



City of Eustis

P.O. Drawer 68 • Eustis, Florida 32727-0068 • (352) 483-5430

TO: EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION

FROM: Tom Carrino, City Manager

DATE: September 4, 2025

RE: Appointment Confirmation for Police Officers' Pension and Retirement System Board of Trustees

Introduction:

At the Eustis Police Pension Plan meeting on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, the Board approved Mr. Gary Winheim as the 5th trustee. The motion to approve Mr. Winheim passed unanimously. On August 26, 2025, Amanda Kish, Administrator for Resource Centers, formally notified Eustis City Clerk of the Board's approval of Mr. Winheim. Upon receipt of the fifth person's name, the Eustis City Commission shall, as a ministerial duty, appoint such person to the board.

Background:

Seats 1 and 2 are the City Commission-appointed seats held by Ken Birkhofer and Diane Thomas (both appointed by the City Commission on August 7, 2025). Seats 3 and 4 are appointed by the members of the Police Union. Those seats are currently held by Chris Fiedler and Chris Horst. Seat 5 is appointed by the other four members of the board and confirmed by the Eustis City Commission. That seat is currently held by Gary Winheim.

Per Chapter 70-115. Board of Trustees, the membership of the board shall consist of five members serving in numbered seats. Seats 1 and 2 must be legal residents of the city and must be appointed by the Eustis City Commission for two-year terms. Seat 1 shall be appointed in November of each year ending in an odd number and Seat 2 shall be appointed in November of each year ending in an even number. Seats 3 and 4 must be held by full-time police officers defined in F.S. § 185.02(16) who are elected by a majority of the active police officers who are members of such plan for two-year terms. Seat 3 shall be elected in November of each year ending in an odd number and Seat 4 shall be elected in November of each year ending in an even number, Seat 5 shall be chosen by a majority of the previous four members, and such person's name shall be submitted to the Eustis City Commission. The board shall establish and administer the nominating and election procedures for each election and shall meet at least quarterly each year.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommend the City Commission consider confirmation of the appointment of Gary Winheim for Seat 5 as designated by the four other members of the Board.

Policy Implications:

See Sec. 70-115 of the Code of Ordinances and Ordinance Number 24-30.

Budget/Staff Impact:

Not applicable.

Business Impact Estimate:

Not applicable.

Prepared By:

Christine Halloran, City Clerk

Reviewed By:

Tom Carrino, City Manager