

**Municipal Police Employee's Retirement System**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**May 21, 2025**

The Board of Trustees of the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System held a meeting on Wednesday May 21, 2025, at the system's office at 7722 Office Park Boulevard in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 am by Chief Christopher Wilrye.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call**

**Members Present**

Mayor Rick Allen  
Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr.  
Craig Cassagne, Commissioner of Administration  
Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco  
Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson  
Mr. Julius Roberson, State Treasurer Designee  
Mayor Jonathan Taylor  
Lt. Tyrone Warren  
Chief Beth Westlake  
Chief Christopher Wilrye  
Lt. (Retired) Chad King (remote)

**Members Absent**

Chief David Addison  
Rep. Tony Bacala  
Major Raymond Burkart, Jr.  
Senator Bob Hensgens

**Others Present**

Mr. Benjamin Huxen II, MPERS Executive Director and General Counsel  
Ms. Taylor Camp, MPERS, Chief Financial Officer  
Ms. Emily Thurston, MPERS, System Analyst  
Ms. Melissa Frazier, MPERS, Benefits Administrator  
Ms. Christie Ziadeh, MPERS, Benefits Analyst (remote)  
Ms. Sarah Daniel, MPERS, Accounts Analyst (remote)  
Ms. Karen Correll, MPERS, Membership Analyst (remote)  
Mr. Greg Curran, Curran Actuarial Consulting, Consulting Actuary  
Ms. Sheri Morris, Attorney - Daigle, Fisse, & Kessenich

Mr. David Barnes, NEPC  
Ms. Laura Gail Sullivan, Attorney  
Mr. Peter Landers, GGA (remote)  
Mr. Brad Kelly, GGA (remote)  
Mr. Patrick Cronin, General Manager - RMI  
Mr. Randall Keiser, Attorney – RMI  
Mr. Alvin Bradley, Mayor – Grambling  
Ms. Monica Bradley, Grambling  
Mr. Tommy Clark, Jr., Chief of Police – Grambling  
Mr. Kevin Balaid, With Intelligence (media) (remote)  
Mr. Peyton Ohmstede, LA Treasury (remote)  
Ms. Sarah Monsour, DFK (remote)  
Mr. Georgi Korovski, PeakLoad Media (remote)

**IV. Public Comment**

No public comments.

**V. Approval of the April 16, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes (Action Item)**

**Motion by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco and second by Chief Beth Westlake to approve the minutes of the meeting held April 16, 2025. After a roll call vote and without objection, the motion carried.**

**VI. New Business**

**A. Adoption of Strategic Plan (Action Item) Presenters: Brad Kelly and Peter Landers, GGA**

Mr. Kelly presented the strategic plan focused on aligning the board with management. This plan includes divisions such as fund sustainability and benefit delivery, supported by cooperation between staff and GGA. Mr. Kelly noted that the strategic plan has four categories: Fund Sustainability, Benefit Delivery, Strategic Communications, and Fiduciary Responsibility and Ethical Standards. Each of these divisions are broken down into two key objectives. The two key objectives for fund sustainability include establishing one of the best public retirement systems in cost-effectiveness and customer satisfaction and maintaining an actuarially sound pension system with better-aligned contribution rates. Benefit delivery highlights upgrading the existing online pension administration system. Strategic Communications aim to regularly collect feedback on service performance and ensure information is accessible. The plan includes two objectives to enhance fiduciary responsibility: training trustees and providing them with necessary information and tools. Strategic priorities include execution measures and performance indicators for monitoring, in alignment with annual business plans.

**Motion by Asst. Chief Jason Dimarco, seconded by Chief Beth Westlake, to adopt the Strategic Plan as presented by GGA. After a roll call vote and without objection, the motion carried.**

**B. Acceptance of the Nominations for the Non-chiefs District II Trustee Position (Action Item)**

Ms. Thurston reviewed the three nominations received for the Non-chiefs District II Trustee Position. They were Jason DiMarco, Dorian Brabham, and John Westley Thomas.

There was some confusion about the number of signatures required for a valid petition for candidacy. It was clarified that Mr. Thomas had sufficient signatures for his nomination after verifying additional pages.

**Motion by Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., seconded by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco to accept all three nominations for the Non-chiefs District II Trustee Position. After a roll call vote and without objection, the motion carried.**

**C. NEPC Report on Investments: Presenter David Barnes**

Mr. David Barnes noted there would be a few important things to discuss at the next meeting and urged the board members to be in attendance if possible. Mr. Barnes went on to state the market update for April showed volatility with markets initially down due to tariff uncertainties. CPI decreased from 2.8% in February to 2.4% in March. The unemployment rate held steady at 4.2%, and GDP declined due to a trade deficit influenced by pre-tariff order adjustments. S&P 500 earnings reflected a 14% growth for the period, although April finished down 0.7%. Small cap, international, and emerging market stocks had varied performances. As of the close of March, the S&P was up 7% with small caps and international stocks showing significant gains. Mr. Barnes noted MPERS' investment assets concluded April at \$2.854 billion, generating \$14.7 million in net investment gains, marking a 0.5% return and the fixed income portfolio aligned with the global bond market with a 0.7% increase. Mr. Barnes stated that NEPC will be conducting a consolidated search for an index fund provider to potentially achieve cost savings by reducing the number of managing parties from three to one.

Mr. Roberson asked a question regarding the impact on the portfolio regarding the US government credit rating. Mr. Barnes stated that there is some concern when looking at the treasury market that they could see some days where there is a short-term liquidity issue or a spike in ratings, but at this point he does not feel like it would significantly change the long-term forecast.

Mr. Roberson then asked if there was any concern about the August date for the debt ceiling. Mr. Barnes stated there was also a date in January and with all debt ceiling dates there is potential for volatility. Mr. Barnes stated that when

you have a congress that is divided with the administration you tend to see a lot more brinksmanship. He went on to state the in the current environment it is less of a risk than if we had a divided legislature.

**D. Actuarial Comments (Action Item)**

Asst. Chief DiMarco opened by asking Mr. Curran if there was a way to calculate how much more cities that are compliant are having to pay, or how much they wouldn't have to pay, because of other cities being non-compliant. Mr. Curran answered that he could run an alternate evaluation that includes these municipalities, which will let them know what it is doing to the employer rate. He stated it would tell them how much extra the compliant cities are paying. Mr. Curran said they have done a version of this already and the ultimate answer is yes, but to do a more complete analysis will require getting the numbers and data from the cities. He stated he feels they can do a reasonable job with making assumptions that are fair to the size of the cities.

**Motion by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco, and second by Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr. to have Curran Actuarial Consulting, Ltd. perform an actuarial calculation and report outlining the amount of employer contributions that have been effectively transferred to compliant municipalities from non-compliant municipalities and authorize MPERS staff to include this information as a disclaimer on relevant contribution rates publications and correspondence. After a roll call vote and without objection, the motion carried.**

**E. Proposed Changes to La. Admin Code. tit. 58, Pt XVIII (Action Item)**

Mr. Huxen stated that most of these regulations that are being updated and refreshed deal with the Internal Revenue Code Provisions. He stated he had Mr. Robert Gauss (tax attorney for MPERS) reviewed them since they had not been looked at since he was hired. Mr. Huxen reviewed the document with the updates. Mr. Huxen also reviewed updates to the enrollment procedures to make sure that MPERS is in compliance with state statutes and IRS regulations.

**Motion by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco, and second by Major (retired) Kelly Gibson, to authorize and direct Mr. Ben Huxen to promulgate rule changes and make edits necessary to comply with federal and state law. After a roll call vote and without objection, the motion carried.**

**F. Executive Director & General Counsel Comments (Action Items)**

**1. 2025 Regular Legislative Session Update**

Mr. Huxen gave an update on the 2025 regular legislative session, specifically regarding a bill that allows for a five-year extension for those in DROP. While it passed through most legislative processes, it was

stalled due to certain objections in the Senate. Mr. Huxen stated they will continue monitoring the progress of the DROP extension bill. Senate Bill 7, concerning investments, has not been heard yet, and there is uncertainty about whether it will be considered. A house resolution was filed by Representative Hilferty from New Orleans and Metairie. It requests the study of merging the New Orleans Firefighters Pension and Relief Fund into the Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System. Mr. Huxen stated that the concern regarding the merger of pension systems lies in the potential reduction in insurance premium tax funds to be received.

**2. Update on Delinquent Municipalities/Employers**

Ms. Camp reported that as of yesterday, delinquent cities included but were not limited to Addis, Baskin, Benton, Clayton, Columbia, Cullen, Dubach, Ferriday, Franklinton, Jeanerette, Jonesboro, Killian, New Orleans, Richwood, Roseland, Shreveport, Simmesport, Sun, Vivian, and Wisner. She noted that delinquent municipalities and employers may create upward pressure on employer contributions. Ms. Camp also informed the Board that they received communication from a future official expressing intent to be more responsive to employer communications upon taking office.

The Board discussed ongoing issues with municipalities failing to contribute amounts owed, which impacts the actuarial soundness of the system. Ms. Camp explained that the Treasurer is obligated to withhold funds for municipalities when MPERS provides a certification of debt, but has indicated to MPERS that he cannot simultaneously certify delinquencies and pursue litigation based on current statutory interpretation. This creates a conflict between the ability to certify debts to the Treasury and the capacity to sue for collection—a situation where Treasury has never previously declined to act. Regarding Dubach specifically, MPERS has the option to collect funds either through certifying the debt to the Treasury or through litigation, but in the Treasurer's opinion (but not MPERS') not both simultaneously.

**3. Update on Previously Approved Settlements That Have Been Fully Executed**

Mr. Huxen stated the only one they have to report on is Stonewall. The Stonewall settlement has been fully executed, and they will hopefully have a motion to dismiss this lawsuit soon.

**4. Update on Member and Employer Education**

Mr. Huxen stated that member and employer education was conducted successfully at the Hammond Police Department, involving multiple agencies and employees, with positive feedback from participants. A suggestion was made for other board members to host similar educational



events and engage neighboring agencies. The initiative to involve MPERS in city enrollment for benefits is underway, to provide officers with direct access to pension plan information. There was some discussion on retirement system changes passed by the Louisiana Legislature in 2012 that decreased benefits for police officers and police department employees (but not municipal employees or firefighters), highlighting a historical lack of communication about legislative updates, emphasizing the need for improved information dissemination. It was stated that clarification is needed regarding the responsibility of municipalities and police chiefs concerning retirement contributions, with potential legislative pursuits to address the ambiguities suggested. There were suggestions that included soliciting legislative leaders and ensuring proper settlement language to aid municipalities in compliance through education. Mayor Allen made a commitment to announce educational initiatives at upcoming district meetings for mayors and follow up with delinquent list contacts. Ms. Camp stated that MPERS has been to some of these meetings and will continue to go when asked. MPERS made a commitment to attend district meetings and provide updates, including potential short-notice arrangements for training sessions in various locations.

**5. Letter from Treasurer Fleming re: Chinese Investments**

Mr. Huxen stated that the board received a letter from the Treasurer expressing concerns about Chinese investments and encouraged divestment from Chinese holdings. China constitutes about 3.8% of the total stock portfolio, driven by emerging markets allocation, specifically its inclusion in the index. Approximately 25% of the emerging market stock portfolio is tied to China. A discussion of Chinese investments is scheduled for the next investment meeting, where Mr. Barnes will present further information.

Chief Westlake stated that this was mentioned at the NCPERS conference she attended this past week. She stated it is something they are looking at across the board for public pensions.

- \* After Mr. Huxen's presentation was completed, it was determined that Mayor Allen had earned his last education credit required for voting privileges and had been added to the voting roster for roll call votes going forward.

**G. Discussion and Consideration of Proposed Settlement Agreements, Current Litigation, and/or Prospective Litigation (Action Item)**

- 1. If Necessary, Executive Session (Under the Provisions of R.S. 42:17(A)(10) To Facilitate Privileged Communications Under La. Code Evid. art. 506) Regarding Any of the Items Under VI. G., 2. Through 11.**

**2. Town of Dubach (Qualifies as Fiduciary Education and Education Regarding the Laws, Rules, and Regulations Applicable to MPERS)**

Mr. Huxen presented an update on Dubach's contributions and settlement agreement obligations, emphasizing compliance issues and the tragic case of Officer Croxton. Officer Russell Croxton of Dubach was killed in the line of duty shortly after his employment began. The Board observed a moment of silence in Officer Croxton's memory.

On October 19, 2022, the Board of Trustees approved a settlement agreement with the Town of Dubach requiring immediate enrollment of all eligible employees and releasing employment-related claims. However, the settlement agreement contained two significant gaps: it lacked confirmation of language in R.S. 11:2227(D) allowing MPERS to seek Treasury funds in cases of compliance failure, and it did not require the town to engage an auditor for compliance verification.

**Background on Officer Croxton's Service History**

Mr. Huxen provided detailed background on Officer Croxton's law enforcement career. From January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2018, Croxton served as Dubach's elected chief of police but was never enrolled in MPERS. MPERS never received an affidavit from Croxton during this period.

From approximately April 2019 through April 2024, Croxton worked as a police officer for Louisiana Tech University, where he was presumably enrolled in the LASERS Hazardous Duty Plan. On April 15, 2024, he returned to his hometown of Dubach to work as a police officer.

**The Tragedy and Its Aftermath**

The Town of Dubach employed Officer Russell Croxton for only 13 days before he was killed in the line of duty on April 27, 2024, when he was struck by an eighteen-wheeler carrying 77,000 pounds of rolled paper while outside his patrol unit. He was survived by his wife, Jennifer. The tragedy was compounded by family history: Russell's father, Sergeant Raymond "Ray" Lynn Croxton Jr., also a police officer, was killed in the line of duty on May 23, 1978, during a vehicle pursuit while serving with the Ruston Police Department.

**Settlement Agreement Violations**

Despite the 2022 settlement agreement and education on MPERS' laws, the Town of Dubach never enrolled Officer Croxton when he was rehired in 2024. The town subsequently failed to meet multiple additional obligations under both state law and the settlement agreement. Dubach missed the May 15, 2024 deadline for reporting employees and paying

contributions to MPERS and has remained delinquent for several months. The town has also been delinquent for the past two months regarding the one officer they did enroll after Croxton's death. MPERS sent a public records request to Dubach along with a letter explaining the need for employee employment and monthly compensation data.

### **Legal Framework and Survivor Benefits**

Mr. Huxen explained the legal framework governing survivor benefits. Under R.S. 11:2220(B)(1)(a)(2), if the board of trustees determines that an active contributing member is killed as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty on or after January 1, 2001, the surviving spouse shall receive a benefit equal to one hundred percent of the member's average final compensation. Although Officer Croxton was not an active contributing member at the time of his death, he should have been had the Town followed the law.

### **Calculation of Benefits and Contributions**

According to the minutes of the Town of Dubach Board of Aldermen's regular monthly meeting for Monday, March 18, 2024, Officer Croxton was hired at \$14 per hour. At 40 hours per week, this equates to approximately \$29,120 annually, meaning Jennifer Croxton would be entitled to approximately \$2,426.67 per month in survivor benefits.

However, MPERS cannot pay these benefits without first being paid by the Town of Dubach. Assuming Officer Croxton worked 80 hours before being killed in the line of duty, he would have earned \$1,120. With a 33.925% employer contribution rate, the Town should have paid approximately \$380 in contributions for this recent employment period. Additionally, the Town owes contributions for Officer Croxton's previous service as chief of police from 2008-2018, though those amounts have not yet been calculated. The Town paid nothing for either period.

### **Actuarial Penalties and Legislative Context**

Under R.S. 11:2227(J)(2)(c), because the Town has been delinquent for a period exceeding 180 days, it is liable for the actuarial cost of purchasing the service credit for which contributions were not timely paid, as calculated by the system's actuary pursuant to R.S. 11:158(C). Instead of paying \$380 for the recent employment period (plus the undetermined amount owed for the 2008-2018 period), the Town will owe a six-figure amount, with actuarial costs estimated at least \$390,000.

Mr. Huxen noted that because the Town failed to meet its contribution obligations, it cannot fully benefit from being part of the MPERS "risk pool." He referenced the withdrawn HB 30, which would have repealed statutes allowing MPERS to charge interest, penalties, and actuarial costs unless



litigation was successful, removing incentives for timely payment. The difference between the actuarial cost (estimated at least \$390,000) and the original contributions (\$380 for recent employment plus undetermined amounts for the 2008-2018 period) would have been disproportionately borne by compliant municipalities.

Mr. Huxen explained that HB 30 would have established a one-year liberative prescription period for all actions and claims by the retirement system against employers to recover delinquent payments. Since Officer Croxton died over a year ago, Jennifer Croxton would have received nothing under that proposed legislation.

He also referenced the original HB 42 from the 2024 Regular Legislative Session, which would have allowed municipalities to eliminate survivor benefits entirely if they did not enter agreements with MPERS to extend benefits. MPERS' officials pointed this out to LMA and RMI representatives and certain state legislators at the time.

### **Fiduciary Duties and Legal Obligations**

Mr. Huxen addressed the Board's fiduciary responsibilities as trustees. MPERS trustees have fiduciary duties to follow state statutes (plan terms) and satisfy duties of prudence and loyalty. Importantly, the duty of loyalty extends to the system's members and beneficiaries, including unenrolled members and their beneficiaries. Officer Croxton's death highlights the issues MPERS has been addressing and the risks inherent in the affidavit system.

Since Dubach appears to be in breach of its Settlement and Mutual Release Agreement with MPERS, confirming Officer Croxton's eligibility creates an obligation to pursue Dubach for damages resulting from its breach to pay lifetime survivor benefits to Jennifer Croxton.

### **Collection Challenges and Statutory Interpretation**

Mr. Huxen reported making a public records request to the Town, with responsive documents expected before calculating the exact amount owed and benefits due to Jennifer Croxton. He noted that a death benefit claim could be filed immediately.

However, he explained a significant obstacle: after consultation with RMI attorneys, Treasury attorneys have concluded that MPERS can either certify delinquencies to the treasurer or sue to collect, but not both. Mr. Huxen characterized this as an illogical statutory interpretation that aligns with the intent of LMA/RMI's HB 30. He noted this represents uncharted territory, as no previous treasurer, to his knowledge, has declined to follow this law (although it is not known whether litigation was involved in other instances).

Mr. Huxen cited Louisiana Civil Code Article 9: "When the law is clear and unambiguous and its application does not lead to absurd consequences, the law shall be applied as written and no further interpretation may be made in search of the intent of the legislature."

He argued that even if the law could be interpreted as allowing either certification to Treasury or litigation (but not both), this interpretation leads to absurd consequences. MPERS would be forced to choose between:

1. **Certification to Treasury:** Taking available funds from state treasury (unknown amount for a small town like Dubach)
2. **Litigation:** Suing Dubach directly for collection

Under the Treasury's interpretation, choosing one option permanently forecloses the other, which Mr. Huxen characterized as creating absurd consequences contrary to the statute's intent of maintaining MPERS' actuarial soundness by facilitating collection. Without effective collection mechanisms, MPERS cannot pay benefits or maintain actuarial soundness without overcharging compliant municipalities.

Discussion continued with recaps of previously discussed matters. Trustees were reminded of their responsibilities under state statutes, including the duty of prudence and loyalty to members and beneficiaries, even those unenrolled. The discussion raised concerns about employers potentially circumventing their responsibilities by not enrolling members, which could impede fulfilling the duty of loyalty. Officer Croxton's death was noted as highlighting risks inherent in the affidavit system, linking past conflicts with ongoing systemic issues.

### **Additional Compliance Concerns**

The discussion also included concerns with affidavit practices in other municipalities:

**Pearl River:** Documents notarized by an attorney who allegedly failed to witness a signature and submitted a document with a forged signature into the public record.

**Albany:** Affidavits were notarized by the mayor, raising questions of conflict of interest. One member forfeited 16.5 years of vested service credit, yet signed an affidavit—raising doubts about voluntariness.

Following this presentation, the Board acted on recommendations to address these systemic issues and strengthen MPERS' ability to ensure compliance and protect member benefits.

Motion by Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., seconded by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco, to accept Mr. Huxen's recommendations as follows: (1) Authorize and direct Laura Gail Sullivan to provide her written opinion to the MPERS board regarding whether the Treasurer is interpreting R.S. 11:2227(D)(2) appropriately; (2) Once that opinion is received, if appropriate, request opinions from Laura Gail Sullivan and Ice Miller regarding fiduciary issues raised by the Treasurer not sending available funds in cases where MPERS has been sued by employers; (3) That the board not approve any settlements lacking an acceleration clause, specific language regarding the ability to seek available funds from treasury if the employer does not abide by the agreement, or the requirement that the employer engage an auditor at its own expense to perform agreed-upon audit procedures each fiscal year to verify compliance with the agreement and all laws regarding mandatory participation in MPERS for every police department employee; and (4) That MPERS pursue legislation to eliminate the ability to file affidavits. Mr. Roberson abstained from the vote. After a roll call vote, the motion passed.

3. Discussion Regarding Authorization and Direction to Reset the Date for a Court Hearing or Take Other Appropriate action to Move the Litigation Forward
  - a. MPERS vs. Kelvin McCoy, In His Official Capacity as Mayor for the Town of Boyce, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 753207, Section 32
  - b. MPERS vs. Town of Cheneyville, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 730043, Section 22
  - c. MPERS vs. Town of Cottonport, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 728606, Section 26
  - d. MPERS vs. Town of Elton, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 729135, Section 31
  - e. MPERS vs. Alvin Bradley, Sr., in His Official Capacity as Mayor for the City of Grambling, et al., 19 JDC, Number 749512, Section 26
  - f. MPERS vs. Town of Grand Coteau, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 734857, Section 32
  - g. MPERS vs. Town of Greensburg, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 729284, Section 26
  - h. MPERS vs. Sherbin Collette, in His Official Capacity as Mayor of the Town of Henderson, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 741228, Section 21
  - i. MPERS vs. Town of Killian, 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 692602, Section 21
  - j. MPERS vs. Herman Williams, in His Official Capacity as Mayor for the Town of Lecompte, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 741267, Section 23

- k. MPERS vs. John Lemoine, in His Official Capacity as Mayor for the City of Marksville, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 753210, Section 21
- l. MPERS vs. Village of Moreauville, 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 723617, Section 25
- m. MPERS vs. Loria Hollins, in Her Official Capacity as Mayor for the Town of Jonesville, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 753206, Section 21
- n. MPERS vs. Town of Roseland, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 731190, Section 23
- o. MPERS vs. Town of Springfield, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 730012, Section 30
- p. MPERS vs. Paris C. Sumrall, in Her Official Capacity as Mayor for the Village of Varnado, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 739462, Section 24

Motion by Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., and second by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco to move forward with current litigation. After a roll call vote in which Mayor Rick Allen voted no and all others voted yes, the motion passed.

4. Discussion Regarding Authorization and Direction to Intervene

- a. Michael Alquist, Peter Hermann, Guy Butterworth, Cameron Hillhouse, Police Chief Jack Sessions, Jayson Germany, and Courtney Badon vs. Town of Pearl River, et al., 22<sup>nd</sup> JDC, Number 2025-10102, Div. "C"

Motion by Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., and second by Mayor Rick Allen to authorize and direct MPERS to intervene in Pearl River suit. After a roll call vote, the motion passed.

5. Discussion regarding Authorization and Direction to File Suit

- a. Town of Erath
- b. Town of Hornbeck
- c. Village of Tangipahoa

Motion by Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., and second by Mayor Rick Allen to authorize and direct MPERS to file suit. After a roll call vote, the motion passed.

\* A recess was taken.

- 6. Employers That Were Required to Come up With a Plan or Timeline for Paying Contributions, Interest, Etc. in Full and Present It to MPERS on or Before April 15, 2025

- a. Town of Cullen
- b. Town of Wisner

7. Other Employers

- a. MPERS vs. Town of Ferriday, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 729285, Section 22
- b. Town of Oberlin

8. MPERS vs. Town of Glenmora, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 731063, Section 31 Subject to Matter: Litigation Update and Consideration of Settlement Proposed by Glenmora

The Town of Glenmora owes MPERS at least \$233,232.49. The town offered to settle for \$50,000.00 via a barebones settlement agreement with no provisions protecting MPERS, including no indemnification clause, no acceleration clause, no specific language regarding the ability to seek available funds from treasury if the employer does not abide by the agreement, and no requirement that the employer engage an auditor at its own expense to perform agreed-upon audit procedures each fiscal year to verify compliance with the agreement and all laws regarding mandatory participation in MPERS for every police department employee.

**Motion by Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., and second by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco to deny the proposed settlement. After a roll call vote in which Mayor Rick Allen voted no and all others voted yes, the motion passed.**

9. Legal Strategy Regarding Noncompliant Employers (Action Item)

10. City of New Orleans Lawsuits

- a. City of New Orleans vs. MPERS, et al., 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 724562, Section 24 Subject Matter: Leave Conversion Issues
- b. City of New Orleans vs. MPERS, 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 732243, Section 24 Subject Matter: Earnable Compensation
- c. City of New Orleans vs. MPERS, 29<sup>th</sup> JDC, Number 751911, Section 25 Subject Matter: Partial Dissolution

**Motion by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco and second by Chief Beth Westlake to discuss Agenda Item 11 in Executive Session. After a roll call vote, the motion passed.**

11. Camelot Event Driven Fund v. Morgan Stanley & Co., et al., No. 654959/2021 (Sup. Ct., N.Y. Cnty.) Subject Matter: Case Update and Discussion (Action Item)



**Motion by Chief Beth Westlake and seconded by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco to accept the attorneys' fees proposal as presented. After a roll call vote, the motion passed.**

**VII. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**VIII. Adjourn**

**Motion to adjourn by Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco and seconded by Chief Beth Westlake. After a roll call vote, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.**

Next Meeting Date is July 23, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

To the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes accurately represent the actions taken at the meeting held on May 21, 2025.

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Lt. (Retired) Chad King, Chairman

*Vice-chairman, for Chad King:*

*Chief Christopher Wilage*



\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Huxen,  
Executive Director and General Counsel

