

# TRS Board of Trustees Meeting Summary

## September 2022

The TRS Board met Thursday, Sept. 14 and Friday, Sept. 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](http://www.trs.texas.gov). Once you've opened the link, just click on the committee or board segment you'd like to watch.

### Meeting Highlights

#### ✓ Perryman Report – TRS' value to the Texas economy in 2022

TRS consultant Dr. Ray Perryman provided his biennial analysis of how the pension fund's benefits and health care payments contribute to the state's economy. New, the report also includes the impact that this past year's supplemental payments to members have had. The data will appear in the updated TRS [Value Brochure](#) due out later this fall.

Read Dr. Perryman's presentation [here](#) from board book page 49. [View it here.](#)

### Committee Highlights

#### ✓ Benefits



The **Chief Benefit Officer** presented the **Q4 Focus on Excellence** Update. Number to know: The Benefit team welcomes 140 new hires who are helping improve service levels to our members (see Benefits [book](#) p. 9). **Opening El Paso:** TRS' first regional office is set for a soft opening Nov. 4-10 with an open house set for Nov. 14/

The **Chief Health Care Officer** updated trustees (Benefits [book](#) page 35). Included were updates on **TRS-ActiveCare** annual enrollment as of Sept. 1, where 90% of districts remain in the plan under the new competitive [regional rating](#) system. Also notable on the **TRS-Care** front: the annual deductible will change from \$500 to \$400 in 2023 for TRS-Care Medicare participants starting Jan. 1. And this fall, the Health Care Benefit group is promoting its first-ever [Health Fairs](#) around the state.

#### ✓ Investment Management

The **Chief Investment Officer's** report included a June 30 value on the pension fund of **\$184.4 billion**. TRS' investment consultant's **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Performance Review** highlighted how geopolitical uncertainty and higher interest rates affected global stock market returns. Overall, TRS returned **-2.3% for the**

**previous 12-month period**, which is still above many of our pension peers. Remember, this is about averages -- **last year's +24.8%** return buoyed the fund's 5- and 10-year returns which remain in the **+8%** range. See [IMC book](#) page 25.

### ✓ Policy

Trustees approved no changes to [TRS' Funding Policy](#). The Policy was adopted in 2019 in response to state law SB 2224. It's important because it provides a mechanism for the TRS Board to communicate with decision-makers and publicly state their goals. [Read](#) all about it from Policy book page 175. **Remember**, only the state Legislature can set or alter contribution rates or retirement benefits.

*You'll recall TRS' actuary presented the TRS Experience Study in July ([July board book](#), page 66).* Related, **please check out the new video explainer series, [Understanding Your Pension Fund](#)**. It addresses common terms and definitions you'll see used in pension-related discussions, such as an experience study and actuarial evaluation.

### ✓ Strategic Planning



The **Chief Strategy Officer** presented the **FY23 Executive Director's Areas of Focus (AOF)**. The document lays out what the Executive Director will focus his time and attention on during this fiscal year. Also, the **Senior Communications Director** updated trustees on the **Member and Employer Outreach Plan**. The full Strategy Committee book is linked [here](#).

## Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be **Thursday, Dec. 8 and Friday, Dec. 9** 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](http://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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