

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 – FINAL



TRUSTEE AND STAFF ATTENDANCE

In Attendance	Dennis Lawson, Chair – Central Pierce Fire and Rescue
In Attendance	Jason Granneman, Vice Chair – Clark County Sheriff’s Office
In Attendance	Adé Ariwoola – City of Federal Way
In Attendance	Mark Johnston – Vancouver Fire Department
In Attendance	AJ Johnson – Snohomish County Fire District #1
In Attendance	Senator Jeff Holy – Spokane Police Department (Retired)
In Attendance	Tarina Rose-Watson – Spokane Int’l Airport Police Dept
Absent	Wolf Opitz – Pierce County
In Attendance	Pat McElligott – City of Dupont
In Attendance	Representative Steve Bergquist – WA State Representative
In Attendance	Senator Ann Rivers – WA State Senator
In Attendance	Steve Nelsen – Executive Director
In Attendance	Tim Valencia – Deputy Director
In Attendance	Jessie Jackson – Executive Assistant
In Attendance	Jessica Burkhart – Administrative Services Manager
In Attendance	Tammy Sadler – Benefits Ombudsman
In Attendance	Jacob White – Senior Research and Policy Manager
In Attendance	Karen Durant – Senior Research and Policy Manager
In Attendance	Tor Jernudd – Assistant Attorney General

Call to Order

The LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board met via WebEx in Olympia, Washington on September 23, 2020. A quorum of the members was present at this meeting.

Chair Dennis Lawson called the meeting to order at 9:33AM and requested those present to take a moment of silence to honor those who had fallen since the last the Board meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the July 2020 meeting are before the Board for approval.

ACTION | It was moved to approve the Board meeting minutes from July 22, 2020. Motion seconded. The Board approved the minutes without objection.

2. EMT Study

Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager gave an initial presentation to the Board on the EMT study. The 2020 budget included a proviso of \$50,000 for the LEOFF Plan 2 Board to complete a study of the pension benefits provided to emergency medical technicians providing services in King county between October 1, 1978 and January 1, 2003. The LEOFF 2 Board is working with tax counsel, Ice Miller, on completing the study as well as work with OSA and DRS on a fiscal analysis. No action was taken at this time.

3. Survivor Reelection

Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager gave an initial presentation on Survivor Reelection. Last session the LEOFF 2 Board endorsed legislation to allow LEOFF 2 retirees up to 90 calendar days after the receipt of their first retirement allowance to prospectively change their survivor election. The bill was

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amended to include all DRS covered plans. The LEOFF 2 Board staff will continue to work with DRS and tax counsel to explore alternative options and to submit a request for Private Letter Ruling to the IRS. No action was taken at this time.

4. Interruptive Military Service

Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager gave a follow-up report on Interruptive Military service credit to the Board. The legislature required the LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board and the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) to complete a study of interruptive military service credit and the impact of expanding fully subsidized service credit eligibility to those who have been awarded an expeditionary medal. SHB 2544 requires LEOFF 2 and the SCPP to communicate their preliminary recommendations prior to October 30, 2020. Final recommendations are due to the legislature by January 2, 2021. The LEOFF 2 Board staff will share its preliminary report at the SCPP October meeting. No action was taken at this time.

5. Seattle Police Plan Demographics

Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager gave an educational briefing to the Board. At the July board meeting questions were raised regarding the potential impacts to LEOFF Plan 2 if there are significant layoffs and/or retirements at the Seattle Police Department. Actuarial analysis on several hypothetical scenarios were provided from OSA and discussed. No action was taken at this time.

6. OPMA & Ethics

Tor Jernudd, Assistant Attorney General provided an annual training presentation to the Board on the Open Public Meetings Act and state ethics. No action was taken at this time.

7. Administrative Update

Steve Nelsen, Executive Director gave an administrative update to the Board. Annual expectation interviews have begun and will continue to be scheduled with trustees. The October meeting will be a strategic planning meeting and held remotely. The remaining meetings for the interim will also be held remotely via Zoom video conference.

8. COVID-19 Update

Steve Nelsen, Executive Director gave an update regarding COVID-19. Electronic meetings will continue until further notice and staff will continue to work from home.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made. Motion was seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:03AM.

The next meeting of the LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board is scheduled for October 21, 2020 and will be held virtually in Olympia, WA.