

July 2022 TRS Board of Trustees Meeting Summary



The TRS Board met Thursday, July 14 and Friday, July 15, 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 Here are some highlights from July's meeting.

Meeting Highlights

Investment Return Assumption

High among the decisions made was a unanimous vote to **lower the Investment Return Assumption (RA)** for the second time in four years. The rate was lowered from **7.25% to 7.00%** as part of a recommendation from the TRS actuary's Experience Study. The actuary projects the fund should still be **actuarially sound** as of the end of FY 2022. The video of trustees' discussion is [here](#). An FAQ sheet is linked [here](#).

Red River Sale, New Headquarters Update

Another notable item was **Executive Director Brian Guthrie's** update on the **sale of TRS' Red River St. headquarters**. Slide deck is [here](#) from page 58. Guthrie reported there were 13 initial offers and that staff had narrowed the offers down to two. Trustees voted to approve a primary bid and a backup. The bids are said to provide the best overall value for the pension trust fund. Negotiations are underway and include a leaseback option at no cost to TRS, so the agency can move employees into the "Alpha" building of TRS' new headquarters at the Mueller development by July 2023 and into the "Bravo" building in mid-2024, as planned. *(October 2022 Update: the move-in date for the Bravo building is now expected in late 2024.)*

Ombuds Report

TRS' Ombuds reported communications for the period January through May 2022. Most of the large-scale agency issues related to supplemental payments and the *MyTRS* launch. By category, most complaints to the Ombud's office were about extended wait times for service. For all the ways you can contact us for assistance with TRS-related concerns or issues, please visit this [page](#).

Committee Highlights

Benefits

TRS' Chief Benefits Officer presented the **Services Update**. In-person office visits continue to climb, post-pandemic. Staff met with more than 1,300 members in the past three months. In other news, new Benefits hires continue to onboard – including seven new positions at the **new El Paso regional office opening this fall**. The full slide deck is [here](#).

Investment Management

Our Chief Investment Officer's Market Update focused on how the current decline is less severe than the average US bear market. Slide deck is [here](#). The **CIO's Update** also noted a running total of \$321 million in external manager net fee savings, thanks to the Build the Fleet program. A final tally for the five-year internal hiring program is due next April.

TRS' investment consultant Aon presented the **performance review** for the first quarter. It showed our pension trust fund's market value at just under **\$200 billion** as of March 31, 2022.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 15 and Friday, Sept. 16 in person at our Austin headquarters. Remember, you may access all board materials, including agendas, board books, and a link to the live and recorded webcasts, via our web homepage, at www.trs.texas.gov View the full board schedule on our [board meetings calendar page](#).