

GFOAT Board:

I wanted to report that I attended the TMRS Advisory Committee on Benefit Design Meeting on April 26th in Austin. This was the first Advisory Committee Meeting to be held in over 2 years.

Just to refresh everyone:

- The Advisory Committee on Benefit Design is comprised of the following members and representing organizations:
 1. George Kauffman, TMRS Retiree (Individual Class Rep.)
 2. Brian Langley, Assistant City Mgr./CFO, City of Denton (Individual Class Rep.)
 3. Julie Masters, Mayor, City of Dickinson (Individual Class Rep.)
 4. Bonita Hall, Texas Municipal Human Resources Association (Group Class Rep.)
 5. Paulette Hartman, TCMA (Group Class Rep.)
 6. Kevin Lawrence, Texas Municipal Police Association (Group Class Rep.)
 7. David Riggs, Texas State Association of Fire Fighters (Group Class Rep.)
 8. J.J. Rocha, TML (Group Class Rep.)
 9. Greg Shipley, Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas (Group Class Rep.)
 10. Casey Srader, GFOAT (Group Class Rep.)
- Advisory Committee Chair is TMRS Board Member, David Landis and Vice Chair is TMRS Board Member, Jesus Garza.
- The Committee is responsible for 1.) Communicating with the Board through updates and presentations, 2.) Providing input to the Board on the advantages and disadvantages of benefit design issues affecting TMRS cities, members, and retirees, and 3.) Maintaining communication with statewide professional organizations, including employer and employee groups, and member cities.

Takeaways from the meeting:

- I personally thought the meeting was extremely beneficial and the meeting was very interactive among all Committee members. I have since expressed this sentiment to TMRS (David Gavia and Dan Wattles) and also expressed that I thought these types of meetings are beneficial and necessary going forward.
- In the very near future, TMRS will be providing a written summary of all the topics/items discussed at the meeting. As a teaser, some of the more pertinent topics discussed included: RTW (Right To Work) as it relates to retired employees returning to work, COLA's, legislative issues/outlook, improving communication with constituencies, and gaining insight on the 86th Legislative Session from constituencies.
- As just mentioned, TMRS will provide a written summary of the meeting and I will be sure and forward that on to everyone as soon as I receive it. During the meantime, the agenda and materials can be found at the following site: http://www.tmr.com/down/committees/AC_Meeting_Materials_26April2018.pdf
- The next regular TMRS Board Meeting is scheduled for May 24-25 and this is the joint Meeting of the TMRS Board and the Advisory Committee. I most definitely plan on attending this meeting!

Thank you.

Casey Srader