IN THE MATTER OF MEETING NO. 1088

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had at the meeting of the above-entitled matter, held at 20 South Clark Street, Suite 300, in the City of Chicago, County of Cook, State of Illinois, on July 21, 2021, commencing at the hour of 8:30 a.m.

## APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS:

DANIEL FORTUNA, President and Annuitant Trustee

ROBERT TEBBENS, Active Trustee
WILLIAM MURPHY, Secretary and Active Trustee
TIMOTHY MCPHILLIPS, Active Trustee
MELISSA CONYEARS-ERVIN, City Treasurer
ANNA VALENCIA, City Clerk
RESHMA SONI, City Comptroller
MARY SHERIDAN, Active Trustee
ATTORNEYS FOR THE BOARD:
BURKE, BURNS AND PINELLI, LTD.
BY: MS. MARY PATRICIA BURNS
MR. VINCENT PINELLI

ALSO PRESENT:
KELLY WELLER, Executive Director
LORI LUND, Deputy Executive Director LORNA SCOTT, Chief Investment Officer JACLYN VLAHOS, Comptroller
MARC TORRES, IT Analyst
DANIEL G. SAMO, M.D., Board Physician
MICHAEL I. PETERS, M.D., Board Physician
$\square$
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: I hereby convene this Board of Trustees meeting for Wednesday, July 21 st.

Please call the roll.
MS. BURNS: Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Here.
MS. BURNS: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Here.
MS. BURNS: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Here.

MS. BURNS: Trustee Soni.
Trustee Valencia.
Trustee Conyears-Ervin.
Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Here.
MS. BURNS: Trustee Fortuna.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Here.
MS. BURNS: Sir, you have a quorum of five.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Thank you.
I'd like to welcome First Deputy Mary
Sheridan to her first meeting of the Pension Board. Welcome.

Public Act 101-0640 allows this meeting to be conducted by audio and video conference. The

Act requires a roll call vote on each matter acted upon.

Further consistent with Public Act 101-0640, for the record, I am physically present at the Fund's office as is Fund Secretary and Executive Director. We have posted notice of this meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the meeting is being recorded. A transcript of this proceeding will be prepared and after approval will be made available on the Fund's website.

I do want to make a note here that we expect this will be our last virtual meeting under the Covid protocol and next month we will resume our regular meetings and hopefully everything will be back to normal here in the office.

Public Comment. Consistent with Public Act 91-0715 and reasonable constraints determined by the Board of Trustees, at each regular meeting of the Board or its committees that is open to the public, members of the public may request a brief time to address the Board on any relevant matters within its jurisdiction.

Are there any requests for public
comment?

MR. QUANE: I am making a request to address the Board in public comment.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Okay. Please state your name.

MR. QUANE: My name is Pat Quane,
Q-u-a-n-e.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Go ahead, Mr. Quane.
MR. QUANE: Good morning, Trustees. I appreciate the time to speak to you here in public comments.

Again, my name is Pat Quane. I am an active member of this Fund and my father also is a retired member of this Fund.

Today I regretfully address this Board with a concern and that concern that $I$ have stems from just one powerful word and that is theft.

This word has been used in several publications written by a Trustee of this Board. It has lead to lawsuits, division amongst Trustees, and it has been a distraction from the work that this Board does, and it has also affected this Fund financially. Yet again it rears its ugly head and so soon after this legal action.

It was used in a most recent publication
titled "The Unofficial Pension Letter July of 2021. Legal Theft of Our Pension Fund".

In an effort not to waste this board's precious time, $I$ will try to be brief.

As a lawsuit has just concluded, it is concerning the same actions by the same Trustees that have afflicted the financial loss of this Fund have reoccurred and, in noticeably a short period of time, history already seems to be repeating itself.

What lessons have we learned? It seems that in the issues today the focus of the Board should be on increasing the funding of this defined benefit plan and to limit any financial impact to the future of this just as we have seen in this most recent lawsuit.

In this most recent newsletter, the "Unofficial Pension Letter" is what it is titled. I struggle to see how it is unofficial. That is because the author identifies this publication as a pension newsletter and then goes on to sign this newsletter identifying himself as a Pension Board Trustee. To me, that is far from unofficial.

In my opinion, this Trustee is using an
elected position and the newsletter as a platform to provide misleading information and create a negative reflection on this Board and influence members of this Fund to what can be seen as none other than a benefit of his own political gain.

Now I bring your focus to the content of the newsletter and the word theft. Theft, an extraordinary strong word and accusation to make, and one that has again proven costly to this board.

Again, we are faced with an accusation of theft and misleading supporting statistics used to skew people's thinking.

Included in this newsletter was a graph and the contents that suggested elected officials have committed a crime, that they have stolen money from this pension fund.

Although I do agree with the issue of funding that we face, $I$ find it appaling that a Trustee would deliberately portray our elected officials as committing a theft and go as far as to identify even just one political party at-fault.

Section 6-165 of the Pension Code has, since 1972 up to Governor Quinn signing the Senate Bill 777, govern the contributions that the City of

Chicago makes to the Pension Fund.
During the period of time from 1982 to
2015, the Pension Code used a multiplier of 2.26 to determine the City's contributions.

As we have learned from the multipliers used over 33 years that it was only a portion of the actuarial required contribution.

Was it legal, yes. Did it create an increased liability to our fund, yes. But in no way is it accurate that a theft has occurred and it is unfair to make those accusations.

To support this accusation of theft, again, he makes his case by using a graph, which excludes any data of the contributions for 2020 or 2021 in a deliberate attempt to hide the progress that has been made to correct this issue and to show where we are going with the contributions today determined from an actuary.

Reality is we can't change the past, we can only learn from it to improve the future.

We have seen these issues that have been created with the use of multipliers for decades and the blame can be shared by everybody involved not just one entity.

I believe a proper acclimation of the
issue at hand would have a positive and effective impact when construed in a different more professional context.

Finally, as the former president of Palos
Height Fire Protection Pension Fund, I know firsthand the hard work and the tough decisions pension board trustees make, especially to a fund of this size.

I applaud and appreciate your efforts to the job that can often be thankless. I leave you with the questions of whether this newsletter that was authored is acceptable as a member who identifies himself as Pension Board Trustee and whether it is ethical to knowingly provide misleading information for one's own political gain. And whether more false accusations of an authored newsletter and somebody who identifies himself as a Pension Board Trustee could create more liability in the future.

I ask this board not to buy into the morally murky logic as suggested, but rather to continue to protect the Fund in the future.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Thank you.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Thank you, Pat, appreciate it. You can come every month. A word next month on funding, that would be good, if you want to focus on that.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Are there any other requests for public comment this morning?

Hearing none, we will move on.
We're going to turn it over to Secretary Murphy to proceed through the rest of the agenda.

MEMBER MURPHY: Thank you, Mr. President.
First, I would like to turn to the Approval of Administrative Items.

We have Item $A$, approval of the regular audio meeting of June 16,2021 open and closed minutes; regular audio meeting transcript of June 16, 2021; the regular audio Investment Committee Meeting of June 30,2021 open and closed minutes; and, regular audio Investment Committee Meeting transcript of June $30,2021$.

I would like to make a motion to approve the open minutes, the audio transcripts, and the closed session minutes for the June 16,2021 Board Meeting and the June 30,2021 Investment Committee
meeting, and to keep the closed session minutes closed on the recommendation of counsel.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion to approve by Trustee Murphy and seconded by Trustee Sheridan.

Trustee Murphy.

MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a Yes.

Motion carries.

MEMBER SONI: This is Reshma, I am here.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni, hello.

MEMBER SONI: Good morning.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Good morning.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: This is Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Let the record reflect

Trustee Soni and Trustee Conyears-Ervin are now in
the meeting.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: I was in the meeting at roll call. Did you hear me, Mary Pat, during roll call?

MS. BURNS: No, ma'am, we couldn't hear you but we will let the record reflect that you were present.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: You did hear the motion by Trustee Murphy?

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes. I have been on the call since roll call.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: We are terribly sorry. We didn't see you.

Trustee Soni, were you on the call also?
My question is if you heard the motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Sheridan, you do have an opportunity to vote. Would you like to vote, Trustee Conyears-Ervin?

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes, I heard everything. I have been here since roll call, yes, and my vote is yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Okay. Trustee Soni?
MEMBER SONI: I also was on as well but I
was in the waiting room. I was waiting to come in.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: So you heard the
motion, you heard the second, and your vote is yes?
MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion carries.

Go ahead.

MEMBER MURPHY: Moving on to Item B,

Minimum Formula Annuities. I make a motion to
approve the Minimum Formula Annuities starting with

Member 13055 and ending with Member 15927 .
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion to
approve by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee McPhillips.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.

MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Moving on to Item C. I
would like to make a motion to approve the Widow's
Annuities starting with Member 15078 through Member 09034 .

MEMBER SONI: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion is to approve by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Soni.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.

MEMBER MURPHY: Moving on to Item D,
Refunds. I would like to make a motion to approve the Refunds for Member 15720 through Member 11803.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by
Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.

MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, moving on
to Item E, Death Benefits. I make a motion to
approve the Death Benefits for Member 15078 through
Member 09034.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion to approve by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee McPhillips.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
$\square$
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, on to Item F, Partial Payments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the Partial Payments beginning with Member 15078 and continuing through to Member 06561.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Sheridan. Trustee Murphy. MEMBER MURPHY: Yes. CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan. MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes. CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Conyears-Ervin.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, moving on
to Item G, Benefit Recalculations. There are no

Benefit Recalculations this month.
Moving on to Request for Permission.
First we have Guardianships. There is one guardianship matter for Member 09116. Staff represents to the Board that the required paperwork is in order. Based on that representation, $I$ make the motion to approve Guardianship relating to Member 09116.

## MEMBER TEBBENS: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Tebbens.

> Trustee Murphy.

## MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Moving on to Item I,
Removals. I'd like to make a motion to approve the Removals starting with Thomas Ogden and ending with Daniel Baumgartner.

MEMBER SONI: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion for
Removals by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Soni.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.

MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.

Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I'd like to move on to Request for Approval of Payments Pursuant to Administrative and Court Order. I'd like to make a motion to approve the administrative and court orders listed in the docket for Member 015720 and Member 01245 , based on the staff's representation that the required paperwork is in order.

## MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There's a motion to approve by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I would like to move on to Item Number 4 , which is the Disability Applications.

Vince, take it away.
MR. PINELLI: Good morning, to the Board.
The first matter we have is the disability benefit application made by Firefighter Serrano.

Mr. Serrano, are you on the line, sir?
MR. SERRANO: Yes.
MR. PINELLI: Okay. This is the hearing on your application for a Duty Disability benefit.

Good morning, sir. I am one of the attorneys for the Fund.

Before we start evidence, I'd like to advise you of some preliminary matters. There are seven trustees currently present to hear your application.

If you don't know you should know you need the yes vote of at least five of the seven
trustees in order to receive this benefit. Do you
understand that?

MR. SERRANO: Yes, I understand.
MR. PINELLI: Also, you did not have an attorney file an appearance on your behalf so I assume it was your desire to proceed without an attorney; is that correct?

MR. SERRANO: That is correct.
MR. PINELLI: Lastly, it is the applicant's burden of proof to present sufficient evidence to the Board in order for the Board to grant the benefit that the applicant is seeking. Do you understand it is your burden of proof?

MR. SERRANO: Yes, I understand.
MR. PINELLI: By way of procedures then, I am going to start by asking you some questions under oath. I will also ask some questions of the Fund's doctor, who is also present. If there is anything $I$ don't ask him that you think is important, please let us know and you will be given that opportunity. Do you understand the procedures?

MR. SERRANO: Yes, I understand.

MR. PINELII: Very well then. Is Dr.
Samo on the line as well?
DOCTOR SAMO: Yes, I am.
MR. PINELLI: Thank you.
Mr. Serrano and Dr. Samo, please raise
your right hands.
(Witnesses sworn.)
ROY SERRANO
a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION
BY MR. PINELLI:
Q Mr. Serrano, please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

A My name is Roy Serrano, $S-e-r-r-a-n-0$.
Q Sir, what is your rank with the Fire Department?

A Firefighter.
Q What was your last assignment before you went on layup?

A Truck 13.
Q Sir, directing your attention to that group of Board Exhibits you should have been tendered a copy of. Those are Group Board Exhibits

1 through 13, did you receive a copy of those before today's date?

A Yes.
Q Did you have a chance to review them?
A Yes.
Q Do you have any objection to their admission into the record in support of your application?

A No.

MR. PINELLI: Thank you, sir.
Mr. Chairman, I move for admission of
Board Exhibits 1 through 13, without objection from the applicant.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Admitted without objection.
(Board Exhibits 1 through 13 were admitted into evidence.)

MR. PINELLI: Thank you.
BY MR. PINELLI:
Q Directing your attention to the date of June 2nd of 2020, was it on that date that you sustained an injury or injuries that is the basis of your application?

A Yes, my right shoulder.
$\square$ copy of your sworn statement, could you still briefly summarize for us where you were and what happened to cause you that injury to your right shoulder that day?

A Yes. We were called to a fire. We were I believe second truck and we started -- a working fire and $I$ was pulling -- I was instructed by my officer to pull the ceiling, to vent the fire, to open up the ceiling.

As $I$ was doing it, it was a mesh ceiling that's the hardest to break through but $I$ was doing it, but after about ten pulls $I$ felt a pop and $I$ heard a pop in my shoulder. And $I$ had prior damage from other duty related fires to my shoulder so I know the feeling of something not right. And I notified my officer that $I$ messed up my shoulder again and he told me to go to the ambulance and get attended to and that is what $I$ did.

Q Okay. And you did cover that briefly but the record indicates you have had several injuries to your shoulder before this date and indeed several surgeries, including a total right shoulder replacement in 2016 ; is that correct?

A No, that is not correct. I had total shoulder replacement in 2020. I have had repairs in 2016, yes. I have had rotator cuff once or twice, the labrum, but $I$ never had it replaced. I am applying for Duty Disability because I had it replaced and my new shoulder is pain-free now but $I$ also don't have the strength or the stability that my old shoulder had.

Q Okay. Thank you for correcting that.
The prior shoulder injuries that you had to your right shoulder those were incurred while you were also working on duty; is that correct?

A Correct. They were all duty injuries, all of them. My rib, my hands, all of them. All on the right side.

Q Understood. So the shoulder replacement you mentioned you had that surgery on September 21st of last year; is that correct?

A That is correct. I tried to avoid the complete shoulder replacement because $I$ was afraid that it would be career ending. And my orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Visotsky, found another tear on my rotator cuff and we repaired that from the June $2 n d$ injury. We repaired that. We tried to avoid the
replacement and he repaired it. I went to therapy but $I$ was actually -- after a couple of months of therapy, $I$ was regressing and $I$ was advised to go see the surgeon. And after I spoke to him, I explained to him that $I$ am getting worse than when I initially started the therapy. And then he said, well, we can't repair your shoulder anymore, we have to replace it. We have no choice now. And that is when $I$ had the surgery in September a month or two later.

Q Okay. Now, sir, since you went on layup have you engaged in any activity by which you earn income?

A No.
Q Have you engaged in any sporting activities?

A No, I have not, other than physical therapy.

Q We don't consider that a sport. I understand.

A I'm sorry.
Q That is perfectly fine. I just wanted to clarify that.

Are you currently taking any medications
prescribed by your doctor for treatment of your shoulder?

A Not currently. Just high blood pressure medication every morning.

Q Okay. Do you have any appointments scheduled with Dr. Visotsky?

A I do. I think in August $I$ think is my next one.

MR. PINELLI: Very well. Thank you.
That is all the questions $I$ have of this witness.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustees, any
questions?
MR. PINELLI: I call Dr. Samo to testify. (Witness previously sworn.) DANIEL SAMO, M.D.
a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION

BY MR. PINELLI:
Q Sir, please state your name?
A Daniel Samo.
Q You are a physician; is that correct?
A Yes, I am.
Q Do you perform a function as a consultant
to this Fund?
A Yes.

Q In that capacity, do you review medical records, examine applicants and report to the Board?

A Yes.
Q Did you follow that procedure with respect to Mr . Serrano, except you weren't able to examine him?

A Correct. It was a televisit.
Q Pursuant to that interview was the information that he provided to you consistent with the medical records that you reviewed?

A Yes.
Q Did you file a written report with the Board that is marked as Board Exhibit Number 2?

A Yes.
Q Doctor, could you just briefly summarize for us what the state of his current physical condition is with respect to his right shoulder?

A He's had now three surgeries. The last one being a hemiarthroplasty of his shoulder. First one was in 2003, he had a rotator cuff tear, after he tore his rotator cuff carrying an obese
patient. 2013 he had a labral repair after a floor collapsed under him. And then this most recent injury. He also had an injury in 2016 where he fell out of a window. At that time a total shoulder replacement was advised but he decided not to do it. He eventually had a scope in 2019 for that, returned to work May of 2020, and then a month later reinjured it as he described.

He currently still has -- he's actually doing well. He doesn't have any pain, especially not at rest, but he does have some loss of range of motion and especially has loss of strength. He has pain and the shoulder gives out if he says he lifts more than 15 to 20 pounds, especially with his arm extended. He also has trouble reaching behind him and so he said he really would be unable to reach the valve of his tank.

Q Doctor, given those limitations, due to his current condition, do you believe he would be able to perform his duties as a Firefighter with the Fire Department?

A No, I do not.
MR. PINELLI: Thank you. That is all the questions $I$ have this witness.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustees, any
questions for Dr. Samo?
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: No questions.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Hearing none.
MEMBER MURPHY: I'd like to make a motion
to grant the benefit requested by Firefighter Roy Serrano.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion to grant by Trustee Murphy. Second by Trustee McPhillips.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.

MEMBER MURPHY: I'd like to make a motion
for reexam consistent with the Board's policy.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion for reexam by
Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Tebbens.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.

MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee MCPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, counsel
has previously sent around proposed findings of
fact and conclusions of law. Having had a chance to review those, I make a motion to adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion by Trustee
Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
Based on the findings of fact and conclusions of law made by the Trustees, the

Trustees have voted to grant you the benefit you have requested.

You will be notified by mail of the findings of fact and the Board's decision.

Thank you and good luck.
MR. SERRANO: Thank you to all the Trustees, too. Thank you.

MEMBER MURPHY: Moving on I believe to Battalion Chief Lynda Turner is next.

MR. PINELLI: That is correct. Is Ms.
Turner on the line?

MS. TURNER: Yes.
MR. PINELLI: Okay. Let the record reflect this is a hearing on the Duty Disability application being made by EMT Battalion Chief Lynda Turner.

Good morning, Ms. Turner. I am one of the attorneys for the Pension Fund that will be conducting this hearing for the record.

I would like to advise you of some preliminary matters before we start evidence.

First of all, there are seven trustees currently available and listening to the evidence on this matter to decide your application.
$\square$
If you don't know you should know you need the yes vote of at least five of the seven trustees in order to receive this benefit. Do you understand that?

MS . TURNER: Yes.
MR. PINELLI: In addition, I see that you did not have an attorney file an appearance to represent you in this matter today. Is it your desire to proceed without an attorney through this hearing?

MS. TURNER: Yes.
MR. PINELLI: Lastly, it is the
applicant's burden of proof to present sufficient evidence to the Board in order for the Board to grant the benefit that the applicant is seeking. Do you understand it is your burden of proof?

MS . TURNER: Yes.
MR. PINELLI: By way of procedures, I am going to start by asking you some questions under oath. I will then call the Fund's physician consultant, Dr. Peters, who examined you, to testify. If there is anything I don't ask him that you think is important, could you please let me know and you will be given that opportunity. Do
you understand the procedures?
MS. TURNER: Yes.
MR. PINELLI: Then we are ready to
proceed. Is Dr. Peters on the line?
DR. PETERS: Yes.
MR. PINELLI: Good morning, Doctor
Peters. Could you as well as Ms. Turner please both raise your right hands?
(Witnesses sworn.)
LYNDA TURNER
a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION
BY MR. PINELLI:
Q Ma'am, would you please state your name for the record?

A Lynda Turner.
Q Ms. Turner, what is your current rank with the Fire Department?

A Currently I am a EMT Battalion Chief.
Q And what was your last assignment before you went on layup?

A $\quad$ 5th District Chief.
Q Were you working as an Assistant Deputy

Fire Commissioner at that time?
A Before $I$ went on layup, $I$ was -- no, $I$ was a District Chief for the 5 th District.

Q Okay. Were you provided a copy of the exhibits that have previously been marked as Board Exhibits 1 through 14 ?

A Yes.
Q Did you have an opportunity to review them?

A Yes.
Q Do you have any objection to their admission into the record in support of your application?

A No.

MR. PINELLI: Thank you.
Mr. Chairman, I move for admission of
Board Exhibits 1 through 14, without objection.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Admitted without objection.
(Board Exhibits 1 through 14 were admitted into evidence.)

MR. PINELLI: There is one other exhibit.
Ms. Turner, you had provided us a copy of recent notes from your physician that examined you, Dr.

Pannu, that were dated 7-9-21. I'd like to admit those into the record as Applicant's Exhibit 1. Do you have any objection to that?

MS. TURNER: No.
MR. PINELLI: Mr. Chairman, I would also move for admission of Applicant's Exhibit 1, that report.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Yes. Admitted without objection.
(Applicant's Exhibit 1 was admitted into evidence.)

MR. PINELLI: Thank you.
BY MR. PINELLI:
Q Now, Ms. Turner, directing your attention to the date of May 31 , 2020, were you working that day with the Fire Department?

A Yes.
Q Did you sustain an injury or injuries that is the basis of your application?

A Yes.

Q Understanding that the Board does have your sworn statement or your statement, your written statement $I$ should say, could you just briefly describe for us today where you were and
what happened to you?
A It was a very busy and hectic day May 3lst because it was the day that we had substantial civil unrest on the south side and everyone was working hard and doing a wonderful job.

I was responding to multiple fires at the time of my injury. I was responding to a fire at $59 t h$ and Ashland and $I$ was $t-b o n e d$ at 63 rd and Ashland.

Q Okay. So another vehicle struck your fire department vehicle; is that correct?

A Yes.
Q And as a result of that did you sustain some injuries?

A Yes.

Q Just generally what parts of your body did you sustain injuries that are still causing you symptoms?

A It was on both sides of my neck, my shoulders into my back and like around my shoulder blade, through my right side, right arm. And I had greater pain on my dominant side, my right side.

Q Okay. Before this incident on May 31 st of 2020, had you ever had any injuries or problems
with those areas before?
A I hurt it. An incident $I$ guess with my -- when $I$ injured my left hand utilizing my -- and I sought treatment for that. And other than that, I really -- No, I didn't have any other injuries. I was struck, though, at one point by a deluge gun at a fire which hit me but at that time $I$ was not given a CT scan or anything of that nature so what if anything could have happened I cannot say directly.

Q That was a work related injury, though, you were working that day?

A Yes, $I$ was working that day.
Q Did you have to layup because of that injury?

A I did not layup. I went to the hospital and my hip, where $I$ had like a contusion on my hip, and that was it. They released me for that contusion but $I$ was thrown about five feet. I was picked up off the ground literally and thrown five feet from the impact, from the impact of the deluge gun, and hit the ground. Like I said, there was no CT scan or anything at that time done.

Q Returning to this timeframe after this

> injury, on May $31 s t$, the records indicate you did undergo a period of conservative treatment, including physical therapy for 83 sessions. You also had a series of epidural steroid injections in April and May.

Can you describe for the board members did those treatments relieve your symptoms? And, if not, what symptoms are you still having?

A They helped me to manage the pain, those symptoms. Eventually I wasn't having much success with therapy until they started to utilize dry needling which helped me with migraines and helped to reduce my pain so that it was a little more tolerable. But they were not able to help me to have complete and total relief for any sustained period of time and were to build back up the lost strength on the right side.

Q Okay. And do these current symptoms you have do they impact you with respect to your activities of daily living? In other words, just what you do normally during the day, are you having any limitations because of these symptoms?

A Well, $I$ have a very difficult time sleeping. I cannot sleep on my right side and it
impacts me because the lack of my sleep is so disturbed that, you know, $I$ just find myself
fatigued at different points in time. Also,
because of the headaches, they come sometimes, you know, like midday $I$ start to get severe headaches and this tension pain that builds up in my neck and shoulder and arm area makes me basically unable to workout or do like, you know, weights or anything of that nature. Restricts me to just doing basic things in my daily living.

Q Okay. With respect to since you went on layup, have you engaged in any activities by which you earn income?

A I don't engage in any activities, such activities.

Q Would that be true as well you don't engage in any sporting activities of any kind?

A Correct, no sporting activities.
Q Do you take any medications prescribed by your doctor to manage your pain condition?

A They give me Tramadol and I believe this is called Flexeril, like a muscle relaxant. And those -- you know, and they help me to sleep so I, you know, it can and does create for me sometimes
like a drowsiness.
Q The records indicate you began to see Dr.
Pannu to help treat your condition; is that correct?

A Yes.
Q He's a pain management doctor?
A Dr. Pannu is actually a surgeon, my surgeon, and Dr. Jido is who $I$ am currently seeing for pain management.

Q The record that we have as Applicant's 1 that is a recent report of July 19 th from Dr.

Pannu, the surgeon; is that correct?
A Correct, that was my scheduled visit with him.

Q Obviously, your career service rank is EMT Battalion Chief; is that correct?

A Correct.
Q And you're familiar with the job duties and responsibilities of a Battalion Chief in the Fire Department?

A Yes.
Q In fact, there is a Board Exhibit Number 14 that contains a description of what a Battalion Chief needs to do.
$\square$ you able to perform all those assigned duties as a Battalion Chief with the Department?

A No, you know, with the pain that $I$ have. First of all, $I$ couldn't -- I can't wear turnout gear because the helmet is too heavy. It aggravates my migraines. You know, very difficult for me to feel pressure on my shoulders, that would be first of all. Secondly, I don't think that I would be able to operate on a 24-hour basis and perform those duties.

Q Just to finish, there was a note from Dr. Nicholson $I$ believe, one of the doctors that you had seen for treatment, and at one point he recommended that you engage in some work conditioning and take a Functional Capacity Evaluation. You indicated you couldn't do that. Could you just explain that to us?

A Well, I talked with Dr. Nicholson and I explained that all of his therapy that he recommended for me, he also insisted that the physical therapy not do weight training. And so I explained to him that Work Hardening -- you know, $I$ don't know, $I$ asked him if he understood what that
would require because it would be like taking me from 0 to 100 and $I$ was concerned of having a situation of further injury. And so I said I need -- you can make it so that they can start the weight training and start to work me up to that. And he said he understood but I spoke with the nurse and I also spoke with the therapist who also said, you know, $I$ could not go from, you know, his current therapy recommendations to what he was requesting without potentially injuring myself further.

MR. PINELLI: Thank you. That is all the questions $I$ have of this witness.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustees, any questions?

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: No questions.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Hearing none.
MR. PINELLI: Then $I$ call Dr. Peters to testify.
(Witness previously sworn.)
MICHAEL I. PETERS, M.D.
a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
$\square$
BY MR. PINELLI:

Q Sir, please state your name.
A Michael I. Peters.
Q You're a physician; is that correct?
A Yes.
Q Is a copy of your qualifications attached to the Board Exhibits?

A Yes.
Q Do you perform a function as a consultant to this fund?

A Yes, I do.

Q In that capacity, do you review medical records, examine applicants and report to the Board?

A Yes, I do.
Q In certain circumstances due to the current Covid conditions rather than examining applicants you interview them over the phone; is that correct?

A Yes, that is correct.

Q And with respect to Ms. Turner is that the procedure you followed?

A Yes, it is.
Q And when you interviewed her was the

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information that she provided to you consistent
with the information you saw in the medical
records?
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A Yes, it was.

Q Now, doctor, could you briefly summarize for us her current condition as she reported it to you?

A She has consistently reported severe neck pain radiating primarily down the right upper extremities since her crash on May 31, 2020. It was a high speed MVC t-bone mechanism to her driver side.

She has had extensive conservative therapies, with two epidural steroid injections and 83 sessions of $P T$, without resolution of her pain. Her imaging, her MRI, of the cervical spine shows diffuse degenerative changes, which are likely chronic and not caused by the crash, but nonetheless it's likely that the crash exacerbated those changes. Her EMG, however, does not support that there is any impingement of a nerve in the neck enough to be causing radiculopathy or shooting pain down the arm. She does have carpal syndrome in both hands which is a compression of nerve at
the wrist unlikely to be related to a crash. But I think her primary complaint as she explains is severe pain. It sounds like it is causing some interruption.

Q Did you also have the opportunity to review the job description of a Battalion Chief that is included?

A Yes, I did.

Q You saw the recent report from Dr. Pannu?
A Yes, I did.
Q Did that report -- was that consistent with the records you had seen or did it add anything to the record here with respect to her condition?

A I don't think the updated note from him added anything in terms of objective testing that she had. He didn't make any statements. He just interpreted the testing she's had but he didn't make any new statements as a conclusions. He essentially summarized the reports of those tests showing chronic appearing degenerative changes diffusely throughout her cervical spine. He did present an opinion as a neurosurgeon that he did not feel that given her condition she could perform

## firefighter duties.

Q Again, based upon your review of the Battalion Chief job description, would you agree with that statement by him?

A Yes.
Q She was also treating with a pain specialist; is that correct?

A Yes.
Q Is there any indication in the records that any of the doctors questioned in any way the source or the veracity of her pain complaints?

A No, not at all.
Q And prior to this incident was there any indication that she had had similar cervical pain or discomfort?

A I didn't see any evidence in her medical records that she had previous spine injury or discomfort.

MR. PINELLI: Thank you, doctor, that is all the questions $I$ have.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustees, any questions for Dr. Peters?

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: No questions.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Hearing none.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I'd like
to take a moment to make a motion to go into
executive session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act
Section 2(c) 4.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER VALENCIA: I will second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Second by Trustee
Valencia.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Valencia.
MEMBER VALENCIA: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.
We are now in executive session. (Whereupon, the Board went into Executive Session off the record.

No action was taken in Executive Session.)

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion to grant the benefits requested by Chief Turner.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion to grant by Trustee Murphy. Is there a second?

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a second by Trustee McPhillips.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
Trustee Soni.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Valencia.

MEMBER VALENCIA: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER SONI: Please record me as a yes
as well, I'm sorry. This is Trustee Soni.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Okay. Let the record
reflect you are a yes.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion for reexam consistent with the Board's policy.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion by Trustee
Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Sheridan.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Valencia.
MEMBER VALENCIA: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Counsel has previously
sent around proposed finds of fact and conclusions of law in this matter. Having had a chance to review those, I make a motion to adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law in this matter.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion to adopt
findings of fact made by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Tebbens.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

## MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Valencia.
MEMBER VALENCIA: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
Based on the findings of fact and
conclusions of law made by the Trustees, the Trustees have voted to grant you the benefit you have requested.

You will be notified by mail of the findings of fact and the Board's decision.

Ms. Turner, thank you, good luck and heal.

MS. TURNER: Thank you very much for this unfortunate incident that you guys had to hear from me and $I$ appreciate your attention to my matter.

MEMBER MURPHY: I believe we have Ken Groszek, Firefighter from Engine 92. Vince.

MR. PINELLI: Yes, thank you, Mr. Secretary. Mr. Groszek, are you on the line, sir?

MR. GROSZEK: Yes, I am.
MR. PINELLI: Very good. Thank you, sir.
Let the record reflect this is a hearing
on the application of Firefighter Ken Groszek for an Ordinary Disability benefit being made on today's date.

Good morning, sir. I am one of the attorneys from the Pension Fund. I have a few matters I'd like to advise you of before we start evidence.

First of all, $I$ believe there are at least six trustees present on the phone at this time to hear the evidence on your application. If you don't know you should know you need the yes vote of at least five of the six trustees in order to receive the benefit you're seeking. Do you understand that?

MR. GROSZEK: Yes, sir.
MR. PINELLI: And I see from the record you do not have an attorney representing you. Is it your desire to proceed without an attorney today?

MR. GROSZEK: Yes, sir.
MR. PINELLI: Lastly, it is the
applicant's burden of proof to present sufficient evidence to the Board in order for the applicant to receive the benefit that he is applying for. Do
you understand it is your burden of proof?
MR. GROSZEK: Yes, sir.
MR. PINELLI: By way of procedures, I am going to start by asking you some questions under oath. The board members may or may not have questions of you. Then $I$ will call the Fund's physician to testify. If there is anything that I don't ask him that you think is important for the Board to know, please let me know and you will be given that opportunity. Do you understand the procedures?

MR. GROSZEK: Yes, sir.
MR. PINELLI: Thank you. Then we are ready to proceed. Is Dr. Samo back on the line? DOCTOR SAMO: Yes, I am.

MR. PINELLI: Very good. Dr. Samo and Mr. Groszek, could you please raise your right hands?
(Witnesses sworn.)
KEN GROSZEK
a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION

BY MR. PINELLI:

Q Sir, could you please state your name?
A Ken Groszek.

Q What is your rank with the Fire
Department?
A Firefighter.
Q What was your last assignment before you went on layup?

A Engine 92.
Q Prior to today's date you should have received a copy of what has been marked as Board Exhibits 1 through 9. Did you receive those?

A Yes.
Q Did you have an opportunity to review them?

A Yes, I did.
Q Do you have any objection to their admission into the record in support of your application?

A No.
MR. PINELLI: Mr. President, I move for admission of Board Exhibits 1 through 9, without objection from the applicant.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Admitted without objection.

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(Board Exhibits 1 through 9 were
    admitted into evidence.)
    MR. PINELLI: Thank you.
    BY MR. PINELLI:
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Q Mr. Groszek, you entered service with the Fire Department in 2005; is that correct?

A Yes.
Q Are you currently experiencing an injury or illness that is preventing you from performing your duties as a firefighter?

A Yes.

Q Just generally what is that, sir?
A Depression and anxiety. I don't like leaving the house. It is something $I$ have never dealt with before and $I$ am just having a tough patch I guess.

Q Are you currently taking medications to help you manage that condition?

A Yes.
Q Does your current condition affect not only your ability to work but your activities of daily living?

A Yes.
Q Since you went on layup, have you engaged
in any activity by which you earn income?
A No.

Q And have you engaged in any sporting
activities?

A No.
MR. PINELLI: Thank you. That is all the questions $I$ have of the applicant.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustees, any questions?

Okay, hearing none.
MR. PINELLI: I would call Dr. Samo.
(Witness previously sworn.)
DANIEL SAMO, M.D.
a witness herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION
BY MR. PINELLI:
Q Sir, please state your name.
A Daniel Samo.
Q You're a physician; is that correct?
A Yes.
Q Do you perform a function as a consultant to this fund?

A Yes.
$\square$ are attached to the Board Exhibits; is that right?

A Correct.
Q As a consultant to the fund, do you review medical records, interview or examine applicants and report to the Board?

A Yes, I do.
Q Did you follow that procedure with respect to Mr . Groszek?

A Yes.
Q Did you file a written report that is marked as Board Exhibit Number 2?

A Yes.
Q And when you interviewed Mr. Groszek was the information that he provided to you consistent with the records that you had reviewed?

A Yes.
Q Could you briefly summarize for the Board the medical history and treatment regarding his current condition?

A His condition began with anxiety at the beginning of the Covid epidemic. He went to work one day in April and had a fever and therefore was basically sent home. He wasn't allowed into the
station. He was tested. It took awhile for him to get the results but eventually it turned out he did not have Covid at the time.

While he was on layup, he was found to have very high blood pressure so he was put out for that. But then he was unable to come back after his blood pressure was controlled due to his ongoing anxiety.

Q Is he currently being treated with multiple medications for both his blood pressure and his anxiety?

A Yes.
Q Okay. Based upon that, do you believe he can perform his duties with the Fire Department at this time?

A No.

MR. PINELLI: Thank you, doctor. That is all the questions I have.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustees, any
questions for the doctor?
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: No questions.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Hearing none.
MEMBER MURPHY: I'd like to make a motion to grant Ordinary Disability benefits to Ken

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Groszek.
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MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion to
grant. Seconded by Trustee McPhillips.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: I would like to make a
motion for reexam consistent with the Board's
policies.
MEMBER SONI: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion for
reexam by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee
Soni.
Trustee Murphy.

MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.

MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, counsel
has previously sent around proposed findings of fact and conclusion of law in this matter. Having had a chance to review those, I would like to make a motion to adopt the findings of fact and conclusion of law in this matter.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Murphy
findings of fact. Seconded by Trustee McPhillips.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee MCPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
Based on the findings of fact and conclusions of law made by the Trustees, the Trustees have voted to grant you the benefit you have requested.

You will be notified by mail of the findings of fact and the Board's decision.

Good luck to you.
MR. GROSZEK: Thank You all for your time.

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, moving on to approval of the Board Physician Reviews of Disability Recipients. I'd like to make a motion to approve the Board Physician's recommendations for review.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Second.
$\square$
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by
Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Sheridan.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.

MEMBER MURPHY: Moving along on the agenda, Mr. President, I'd lake to move on to Investment and turn this over to Lorna.

MS. SCOTT: I'd like to ask Marc to share the screen.

Just as we start here, just a note that we did have the Investment Committee meeting on June 30 th. The good news there it was recorded and that recording is available to anyone who would like to have it.
It is just again reminding anyone, all
the Trustees, that watching this meeting or this
education session would count towards the required
trustee education hours for this year.

Looking at the investment agenda, my plan really is to cover performance, the quarterly review of the private equity flows and review of security lending. And then Brady has a short presentation on the Fund's Asset Liability Study and then we will look at our cash position and our asset allocation.

So starting with performance, next slide, please. So this slide shows the state of the market thus far in 2021. These are the index returns for the asset classes where we are invested.

Looking at this slide 2021 looks great. These are some very nice returns. Themes you see here are commodities are up big and then within U.S. equities, that pandemic recovery theme, is still going strong. U.S. value stocks are up. U.S. small cap stocks are dominating.

So, as of 6-30, these returns do look good but looking ahead there are concerns. Things
are starting to bubble up. Things like inflation, you know, a reaction to that. There is ongoing Covid concerns around the Delta variant and any impact that may have on the economic reopening.

As of right now, or as of June 30 th,
everything looks great but the road ahead could be a little bit bumpy or shadowed a little bit with that.

Next slide, looking at the Fund performance, year-to-date the Fund is up 10 percent and outperforming the benchmark which is up 9.4 percent. Again, thus far it is a very, very solid year and our longer term numbers look great, too.

Let's take a few minutes to talk about the year-to-date outperformance and the next slide is attribution, which shows how we are outperforming.

Looking at this chart, we are
outperforming by 0.6 percent. Most of that outperformance is coming from that manager selection. Right there in the middle, manager selection and execution.

This is where we can calculate how much our active managers and style selection is adding
value. That outperformance is offset a little bit by 0.3 percent due to asset allocation. That is the cost of having different weights than the benchmark.

So the next slide breaks it down a little bit further. So year-to-date the Fund is up 10 percent, we can see that in column three, versus the benchmark which is up 9.4. We can see that in column four.

Looking at the very last column, we can see that most of that outperformance versus the benchmark is coming from global ex-U.S. and fixed income.

Within global ex-U.S. equity, it is strong performance from our value managers. That is Brandes and LSV, who have done a very good job this year, and that was within global ex-U.S.

Within fixed income, outperformance primarily coming from Loomis which has a tilt toward credit in its portfolio.

Staying on that last column, we can see the contribution of negative 0.2 percent from private equity. We can see that contribution is coming from allocation. That allocation
calculation comes from being below target in an asset class that is performing very strongly.

You can look at the weights in column one and column two, the Fund has 1.6 percent invested versus the benchmark, which has 4 percent allocated.

Here is a reminder that we did commit $\$ 40$ million in 2020 to close that gap versus the policy and we expect to get close to that target as our managers draw down against our commitment over the next couple of years.

That is performance, so next slide, our MWDBE allocation. So there is really no changes here. As we have discussed, we are underweight in our goals for emerging managers but we are exceeding our goals for the total MWDBE allocation.

Moving on to our next slide, this is our quarterly review of our cash flows related to private market investments.

As I mentioned, we have committed an additional $\$ 40$ million to private equity in 2020. As of 6-30, we have $\$ 48.7$ million outstanding in commitments to private markets.

You can tell from this chart but managers
are starting to call that capital. Year-to-date through 6-30 capital calls has been 2 and a half million and that has been been offset by distributions of $\$ 1.4$ million. Our net outflow for private markets thus far for 2021 is $\$ 1.1$ million.

We still have a ways to go to close that gap against our policy target but we do expect capital calls to pick up pace this year and into next.

Next slide looks at our security lending. Again, this is a quarterly review. This first slide is a list of the borrowers of all of our securities as of June 30 th.

The Fund has $\$ 93$ million out on loan, that is spread across this list of borrowers. Looking at this list, all these borrowers have good credit ratings. We are not concentrated in any particular borrower and we have received an appropriate level of collateral so everything looks good.

The next slide looks at the level of security lending income. For the year, we have grossed $\$ 122,000$ in security lending income.

Northern's fees are $\$ 30,000$ and that leaves us with
$\$ 91,000$ in security lending income year-to-date.
Finally, the next slide answers the question of how much of our portfolio was out on loan to earn that $\$ 91,000$.

So approximately 12 and a half percent of the total securities available to loan were out on loan. It is about 8 and a half percent of total funds.

At this point $I$ can pause for any questions. Otherwise, $I$ will pass it over to Brady for the Asset Liability Study overview.

Marc, if you want to bring up Brady's presentation.

MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, Lorna.
While that's getting queued up, I will just spend a minute and a half on this project.

And, Marc, if you could turn to Page 2. Thank you.

I just wanted to bring the Board up to speed on the plan for this major project. An Asset Liability Study is a comprehensive review of the benefit payment projections that your actuary makes combined with the cash contribution projections from the City and the employees. And we use that
as inputs to our process and then we evaluate alternative asset allocation strategies the Fund can use to maximize our ability to provide benefits into the future.

So we will take all these elements into consideration through the course of this project. The last time we did this was $2016 / 2017$ and the picture $I$ think on the funding side in particular has changed considerably since then. I think the picture will be much better than it was five years ago.

If we turn to the next page, just a quick update on the timeline for this. We have already begun. Some of the Trustees attended the review of infrastructure so there is an educational element of this project.

We have discussed with Lorna conducting another educational session on the topic of private credit so stay tuned for more information on that. It would be a process similar to what we did with infrastructure where we would hear from a subject matter expert on the topic and then consider adding this as an asset class as part of the Asset Liability Study.
$\square$
For the Trustees who weren't around for the $2016 / 2017$ study, this process is very similar. So at that time as a result of that study we did add new asset classes in core real estate, global REITS, treasury inflation protected securities and liquid diversified strategies.

All of those were discussed at an
educational level before we introduced an actual allocation to them.

Not every asset class that we do education on will result in a new allocation but we want to give the Trustees some background on the asset class before we consider it as a potential investment.

Looking at this timeline, it is a process that takes several months to complete. We have already received the cash flow and the valuation information from Segal so they are a critical input to this process.

And the process, like I said, has already begun so just a heads up for a potential education session and then we hope to wrap this up towards the end of the year. Ideally by the November 2021 meeting. And then the new asset allocation target
that is adopted by the Board will be incorporated into the Statement of Investment Policy.

Maybe one last comment, if we can turn to Page 6, just a heads up. We did hear from Lorna about how extraordinary the recent returns from the capital markets have been. When we do this study, we incorporate Callan's estimate of the next ten years of returns.

You will see here in bold a highlighted comment that shows different rates of return for the different asset classes we will use when we put the portfolio together.

A theme that we have had in discussions with our clients is helping them come to terms with the difference between very strong historical recent returns and more modest future returns.

The starting point from investing today involves modest low interest rates and as interest rates rise fixed income returns come down. We do think bond returns will be modest from this point going forward. We also know equities have been on a tremendous run and that equity market valuations or the price in terms of dollars that you pay for earnings are very high and that's not typically
sustainable. We do expect more modest returns in the next ten years then we have seen recently, that is just an issue that is impacting all investors. Callan's outlook for the next ten years is similar to other consultants and other asset managers. This theme of just coming to terms with modest expectations over the next ten years is one that you will hear and it is a stark contrast to the really extraordinary returns we have seen over the last past 12 months.

So that is an overview of the process. I am happy to answer any questions you may have about that.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Thanks, Brady.
MS. SCOTT: Let's move on to our cash needs. I will ask Marc to share the screen with the next item and turn it over to Jackie.

MS. VLAHOS: For our cash needs for the month of July, we currently have $\$ 69.4$ million in our Chase account. We're still anticipating an additional $\$ 1.8$ million in salary contributions. Bringing us to an available cash balance for the end of July to pay benefits of $\$ 71.2$ million.

Our anticipated expenditures for the
month is going to be $\$ 34.1$ million. Bringing us to a surplus at the end of July for $\$ 37.1$ million.

If you go to the next slide is for our cash projections. As you can see, we still have a remaining -- if you look under the column titled Average Tax Receipts, we have a remaining \$123.9 million for anticipating in tax receipts.

We are currently right on target for what we projected that we would be collecting as of to-date.

And as you can see towards the right side of the drawdown from managers, we are not anticipating any other drawdowns, as long as everything comes in as we're projecting for the remainder of the year.

Obviously, we have a couple of things to take into consideration. I believe the due date this year for the second installment is September 1st as well as $I$ believe the penalties for late payment are waived until October 1st.

I know last year there was a little bit of leniency going on and that did not affect how our collections came in. Hopefully, that is the same case for this year. Hopefully, people will
still pay the normal due date even though they are given a little bit of leniency.

As well as if you look for the next year and to 2022, you can see just due to timing hopefully we're a little off and we might get a payment earlier. As of right now, in January, we are anticipating an $\$ 8.5$ million of a drawdown potentially to cover our benefits, if everything goes exactly as we're planning. If we get an early payment in January, then we won't need it. Hopefully, that is the case.

Back to you, Lorna.
MS. SCOTT: Thank you. Marc, pull up the rebalancing template.

So we don't have to raise cash so we do have enough cash for at least one more month of benefit payments so we should be good until the end of September.

Let's use this chart to look at our asset allocation and review how we are invested versus our target.

That last column, the variance, highlights our differences versus our policy. Looking at the last column, you can see we are
above target in public equities and that is offset by being under target in private. Then we are under target in real assets and liquid diversifying and that is offset by overweights in fixed income and cash.

These differences are small and we don't expect big performance differences due to these differences versus targets. Our goal is eventually to get closer to target.

In summary, we are broadly in range with our asset allocation targets at this point.

I think that pretty much covers it. We covered performance. Remember, the Fund is up 10 percent. We are outperforming our benchmark. We reviewed the private equity cash flows. We reviewed security lending. Brady gave us an asset liability overview. We talked about the cash position. So that concludes the investment report.

MEMBER MURPHY: Thank you, very much, Lorna.

Mr. President, moving on to Number 7, the 2020 Audit Report and presentation. The first item we need to formally ratify the phone poll conducted on June 29, 2021 accepting and filing the 2020

Audit Report in order to be able to provide such Financial Statements to the City of Chicago in a timely manner.

I would like to make a motion to ratify
the phone call and spread it upon the record.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by
Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Sheridan.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
I just wanted to thank Jackie. She really helped us out in making sure that we could get these reports in time. Worked very hard many times at midnight or afterwards and truly $I$ want to appreciate her efforts as well as Sarah as well. Thank you. Thank you, both.

MS. VLAHOS: Thank you.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: I am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, next we
have the auditors Mitchell \& Titus regarding the audit report. I will turn it over to Kelly or Jackie and they can introduce the auditors making their presentation.

MR. ADEGOKE: Good morning.

MEMBER MURPHY: Good morning.

MR. ADEGOKE: Good morning, everyone. My name is Kenny Adegoke and $I$ serve as the Executive Director on this party of Mitchell \& Titus.

Joining me today is Garfield Carr, who is the Audit Manager.

I recognize this is the first time meeting with you as your new auditor and it is my pleasure to present the results of your 2020 audit of the Pension Fund.

We provided a document, a slide, which I hope everybody has a copy of, and $I$ wasn't sure if we can share this with you. Okay, great.

So we can speak to the letter, to the introduction letter.

It is a pleasure to meet with you and we thank you for the opportunity to serve the Fund.

When you look on the index page of our slides, we have on the agenda the Executive Summary, the 2020 audit results and required communication, technical developments, and general information about our firm Mitchell \& Titus.

The entire content of this slide is provided for your information but in the interest of time $I$ will only discuss the key items. However, please feel free to ask questions, if I skip on any item that is of interest to you.

Also, if any matter comes up after this meeting that you need to raise, please feel free to email or give us a call.

On Page 4 of the slides, we discuss the execution of the 2020 engagement. We complete the audit of the Fund as well as the schedules of pension amounts and insurance amounts.

We issued a clean opinion, which in technical term we refer to as a modified opinion. All the reports were dated June 29, 2021.

Currently review of the Fund's compliance with the Illinois Pension Code is currently ongoing
and we will talk about procedure. We expect this process to be completed no later than August 5 th in the next two or three weeks or so.

As far as the overall 2020 audit on the high level and based on the results of the audit, we believe that the Fund analysis of significant accounting matters is appropriate and that the accounting estimates and judgment utilized by management are reasonable.

We found no material uncorrected misstatements and the amounts reported in the financial statements overall are fairly stated in all material respects.

Lastly, as far as cooperation from the management and personnel, we received full cooperation from everyone and we were allowed complete access to books and records and we are thankful for their efforts and assistance.

We recognize, as I said earlier, this is our first year. First year is always a learning curve not because of a lack of experience because we have done this so many times for other clients but whenever you start a new client you have to learn the process, you learn how things are done,
find the source of information and we were grateful for the efforts that everyone provided.

Just to talk in general about our audit approach. Our audit is a risk based approach and our audit plan emphasize on the significant accounts on international statements. And this includes the Fund's assets, specifically, investment related accounts, meaning earnings as well as the net pension liabilities.

On Page 5, we discussed a little bit about our test of investments. Of course, our overall objectives with respect to investments are to insure to validate that the assets are properly valued and that the related earnings and accounts as included in the financials are fairly stated and consistent with GASB Number 72.

We also verify that the required disclosures are included in the financial statements. And, based on our overall audit work, we believe that the Fund investments and valuation policies are appropriate.

Continuing on Page 6, significant accounting policies, with respect to the pension liability which is another significant account.

Our objective is to evaluate the appropriateness of the actuarial assumptions as utilized by the Fund's actuary Segal.

We utilize the service of actuarial specialists because our firm does not provide actuarial services. We know a little bit for our audit. Evaluating those numbers and assumptions we use a specialist.

Overall, the conclusion is that the Fund's method and assumptions are reasonable and that the required supplemental information as provided are appropriate.

Moving on to Page 7, here we talk about specific area of audit emphasis and in the previous sections I talked a little bit about investments and the net pension liability. However, in this section we provide you more detail about the specific audit procedures that we perform to verify investments as well as other key accounts to put in the financial statement.

We felt this is important for you to know in our first year on this job so that you see the level of detail that we perform.

Now I will start with the investments.

It is our firm's standard practice to confirm investments directly with the Fund managers as well as the asset custodian in order to establish the existence of those investments.

We obtain investment transaction
statements and very happy to report you reported earnings, including gains and losses. And we also use or benchmark this information against market's information. In essence, we use our own outside sources subscription to verify that the reported value are consistent with the market information. We also obtain a review to self-perform report, which is a report on internal control of the perspective entities that forward investments or provide services to the firm.

Our purpose is to insure that the business practices and processes are in good order and from our audit we did not find any exception with respect to investments, reporting and valuation.

Moving onto Page 8, actuarial
information. I talked a little bit about these before. We review the census data that was utilized by our City for the actuarial valuation.

And the overall process with respect to this activity is to verify the accuracy of this information and this includes updates, hire dates and salaries.

We also confirm this information as applicable with the City, City of Chicago, to insure that the information between the data applied by the City and the Fund are consistent and from this exercise we found no material exceptions from our audit procedures.

Benefit payments. We reviewed a sample of benefits paid to participants primarily to insure that the payments are consistent with the Fund provision and also to validate that these payments are appropriate and support it.

We review on the individual level as well as the aggregate level and for the aggregate we insure that the total payouts compare appropriately with the trust statements. Also, we did not see any significant exceptions from performing these audit procedures.

Employee contributions. Members
contributions. We agreed to the reported amounts that is based on the schedule and payroll records.

And also for a sample of participants, we determine if the employee contributions were properly calculated in accordance with the Public Act 99-0506.

From this exercise and procedures performed, we found no material exceptions in the audit.

Lastly, on Page 8, financial statements and reporting process. Reflecting back on the overall procedures that we have done, that we performed over the key areas as I have discussed earlier, the result of those audits enable us to conclude that the Financial Statement for the year 2020 fairly stated in accordance with the U.S. GAAP. That sums up the accounting matters.

On Page 10 through 14 of the slides, we have identified this information that we are required by the professional guidance to communicate to the Board, such as the Board of Trustees or any other governing body.

It is a long list of items and $I$ will only discuss the key items. However, please feel free to ask questions if $I$ skip any item that is of interest to you.
$\square$
Starting on Page 10 , ethics requirements and independence. We are required to communicate that each member of the engagement team, including myself and Garfield, have met our firm's independence and ethics standards as required by the AICPA.

Quantitative aspects of the entities significant accounting practices. We found no unusual transactions or accounting policies for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance. We also believe that the accounting estimates are reasonable as $I$ have stated earlier.

Page 11, $I$ will skip to the last item, which is identification of fraud. We did not identify any actual or suspected fraud in our audits and our communication also with the team did not reveal any such occurrence.

Still on Page 11, difficulties encountered during the audit. We did not encounter any difficulties in dealing with the management. As I indicated earlier, we received full cooperation from everyone.

Just to reflect back, again, this is our first year and there is a learning curve to get to
know how to sit down and we take more time to insure that we fully understand the process.

We do not come in with the approach as
business as usual. We wanted to make sure that we sat down right so that there will be an
opportunity, if any, to make suggestions for improvement as far as business processes and practices.

Skipping on to Page 12, uncorrected misstatements. We found no uncorrected misstatements in the financial statements. If there were any, they would be required to be adjusted. However, our audits do not disclose any significant misstatements.

Still on Page 12, disagreement with management. We had no disagreements with management on any issue whether relating to accounting and auditing matters. We appreciate the efforts.

Page 13, I will skip to the last item, which is non-compliance with the laws and regulations.

Our audit did not identify any matter involved in compliance issues with applicable laws
and regulations whether relating to the city, states or any other entities.

Page 14, as required by the professional standards, we assess the ability of the Fund to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not disclose any issues, identify any issues, about the ability of the public fund to continue operation for a long time. That sums up for the required communication.

On Page 16, we provided two items that are termed technical developments. We provided these items just for your information. And we do not expect any of these to have any significant, if any, impact on the Fund's financial statement when they are applicable. Right now I think for most of these the implementation are two or three years ahead.

Lastly, on Page 18 to 21 , we provided you some information about our firm, Michelle \& Titus. Just general information about specifically information related to our practice in our public sector industry and the value we bring to serving clients such as the Firemen Fund.

To this end, I will end my discussion and raise the floor for any questions or comments and in closing we appreciate the opportunity to serve the Firemen's Fund of Chicago. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustees, any
questions?

Hearing none.

Secretary Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Thank You, Mr. Adegoke.

Mr. President, I'd like to move on to

Number 8, Expenditures.

MR. WELIER: Excuse me, just a quick
question. When we ratified the poll, the poll
specifically says we accept the 2020 audited financial statement so that de facto vote allows us to go ahead and post and recognizes it. Thank you.

MEMBER MURPHY: Moving on to

Administrative Expenses for Board Review and

Approval. I would like to make a motion to approve the administrative expenses as presented.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Tebbens.

Trustee Murphy.

MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
TRUSTEE CONYEARS-ERVIN: I am a yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: You are back. Let the record reflect Trustee Conyears-Ervin is a yes.

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, moving on to Item 9, the Executive Director Report. I would like to ask our new Executive Director, Mr. Kelly Weller.

MR. WELLER: Thank you. First thing I'd like to say is just thank you to this Board. It's been a privilege to be selected. It is an honor to be sitting in this position. The 21 days has just been a phenomenal and exciting start.

Those of you that see the smile on my
face it really has been extraordinary and I do appreciate the opportunity and I do want to make sure and say thank you for this.

One of my first official duties, and it was a very fun duty, was to welcome First Deputy Chief Mary Sheridan to the Board as a new trustee.

It was great to get to meet her. We went through the swearing in process. We went through the training process together. Quite a nice start for both of us as we went into the first week.

So, thank you, Trustee Sheridan, for helping me as well.

A big thing that is going on across the country is Covid and it continues to be an issue with the Delta variant. We have moved forward officially and opened our office to the public. It is on the door as you come in so those that were here today saw our new policy.

Essentially, it is following the same CDC guidance as Stage 5 , which is unvaccinated people should continue to wear masks. Vaccinated people can operate under the old requirements.

So with that, we were thrilled to have the office open as of Monday. Lori and I are
continuing on our plan to bring the employees back into the office and hopefully we will have that done by the Labor Day holiday. At least that is our tentative goal, if things stay where they are at now. So we are working on that and more to come.

We have got the election rules which are coming up. I don't want to go too dep into that. I just want to say we have secured an engagement letter from our election administrator, Bansley and Kiener. As well as a firm quote from our printer, the Mittera Group. We do have the post office boxes secured. We can't pay those until August but we do have them secured and we have our timeline set so we believe for the election we have got all the structural pieces in place and all the vendors in place with which to proceed.

We have got some economic items that we will talk about at a different place in the agenda but from a broad perspective everything is in place there.

We did have the passage of a new Public Act 102-0091. I have had a chance to just briefly speak with our lobbyist and our legal.
$\square$
At this point in time, $I$ don't have enough guidance with which to guide the staff on how we're going to interpret this. It does create some complications for those who are looking at me. It is in the BoardPaq as a Public Act and it's basically the presumptive heart disease and occupational. If I am not including everything, forgive me. But it's basically allowing an individual who has retired to go back and seek an occupational or a heart and lung issue after they have retired.

So we are working on the procedures and process for that to get it implemented and more to come on that.

I just received notice this morning thankfully on the duty availability pay. We had the issue resolved to 193 out of 196 . Now we have the issue resolved to 197 so we have two people that weren't paid. The City has acknowledged that that was an oversight, that will be corrected. We have one individual that they are indicating that was not eligible, which is fine. We are now, with this Board's approval, going to move forward with getting those individuals paid and getting the
programming done to make that happen.
MS. BURNS: You will get back to the Board to approve the specifics?

MR. WELLER: Correct. Right now with the Board hearing that we are going to move forward and having no concerns considering we have collected the payments, we are going to move forward getting the programming done, which is the next phase in this process. When we get that done, we will bring the payment changes to the Board for formal approval. That is a nice issue to have off the table.

Next month you will see an agenda item and we're going to bring in our management fiduciary liability carrier. We are starting that process right now. It is still too early to tell what those numbers are going to be.

The market is obviously very tight in vendors that want to participate in this particular insurance so we are going to do our best to get as broad a participation as possible. The president has asked that we have that on the agenda in August. We will certainly try to make that happen. Look for that at the next meeting.
$\square$
The president did mention that our next meeting, August 18th, will be in-person. That is great, we look forward to having everyone back into the office.

I will be following up with each of you. We want to make sure that we have the right communication lines with all of you so that we can kind of quickly analyze if a meeting time is not going to be appropriate and a quorum potentially could not be met. But right now we want to make sure everyone has August 18th in-person 8:30 beginning time on their calendar and we can adjust if that date seems to create enough conflicts to warrant a lack of a quorum.

Finally, I do have, at the president's request, a training and education schedule that we put together. We'd like the Board to approve these items.

Marc, could you put that training schedule up, if you wouldn't mind?

So this just represents what I could determine, and having spoke with the other boards, the training that might be out there. I know some of you still need to get some time in. These are
the items that we can see that we think at this point in time will continue to be in-person and available for trustees to attend.

What I would ask, based on the request, that we approve this as approved training.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: I'd like to say a couple of things. Being that $I$ am involved in a couple of these organizations, $I$ would just say this.

Most of these are tentative right now, depending on this Delta variance. Speaking with Director Hank Kim from NCPERS, it looks like, yes, we are going to move forward on the New York Pension Funding Forum, but because attendance is so low right now this might not happen. So everything that you see here is liquid and it could change at any time.

Also, I wanted you to add Koried on there.

MR. WELLER: It is. It is on the bottom. CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Okay. Because that is going to be announced. That is supposed to be coming up but $I$ don't really think that is going to happen either.

That is all $I$ have got. $I$ just wanted to update everyone on these problems that some of these organizations are having with attendance.

With that, go ahead.
MR. WELLER: That concludes my report, unless there are any other questions, and then we just need a vote on the training.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: No questions.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: I have a quick question. This is just presented and we can attend these, if we vote to approve this, but we could attend other opportunities if they present themselves?

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Yes, absolutely. Normally, if you recall, at the beginning of every year, in January, we put the list out but because of Covid we didn't do it last year and it is really not the regular list that we put out.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Understood.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Some of these might not even happen. Yes, whatever you think that you need to attend, certainly, all you have to do is put it in.

MS. BURNS: You have to come back and get
board approval with that caveat.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Okay. Short answer, yes.

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion pursuant to Section 1-150 of the Pension Code to approve the list of educational conferences for the trustees for the remainder of 2021 as presented and all related travel expenses for trustees consistent with the Fund's Travel and Reimbursement Policies.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee McPhillips. Trustee Murphy.

MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I'd like to move to Item 10 , consideration and approval of 2021 Funding Resolution for payment year 2023.

Kelly, would you like to present this issue please?

MR. WELLER: Marc, can you pull up the Funding Resolution, please?

So this will be the Funding Resolution that will drive our letter for the tax levy. Sarah and I and Jackie have worked through the items so what we would ask is the trustees to kind of look this over and see if there are any questions they might have and then to approve accordingly.

If you look in the Executive Director's Report, I have included the substantiation for these numbers so there is a trail or an audit trail that each of you can source to determine where the numbers are, but $I$ am open for questions.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Any questions?
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: No questions.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Okay.
MEMBER MURPHY: I'd like to make a motion to approve the 2021 Funding Resolution as presented and direct Fund staff to transmit same to the City of Chicago, consistent with Section 6-165(c) of the Pension Code.

MEMBER SONI: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by
Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Soni.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
$\square$
MEMBER TEBBENS: I just have a quick question. Has this resolution been made similarly in previous years?

MS. BURNS: Yes, sir.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Consistent with the required sections of the statutes; widows, line of duty death widows and that nature that $I$ was reading?

MS. BURNS: Yes, sir. The only
difference is as you know there is an amendment to the statute requiring actuarial funding and so the numbers are different, calculations are different, but the form of request is the same.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Thank you.
MS. BURNS: You're welcome.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, moving on to Item 11, Election Matters. There are several election matters to act on.

Kelly or Lori, would you please walk us through the election matters listed on the agenda so we can vote on each item?

MR. WELLER: Lori, I am happy to do this.
The first order of business is the
election rules. Everybody has had a chance to
review the election rules so $I$ don't know that there is a lot of specific items that $I$ want to address on it, other than just to say they have been amended to recognize the fall election. And, if there is any questions on those, Lori and $I$ can address them as needed.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Any questions?
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: What are the
modes of election?
MR. WELLER: I don't know that $I$ know the answer to that question.

MS. BURNS: Madam Treasurer, this fund only uses mail in ballots for the election. Everything is done by mail ballots only and that is the way this board has functioned $I$ think for as long as $I$ have been associated with the Fund.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: You said mail
only?
MS. BURNS: By mail ballot only. No in-person voting. No phone voting. All mail ballots mailed out, returned to a post office box and physically counted.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Okay, thank you.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Kelly, if I could,
did I understand you correctly you said the Election Rules were amended... and if so, for what purpose and what was the amendment?

MR. WELLER: The dates. The date changed from the prior policy.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Just the dates, okay. MR. WELLER: Correct.

MEMBER MURPHY: I'd like to make a motion
for approval of the 2021 election rules and procedures as presented.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by
Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Sheridan.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.

MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And I am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY:
MS. BURNS: The next item is the Election Committee. You may want to deal with that.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Okay. We just made an amendment to the Election Committee slate we sent around and what we did was move Valencia to Chair, Murphy Co-Chair, Soni will be the other member, so it is a three member committee.

MEMBER MURPHY: I'd like to make a motion
for approval of the Chair's appointments to the Election Committee for 2021 as presented.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion by Trustee
Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.
Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.

MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee MCPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, I'd like
to make a motion to approve the Executive
Director's recommendation to retain Bansley Kiener and the mailing entity, on the terms presented, and subject to successful contract negotiation.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Second.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: There is a motion by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Tebbens.

Any discussion on this one?
Hearing none.
Trustee Murphy.

MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee

Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.
MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, moving on
to Item 12, Approval of Committee Assignments for August 2021 through December 2021. I make a motion to approve the list of revised committee assignments prepared and distributed which will remain in place August 2021 through December 2021.

MEMBER TEBBENS: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Tebbens.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
$\square$
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.
MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.
MEMBER SONI: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
Motion carries.

MEMBER MURPHY: Mr. President, moving to Item 13, Legal Update. Counsel, is there any legal update?

MS. BURNS: I think all the matters have been addressed by the Executive Director. If the Executive Director wants to go back to the Budget, it's up to you, you missed that item.

MR. WELLER: Jackie, are you on the line?
MS. VLAHOS: Yes, I am.

MR. WELLER: Marc, do you want to pull up the six month Budget? It would be for informational purposes only.

Jackie, $I$ am going to go ahead and turn
this over to you.
MS. VLAHOS: I am just going to point out a few things. I am not going to spend a lot of time on this.

This is the budget year-to-date as of June. As you can see in the bottom column, that we are at approximately at 44.3 percent for budget. Spending about $\$ 1.6$ million of the $\$ 3.6$ million that we have budgeted for our administrative expenses.

A couple of things that $I$ want to note is that we are in the process of buying a few more things for the offices that we were supposed to complete but then just due to Covid. So even though under Office Supplies, which is account 52404 , it is saying that we are spending 2.6 thousand dollars so far, we are in the process of spending an additional $\$ 4,500$ to get the offices up-to-date and to match the other offices. Which would bring us to in that category about 57 percent of our budget.

A couple of the other items $I$ want to point out is for employee hospitalization, legal, a couple of these that look like they are at 60
percent, that is just due to timing of accounts payable so they probably are actually more like 50 percent. I believe there are expenses in there that are attributable to the 2020 year.

We look pretty good to be at the end of June to be at 44 percent. I think we are doing well. We are right on target.

Are there any other questions?
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Jackie, where did
this report come from can $I$ ask?
MS. VLAHOS: What do you mean? From our office.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: No, what system?
MS. VLAHOS: Just Excel.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: This isn't from the new accounting system?

MS. VLAHOS: What we do is we have downloaded into Excel and then we kind of manipulated it a little bit to have the appropriate columns that we want. Downloaded the information from our accounting software into Excel.

MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: All right. Thank you.

MS. VLAHOS: No problem.

MR. WELLER: Mr. President, a quick thank you to Jackie and John for their team for getting this audit done and getting this stuff laid out and keeping us on budget.

MS. BURNS: Secretary Murphy, that is the only thing we wanted to talk about in legal.

MEMBER MURPHY: Thank you, Jackie and Kelly.

Mr. President, we're on Number 14. New Business/Old Business. Is there any new business or old business?

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Kelly, did you say that it's been 21 days?

MR. WELLER: Yes, 21 days. I am still smiling. It's been so much fun. But, wow, a lot of moving parts. So I am excited but a lot of moving parts.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Welcome. In listening to your report, $I$ was like how many days? It just seemed like you just jumped right in. Looking forward to this.

This is a great first meeting and welcome. We are excited to have you. You have a great team.

And then $I$ will also say, Mr. President, the reason $I$ asked about the mode of elections is because we've been talking about the convenience of elections. But when Mary Pat said they are mailed to people and they mail them back in, I don't know if we can get any more convenient than that. So that was my purpose asking that question.

Thank you, very much. Enjoy the rest of the week, everyone.

Kelly, $I$ also wanted to tell you August 18th is a conflict for me. I have already shared that with others. I don't know if you have gotten it, though.

MR. WELLER: Thank you, Madam Treasurer.
MEMBER SONI: I do want to echo the Treasurer's comments, that $I$ also feel like you just jumped right in and it was seamless. Thank you so much. We look forward to working with you and look forward to hearing from you as well. If there is anything that we can do to make it easier for you, please let us know but welcome.

MR. WELLER: Thank you. It's going to be hard for me to wipe the smile off my face.

MEMBER TEBBENS: I'd like to echo the
sentiments as well.
I would like to note $I$ will be on
furlough on the 18th. It is unclear right now whether $I$ am going to be able to be in attendance or not. It's possible but $I$ am on furlough and I might have plans that conflict.

MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: You all know it is the last week of summer vacation, the last week before school starts. As a working mother, we are going to work on this being more conducive to working mothers. Thank you.

MEMBER TEBBENS: As a working father as well.

MEMBER MURPHY: I'd like to make a motion to adjourn today's meeting.

MEMBER SONI: Second.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Motion to adjourn by Trustee Murphy. Seconded by Trustee Soni.

Trustee Murphy.
MEMBER MURPHY: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Sheridan.
MEMBER SHERIDAN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee
Conyears-Ervin.

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MEMBER CONYEARS-ERVIN: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Soni.

MEMBER SONI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee McPhillips.
MEMBER MCPHILLIPS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Trustee Tebbens.
MEMBER TEBBENS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: And $I$ am a yes.
We are adjourned. Thank you, very much.
(WHICH WERE ALL THE PROCEEDINGS
IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED MEETING

AT THIS DATE AND TIME.)

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STATE OF ILLINOIS )
                                    ) SS.
COUNTY OF DU PAGE )
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DEBORAH TYRRELL, being a Certified Shorthand Reporter, on oath says that she is a court reporter doing business in the County of DuPage and State of Illinois, that she reported in shorthand the proceedings given at the taking of said cause and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of her shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid; and contains all the proceedings given at said cause.


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