



**APRS**  
AUSTIN POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

## MINUTES REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

April 19, 2023

Kendall Thomas, Chesley Wood Building  
2520 South IH 35, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78704

Board Members Present

Sheldon Askew, Chair  
Keith Harrison, Vice Chair  
Michael Cowden  
Michael Granof  
Mackenzie Kelly  
Nick Moore  
Christopher Salacki  
Diana Thomas  
Belinda Weaver  
Chesley Wood  
Carl Zimmerman

Consultants Present

Chuck Campbell  
Alyca Garrison  
Mark Harkrider

Staff Present

Pattie Featherston  
Tyler Link  
Stephanie Willie  
John Poth  
Michelle Ruland  
Deborah Esparza  
Amethyst Cosson  
Aaron Emma

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Sheldon Askew called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. and roll call was taken.

II. Oath of Office for Newly Appointed Trustee

A. Mackenzie Kelly, City Council Member

Chair Sheldon Askew administered the Oath of Office and Statement of Elected Officer to Mackenzie Kelly.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on February 15, 2023
- B. Approval of Member Transactions for February & March 2023
- C. CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL
  1. New Retired Members
  2. Forward DROP Activity
  3. PROP Disbursements

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- 4. Service Credit Purchases
- 5. Retiree Survivor & Death Benefit Payments
- D. Treasury Report for January & February 2023

**Motion was made by Michael Granof to approve the consent agenda. Motion was seconded by Michael Cowden. Motion passed. Mackenzie Kelly abstained.**

- V. Report of the Disability Committee (Discussion and Possible Action)
  - A. Executive Director Report on the Annual Review of Certain Continuing Disability Retirements
  - B. Review of an Application for Continuing Disability Retirement: Applicant A720
  - C. Review of an Application for Continuing Disability Retirement: Applicant A420

*Name of applicants are withheld due to protections of privacy required by federal law related to medical information.*

The Board meeting was closed at 11:55 a.m. after a statement read by the Chair which stated, *The Austin Police Retirement System Board of Trustees is now in Executive Session on April 19th, 2023, at 11:55 a.m., pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.078 regarding disability benefits.*

The Board meeting re-opened at 12:30 p.m., and the Chair read the following statement, *The Executive Session of the Board of Trustees ended on April 19th, 2023, at 12:32 p.m. No action was taken in closed session.*

**Motion was made by Chesley Wood to, based on the APRS Medical Board's recommendation, direct staff to hire a vocational rehabilitation expert to conduct a third-party assessment for Applicant A720 to determine approximate income levels the applicant can earn pursuant to applicable state law. Motion was seconded by Michael Cowden. Motion passed. Mackenzie Kelly abstained.**

**Motion was made by Chesley Wood to, in connection with the review of Applicant A420, instruct staff to obtain additional research to determine an appropriate job market to use in the determination of approximate income levels of an applicant in connection with a disability review and utilize the vocational expert for additional guidance as needed. Motion was seconded by Michael Cowden. Motion passed. Mackenzie Kelly abstained.**

- VI. Legislative Update (Discussion Only)

System Government Affairs Consultant, Mark Harkrider, gave an update to Trustees on the 88<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature's regular session.

VII. Executive Director Report (Discussion)

The Executive Director informed Trustees that APRS hosted a successful retirement seminar and had 57 attendees. Executive Director updated the Trustees that APRS held a successful 2023 Spring Investment Symposium and advised the Spring APRS Newsletter will be coming out soon. The Executive Director reminded Trustees about the upcoming NCPERS Annual Conference and advised that the new tenant will be moving in upstairs at the end of April. Lastly, the Executive Director gave an update on the current year's retirements with 65 members having retired through March and another 13 expected in April.

VIII. Update on Hancock Litigation Matter (Discussion Only)

System Legal Counsel, Jackson Walker, updated the Trustees that the plaintiff's attorneys had filed a Notice of Nonsuit.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Askew adjourned the meeting at 12:39 p.m.



**Sheldon Askew,  
Chair, Board of Trustees**