



Joint Pension Board
Thursday, February 22, 2024
1:00 p.m.
269 Melrose Street, Providence
Transportation Board Room

Members Present: Norman Benoit, Chairperson; Christopher Durand; Ramona Gonzalez by proxy for Kathy Nadeau; Walter Melillo; and Steven Sousa.

Absent Members: Lisa Hanson; Kathy Nadeau (proxy given to Ramona Gonzalez).

Also Present: Scott Avedisian, CEO; Edward Pare, Esq., Board Counsel; Maureen Ruzzano, Human Resource Chief Compliance Officer; Kenneth J. Vinacco, Director of Training; Jamie Pereira, Chief of Security; and Joelle Kanter, Planner.

Call to order: Mr. Benoit calls the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m., indicating that a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 1: **Approval of January 24, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024, meeting. Mr. Melillo seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Durand, and Ms. Gonzalez.

Agenda Item 2: **Approval of Empower Services Contract**

Mr. Benoit presents a letter from Empower Investment Management Services to consider a contract renewal, with the same fee, to allocate assets and review investments.

Mr. Durand makes a motion to authorize the Chair to renew the contract with Empower Investment Management Services. Mr. Melillo seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Gonzalez, and Mr. Sousa.

Agenda Item 3: **Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

Agenda Item 4: **Convene as Pension Benefit Sub-Committee**

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the late pension application for Vivian Kidd, Customer Service Agent. Ms. Kidd requested her late benefits become effective on March 1, 2024, in the amount of \$1,333.01 per month.

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to approve the pension request. Mr. Melillo seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Durand, and Ms. Gonzalez.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the early pension application for David Sepe, Buildings & Grounds Worker. Mr. Sepe requested his early pension benefits become effective on March 1, 2024, in the amount of \$3,905.02 per month.

Mr. Melillo makes a motion to approve the pension request. Mr. Sousa seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Durand, and Ms. Gonzalez.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the late pension application for David St. Amant, Bus Operator. Mr. St. Amant requested his late pension benefits become effective on April 1, 2024, in the amount of \$1,002.51 per month.

Mr. Durand makes a motion to approve the pension request. Mr. Sousa seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Gonzalez, and Mr. Melillo.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the late pension application for Jose Monteiro, Utility Worker. Mr. Monteiro requested his late pension benefits become effective on April 1, 2024, in the amount of \$2,503.21 per month.

Mr. Melillo makes a motion to approve the pension request. Ms. Gonzalez seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Durand, and Mr. Sousa.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the late pension request for Gary Leoni, Utility Worker. Mr. Leoni requested his late pension benefits become effective on April 1, 2024, in the amount of \$1,787.66 per month.

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to approve the pension request. Mr. Melillo seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Durand, and Ms. Gonzalez.

Agenda Item 5: **Adjournment—1:08 p.m.**

Mr. Sousa requests a copy of the Joint Pension Board by-laws and current pension document before the next meeting. Mr. Sousa then makes a motion to adjourn. Mr. Melillo seconds, and the motion

passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Durand, and Ms. Gonzalez.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Nadeau, Recording Secretary