



## MINUTES

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Public Meeting held in person and videoconference

On November 10, 2022 at 12:15 p.m. CT

Pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.127 – COVID-19 circumstances

| <b><u>Committee Members</u></b>  | <b><u>Other Board Trustees</u></b>     | <b><u>Others Present:</u></b> |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b><u>Present/ (Absent)</u></b>  | <b><u>Present/ (Absent)</u></b>        | <i>Staff</i>                  |
| Kelly Crook, Committee<br>Chair  | Anthony Ross                           | Christopher Hanson            |
| Yuejiao Liu                      | Diana Thomas†                          | Sarah McCleary                |
| Leslie Pool†                     | Michael Granof                         | Jenni Bonds                   |
|                                  | Dick Lavine                            | Mehrin Rahman*                |
|                                  | Brad Sinclair                          | Michelle Mahaini*             |
| *Present telephonically          | Amy Hunter†                            | Yun Quintanilla               |
| † Present via<br>videoconference | Chris Noak                             | David Kushner                 |
|                                  | Michael Benson                         | Russell Nash                  |
|                                  |  | Amy Kelley*                   |
|                                  | <i>Guests</i>                          | Teresa Cantu*                 |
|                                  | Paige Saenz, General<br>Counsel        | Cathy Edwards*                |
|                                  | Eddie Solis, HillCo                    |                               |
|                                  | Selena Xie, Austin EMS<br>Association* |                               |
|                                  | Jeffrey Hargrave, EMS*                 |                               |

#### 1 Call roll of Committee members

Committee Chair Kelly Crook called the meeting to order at 12:26 p.m. The following Committee members were present in person: Crook and Liu. The following Committee member was present via videoconference: Pool.

Committee Chair Crook asked if there were any members of the public who wished to speak, either now or during an agenda item. There were two members of the public who asked to speak on agenda item #4.

## **2 Review order of business and establish meeting objectives**

Committee Chair Crook reviewed the order of business and objectives with the Committee. There were no changes to the order of business for the meeting.

## **3 Consider approval of the August 25, 2022 Legislative Committee minutes**

Committee Chair Crook asked Trustees to review the minutes and note one name change from the version in the packet. Ms. Yuejiao Liu moved to approve the August 25, 2022 Legislative Committee minutes as revised. Ms. Leslie Pool seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **4 Receive report on 88th Legislative Session proposal, related activities, and timelines**

Mr. Jeffrey Hargrave, a current City of Austin EMS employee, provided his opinion about the effect of the service purchase provisions of the legislation and the potential impact that those provisions would have on his plans for retirement. Ms. Selena Xie, President of the Austin EMS Association, echoed his concerns and requested that the Committee consider amendments to the proposed legislation which alleviate or mitigate Mr. Hargrave's concerns for he and other members similarly situated.

Mr. Christopher Hanson reported that COAERS was keeping to the schedule outlined regarding the legislation. He noted that Staff had recently completed an educational forum on Plan funding and the legislative proposal on October 14, and that he had met with the Pension Review Board Actuarial Committee on November 3, and ongoing receipt of stakeholder and member comments.

Mr. Hanson reviewed the next steps for the Committee and the Board regarding the upcoming legislation. Mr. Hanson also stated that he will consult with the Chair of the Committee then communicate next steps to Ms. Xie on the input received at the meeting.

## **5 Discuss and consider Governmental Relations contract**

Mr. Hanson presented a draft governmental relations contract from HillCo, who has maintained a flat fee for consulting since 2018. He noted that the cost will increase during the months from January through June coinciding with the legislative session, then return to the previous rate.

Ms. Yuejiao Liu moved to refer to the Board for approval the HillCo contract as presented, pending approval from COAERS' General Counsel. Ms. Pool seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **6 Receive post-election and pre-session report**

Mr. Eddie Solis of HillCo reported to the Committee on the local and statewide election results. The Committee discussed the impact of the elections on the upcoming legislative session.

*Mr. Chris Noak left the room from 12:58 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.*

*Mr. Brad Sinclair left the meeting at 1:05 p.m.*

## **7 Review 2022 Committee Work Plan and discuss development of 2023 Committee Work Plan**

Mr. Hanson noted that the Committee had completed all goals on the 2022 Work Plan. A draft of the 2023 plan was presented, with the caveat that the Committee may need to meet in January 2023 or ad hoc with short notice during session.

## **8 Review key meeting takeaways and call for future agenda items**

Committee Chair Crook summarized the actions taken and the information discussed during the meeting and asked for any future agenda items.

As there were no further items to address, the meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

**These minutes were approved at the February 24, 2023 Legislative Committee meeting.**