March 2022

TO:   Certifying Officers of the Police and Firemen’s Retirement System

FROM:  Lisa Pointer, Board Secretary
       Police and Firemen’s Retirement System of New Jersey (PFRSNJ)

SUBJECT:  PFRSNJ Board of Trustees Notice of Election – Fire Representative

This certifying officer letter and the attached notice for the 2023 election of a fire member representative for the PFRSNJ Board of Trustees, established by P.L. 2018, c. 55 (Chapter 55), are being transmitted to you electronically and will require your electronic response.

We ask for your assistance in servicing an election for one fire member representative position on the PFRSNJ Board of Trustees. A fire member representative will be elected for a four-year term as of February 1, 2023. Candidates for the position must qualify by electronic nomination.

We are requesting that you distribute the attached Notice of PFRSNJ Fire Member Election electronically to each PFRS fire member employed at your location, as the information will explain the pre-election procedures. It is very important that every active PFRS fire member receives this notice. If you are the certifying officer for multiple locations, you will only receive one certifying officer letter and will be required to distribute the attached election notice to active PFRS fire members at all locations. Your attention to this distribution is required under N.J.A.C. 17:4-1.4. Further, it will be your responsibility to distribute each ballot to the member in accordance with the administrative code.

We ask that you distribute this notice electronically no later than April 1, 2022. In addition, if you maintain a website for your employees, you may post the notice there and in any other appropriate public place at your location.

It is very important that you confirm distribution of this notice. To confirm distribution of the notice to your PFRS active fire employees, please send an email to PFRSNJBOT.ELECT@pfrs.nj.gov.

Thank you for your prompt assistance in the timely response and distribution of this notice.

Attachment: Notice of PFRSNJ Fire Member Election
Nominations are being accepted to fill the position of one elected fire member representative on the PFRSNJ Board of Trustees, established by P. L. 2018, c. 55 (Chapter 55). The term will begin on February 1, 2023, and will expire on January 31, 2027. Candidates for the position must qualify by electronic nomination. If you wish to declare your interest in running for this position, please send a written request no later than May 20, 2022, to the PFRSNJ Board Secretary at PFRSNJBOT.FireNomination@pfrs.nj.gov or to: PFRSNJ Board Secretary, P.O. Box 297, Trenton, NJ 08625-0297.

The PFRSNJ Board of Trustees has the general responsibility for the operation of the PFRS under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:16A-13. The Board meets monthly. The statute provides that no employee shall suffer loss of salary or wages because of serving on the Board. A member who wishes to be a candidate for the fire member position must be an active PFRS fire member and must receive at least 300 active PFRS fire member nominations. Only active PFRS fire members may nominate a candidate for the PFRSNJ Board of Trustees fire position.

After the candidates have declared their interest in becoming a PFRSNJ Board of Trustee fire member representative, nominations to support your choice for a candidate are made electronically through a secure website (beginning on or about March 25, 2022). The process is easy and only takes a few minutes. You will need to have access to a computer. Log on to https://vote.yeselections.com/PFRSNJ-Fire and follow the simple directions. You will need to provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number, the first 4 letters of your last name, and your month/year of birth. You will see a list of all the candidates, and then you can make your selection. Please be sure to allow sufficient time for active fire members to request candidacy and for the vendor to enter the candidate’s name to the online system. For further information on the nomination and election process, please visit the NJ Division of Pensions and Benefits’ website at https://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/board-meetings.shtml.

Nominations must be registered online before 4:00 p.m. on June 24, 2022. If more than one candidate receives 300 or more nominations, an election will be required. Qualified candidates will be invited to attend the drawing by lot for position on the ballot, if necessary, on July 15, 2022. Election ballots will be mailed to PFRS employers for distribution to active members on or about September 12, 2022. Each member must cast their own ballot.

PRESENT TRUSTEES

Police Representative (Elected): Raymond Heck; Fire Representative (Elected): Matthew Lubin; Retired Police Representative (Elected): Bruce Polkowitz; NJF MBA Appointment: Ed Donnelly; PBA Appointment: James Kompany; PFANJ Appointment: Timothy Colacci; FOP Appointment: Marc Morgan; Gubernatorial Appointments: John Megariotis, Edward Oatman, Susan Jacobucci, Nicola Trasente and John Glidden, Jr.

PFRSNJ BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- Render determinations regarding Disability Retirement cases.
- Review appeals pertaining to the disallowance of pension benefits.
- Adopt rules and regulations to (a) provide for the payment of benefits and collection of monies as required by the statute and (b) to prevent injustices and inequities that may arise in the operation of the Retirement System within the limitations of statutes and opinions of the Courts.
- Establish rules and regulations within the limitations of statutes and opinions of the Courts designed to prevent injustices and inequities that may arise in the operation of the Retirement System.
- Resolve individual questions on the merits of each case in terms of statutes, advice of the Actuary and cases cited by counsel as deliberated by the Courts.
- View monthly and annual reports setting forth data such as assets and liabilities, income and disbursements and statistical summarization of membership as documented by the Actuary.
- The Board is responsible for the funding policies of the Board and directing the investments of the funds.
- Transmit hearing requests to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and review decisions from the OAL.