

Dallas Police and Fire Pension System
Tuesday, March 13, 2001
8:30 a.m.
2777 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 825
Dallas, Texas

Special meeting, Gerald Brown, Chairman, presiding:

ROLL CALL

Board Members

Present: Gerald Brown, Steve Shaw, George Tomasovic, Rector C. McCollum, Steve Umlor, Gary Edge

Absent: Councilmember Donald Hill, Councilmember John Loza, Councilmember Mary Poss, Councilmember Maxine Thornton-Reese

Staff: Richard Tettamant, Don Rohan, Brian Blake

Others: Kerry Silver

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The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ITEM FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

Survey of membership and focus groups

Mr. Tettamant, Administrator, stated that at the February 8, 2001 Board meeting, the Board selected Silver Communications to develop and conduct a member survey and to include the use of focus groups. The Administrator and Assistant Administrator for Operations met with Silver Communications personnel on March 1 to discuss development of the survey. Based on this discussion, Silver Communications will present a plan for the survey to include draft survey questions and the focus group format for consideration by the Board.

Kerry Silver presented and discussed a proposed survey consisting of a series of questions that would rate the members' understanding of and satisfaction with the Combined Pension Plan features, and the System's communication effectiveness. It would also ask members about possible benefit changes. The survey would be sent to the entire active membership.

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Survey of membership and focus groups (continued)

Ms. Silver discussed her proposed focus group discussion guide. She recommended that three focus groups be held; one each for active fire, active police, and pensioners. Each focus group would have approximately 15 people that are randomly selected from membership lists so that only one person from each station or shift is selected. To assure candid responses from focus group members, Silver Communications recommended that the Dallas Police and Fire Pension System staff and Board not know the make-up of the focus group panels and that no supervisor-subordinate relationship exists between any members of any particular panel.

After discussion, Mr. McCollum made a motion to approve the following:

- (1) Creation of a pensioner survey, in addition to the previously-approved active member survey,
- (2) Three focus groups, and
- (3) The costs associated with (1) and (2).

Mr. Shaw seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

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Mr. Tettamant stated that there was no further business to come before the Board. On a motion by Mr. Shaw and a second by Mr. Tomasovic, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Gerald Brown
Chairman

ATTEST:

Richard L. Tettamant
Secretary