



# City of Austin Police Retirement System

## MINUTES REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Pursuant to the Governor's suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act in response to the COVID-19 disaster, this meeting was not held at a physical location but was conducted through a telephone conference call. The telephone conference call meeting was open to the public through the toll-free dial-in number: 346 248 7799, Meeting ID: 848 1856 5948.

### Board Members Present

Tyler Link, Chair  
Keith Harrison,  
Vice Chair  
Sheldon (Scott) Askew  
Michael Cowden  
Thomas Hugonnett  
Nicholas (Nick) Moore  
Diana Thomas  
Kathie Tovo  
Belinda Weaver  
Chesley Wood  
Carl Zimmerman

### Consultants Present

Alyca Garrison

### Staff Present

Stephanie Willie  
John Poth  
Michelle Ruland  
Jennifer Grahmann

#### I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Tyler Link called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. and roll call was taken.

#### II. Public Comment

No comments.

#### III. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meetings held on January 29 and March 24, 2021
- B. Approval of Membership Transactions for March 2021
- C. CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL
  - 1. New Retired Members
  - 2. Forward DROP Activity
  - 3. PROP Disbursements
  - 4. Service Credit Purchases
  - 5. Retiree Survivor & Death Benefit Payments
- D. Treasury Report for February 2021

**The Chair requested that consent agenda item A be tabled for further discussion under agenda item IV.**

**Motion made by Keith Harrison to approve the consent agenda items B, C, D, excluding consent agenda item A, the meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Michael Cowden. Motion passed unanimously.**

IV.

Report of the Goals and Objectives Committee

A. Consideration of Recording of Trustee Votes in Board Minutes

**Thomas Hugonnett, Chair of the Goals and Objectives Committee, gave a brief report from the committee meeting. Motion made by Thomas Hugonnett on behalf of the Goals and Objectives Committee to keep the current system in place for recording motions in minutes by indicating only if a motion passed or failed. Motion seconded by Nick Moore. Motion failed by a vote of 4-7 with the following votes in favor of the motion: Thomas Hugonnett, Nick Moore, Chesley Wood and Carl Zimmerman, and the following votes against the motion: Scott Askew, Michael Cowden, Keith Harrison, Tyler Link, Diana Thomas, Kathie Tovo, and Belinda Weaver**

**Motion by Michael Cowden that on a going forward basis the board meeting proceedings will have an audio digital recording but also that vote counts and the names of board member votes will be recorded in the meeting minutes beginning with the April 21, 2021 meeting. Motion seconded by Nick Moore. Motion passed by a vote of 9-2 with the following votes in favor of the motion: Scott Askew, Michael Cowden, Keith Harrison, Tyler Link, Nick Moore, Diana Thomas, Kathie Tovo, Belinda Weaver, and Chesley Wood, and the following votes against the motion: Thomas Hugonnett and Carl Zimmerman.**

Discussion returned to agenda item III.A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on January 29 and March 24, 2021.

**Motion made by Kathie Tovo to approve the minutes of the January and March meetings once revised to include individual board votes for agenda items IV and V of the January minutes, related to legislation and an associated budget amendment for governmental affairs. Seconded by Belinda Weaver. Motion failed by a vote of 3-8 with the following votes in favor of the motion: Kathie Tovo, Diana Thomas and Belinda Weaver, and the following votes against the motion: Scott Askew, Michael Cowden, Keith Harrison, Thomas Hugonnett, Tyler Link, Nick Moore, Chesley Wood, and Carl Zimmerman.**

**Motion made by Michael Cowden to approve the January and March minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Keith Harrison. Motion passed unanimously.**

V.

Consideration of Disability Retirements

A. Executive Director Annual Report on Certain Continuing Disability Retirements

B. Annual Board Review of Certain Continuing Disability Retirements

1. Applicant A
2. Applicant B
3. Applicant C

**The Chair noted a correction to the meeting materials provided before the meeting by the Executive Director. Applicant B was previously designated by the Board for annual review by the Executive Director, so it is now part of agenda item V.A., and is reflected in the report by the Executive Director.**

**Motion by Keith Harrison to approve the continuing disability benefits for Applicant A. Motion seconded by Chesley Wood. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Board meeting was closed at 12:09 p.m. after a statement read by the Chair which stated, *The Austin Police Retirement System Board of Trustees is now in Executive Session on April 21, 2021, at 12:09 p.m., pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.078, regarding disability benefits.*

The Board meeting re-opened at 12:30 p.m., and the Chair read the following statement, *The Executive Session of the Board of Trustees ended on April 21, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. No action was taken in closed session.*

**Motion by Keith Harrison to approve Applicant C for continuing disability benefits. Motion seconded by Chesley Wood. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Michael Cowden to accept the report of the Executive Director's annual review of three disability applicants. Motion seconded by Keith Harrison. Motion passed unanimously.**

VI. Executive Director Report

No report was made.

VII. Adjournment

Chair Link adjourned the meeting at 12:33 p.m.



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**Tyler Link**  
**Chair, Board of Trustees**