

December 2022 TRS Board of Trustees Meeting Summary



The TRS Board met Thursday, Dec. 8 and Friday, Dec. 9, in-person at our Austin headquarters. A [recorded webcast](#) of all the public meetings is now available on our website at www.trs.texas.gov. Once you've opened the link, just click on the committee or board segment you'd like to watch.

[Read board meeting books](#) (presentations).

Meeting Highlights

Actuarial Valuation Report

Outside actuarial firm GRS presented the scheduled 'health checkup' of the pension trust fund. The estimated annual market return for the plan year just ended was -6.7%. But the funding period was 26 years, staying within the range that would enable lawmakers to discuss a future member benefit enhancement. The presentation is on [p. 58 of the Board Book here](#).

For more on understanding our pension fund, please check out TRS' [video series](#) featuring GRS actuary Joe Newton!

2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

The Finance team presented the [2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report](#) (ACFR). As of the end of the state's fiscal year Aug. 31, here are some numbers to know:

- Total TRS Membership: 1,948,907
- Admin. Cost Per Member: \$31.84
- Participating Employers: 1,348
- Ending Net Position: \$184.2 billion

Committee Highlights

Benefits

The Chief Benefit Officer and Chief Health Care Officer updated trustees on their respective operations and performance levels. The [Benefits Book is here](#).

The key to improved metrics in almost all Benefit Processing areas has been the additional staff trustees have approved. One area of proof? The average speed of counseling call center response is now *24 seconds!* Last December it was *29 minutes*.

There was more good news regarding retention of TRS employers and members in the TRS-ActiveCare health care program. Employee enrollment was up by 2,270 among the employers that stayed in the program (90% of all). See [Benefits Book from p. 22](#). Trustees also learned about study results showing ActiveCare costs are lower in every region of Texas.

There was also an update on the El Paso Regional Office. The pilot project [officially opened Nov. 14](#) with the goal of serving our members closer to where they live and work.

Budget

The Chief Financial Officer presented the FY22 Year End Analysis. The slides showed updated agency-wide budget spending percentages as well as a look at FY23 approved full-time equivalent (FTE) resources. That includes a recommended 93 new positions for the current fiscal year. As of mid-November, TRS was 993 people strong, excluding vacancies ([Budget Book is here](#)).

Investment Management

The Chief Investment Officer reported the pension fund's Sept. 30 value was \$173.3 billion amid ongoing turbulent public markets. That's a more than \$10 billion difference from July. Consultant Aon provided slides that echoed the overall negative impact of rising rates, inflation and geopolitical tensions. See the slides in [the Investment Book here](#).

Policy

Trustees received an update from Communications' Member and Employer Outreach Plan. TRS' Senior Communications Director shared planned strategies for the new fiscal year as the pension fund broadens our level of transparency, outreach and engagement with members and other groups ([see the Policy Book here](#) with the presentation from p. 119).

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 16 and Friday, Feb. 17, 2023, in person at our Austin headquarters. [Click here](#) to access all board materials, including agendas, board books, and a link to the live and recorded webcasts. [View the full board schedule](#) on our board meetings calendar page.

Visit our web homepage anytime at www.trs.texas.gov and find Board of Trustees information under the [About TRS](#) tab. And remember you can always follow TRS on social media via our Facebook and Twitter pages.

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