



Basalt & Rural Fire Protection District

“Protecting Our Community Since 1970”

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

BASALT & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT PENSION BOARD MEETING August 15, 2023

Roll Call:

President Ed Van Walraven called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Other Board members present were John Young, Vonda Williams, Hutch Foster, and Leroy Duroux. Chief Scott Thompson, Deputy Chiefs Richard Cornelius, Finance Director Jennifer Thompson, Firefighter Cleve Williams (via Life Size), Bob Cole (via Life Size), Hilary Fletcher (via Life Size), Courtney Sievers (Life Size), and Executive Assistant Jennifer Diamond.

Minutes of August 16, 2022:

Director Williams made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Vice President Duroux seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried 6 – 0.

Other Business:

Finance Director Thompson reviewed the FPPA Actuarial study for the Pension Boards' 44 volunteer members. Finance Director Thompson noted that with the current interest rates, the fund will likely stay up by a hundred thousand in unrealized gain. Finance Director Thompson pointed out that based on this information, it is up to the Board whether or not you want to increase the retiree pension benefit in 2024. Finance Director Thompson advised that the total annual calculated contribution needed (\$61,229) coincides with what the district is currently budgeting for 2024. Finance Director Thompson stated that right now, including the matching money from the state, the budgeted amount is \$77,000, even with a decreased mill due to the high assessed valuations. Director Young asked, "So our vulnerability is if everyone were to retire all at once." Finance Director Thompson stated that if we had to pay it all out at once, the unfunded liability would be \$548,599 in accordance with plan A of the Actuarial study. Finance Director Thompson noted that participation in FPPA was an intelligent choice as it is not self-funded, as is Snowmass Wildcat's case. Finance Director Thompson pointed out that the fund is closed to new members, including all retired volunteers with ten or more years of service. Finance Director Thompson advises that the fund's future is about

attrition of members and that if a member passes, the spouse receives 50% of their benefit. Once the spouse passes, the benefit terminates.

Discussion ensued –

Finance Director Thompson clarifies that the district is budgeting \$67,145 of property tax money, and FPPA matches an additional \$10,222, so we are already funding \$77,367 for the 2024 Budget. Finance Director Thompson said the district must put in at least \$61,229. Finance Director Thompson said the Actuarial study is done every two years.

Director Young motioned to approve an increase to the volunteer benefit to \$675.00 per month, effective January 1, 2024, in reference to plan A in the Actuarial Study. Vice President Duroux seconded the motion. Director Vonda Willams recused herself from this vote. This motion was carried 5-0

Adjournment:

Director Young motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Director Willams seconded the motion, which carried 6 – 0. The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

To watch this meeting in its entirety, please follow the link below.

<https://youtu.be/XZef93q4vP0>