CITY OF AUSTIN
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

MINUTES

GOVERNANCE AND HR COMMITTEE
Public Meeting held in-person and videoconference
Pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.127
4700 Mueller Blvd., Suite 100, Austin, TX
March 5, 2026 – 10:30AM

Committee Members
Diana Thomas, Committee Chair
Kelly Crook, Committee Vice-Chair
Michael Benson
Dick Lavine
Kennard Wright

Other Board Trustees
Anthony Ross
Ben Ellinor
Kaz Wojtewicz
(Ed Van Eenoo)
(Jie Li)
(Krista Laine)

Staff
Christopher Hanson
Russell Nash
Shawna Santos
Jenni Bonds
Ricardo Carlos
David Kushner *
David Stafford
Yun Quintanilla
Michelle Mahaini

Guests
Paige Saenz, General Counsel

* Present telephonically
± Present via videoconference
(Absent)

1. Call roll of Committee members – Committee Chair Thomas
Committee Chair Diana Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:57AM. The following Committee members were present in person: Thomas, Crook, Benson, Lavine, Wright.

2. Review order of business and meeting objectives – Committee Chair Thomas
Committee Chair Thomas reviewed the order of business and meeting objectives with the Committee. There were no changes to the order of business for the meeting.

3. Receive public comments – Committee Chair Thomas
Committee Chair Thomas asked if there were any members of the public who wished to speak, either now or during an agenda item. There were no comments.

4. Consider approval of the November 17, 2025 and December 3, 2025 Governance and HR Committee minutes – Committee Chair Thomas
Committee Chair Thomas asked the Committee to review the Governance and HR Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Dick Lavine moved approval of November 17, 2025 and December 3, 2025 Governance and HR Committee minutes as presented, and Ms. Kelly Crook seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Review 2026 Governance and HR Committee Work Plan
Mr. Christopher Hanson presented the 2026 Governance and HR Committee Work Plan. The Committee noted no concerns or requested changes.

6. Discuss and consider Election Policy – Russell Nash

Mr. Russell Nash presented a proposed revision to the Election Policy and answered questions. Mr. Kaz Wojetwicz inquired about the possibility of future COAERS elections utilizing approval voting, where COAERS' members could vote for any number of candidates they find acceptable rather than choosing just one candidate. Staff noted that, as a first step, it would be necessary to determine if approval voting would be allowable under COAERS governing statute and other applicable Texas laws, and Staff would work with General Counsel on this matter.

Mr. Michael Benson moved to refer the Election Policy, as presented, to the Board for approval with placement on the consent agenda. Mr. Kennard Wright seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Review key meeting takeaways and call for future agenda items – Committee Chair Thomas

Committee Chair Thomas summarized the actions taken and the information discussed during the meeting. She asked for any future agenda items and there were no further items to address.

Committee Chair Thomas adjourned the March 5, 2026 Governance and HR Committee meeting at 11:24AM.

Approved at the August 28, 2026 Governance and HR Committee meeting