 per month.

Ms. Nadeau makes a motion to approve the pension benefits request. Mr. Durand seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit; Mr. Sousa; and Ms. Hanson.

Agenda Item 4: Pension Administrator Services

Caroline Muldoon, Grants Specialist and Sheryl Gomes, Contracts Manager for RIPTA, presents the request.

Mr. Benoit makes a motion to approve. Ms. Nadeau seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Ms. Hanson and Mr. Sousa.

Mr. Durand abstains from the vote.

Adjournment – 1:12 p.m.

Ms. Nadeau makes a motion to approve the pension benefits request. Mr. Durand seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit; Mr. Sousa; and Ms. Hanson.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Nadeau, Recording Secretary