

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
GENERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
316 NE FOURTH STREET, SUITE 2, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
Thursday, January 16, 2020
12:00 PM

BOARD'S COMMUNICATION TO THE CITY COMMISSION

Items Requiring City Commission Action

- None at this time

Items That May Be Of Interest to the City Commission

- None at this time

Items Submitted For City Commission Consideration

- None at this time

Present: Lynn Wenguer, Vice-Chairperson
Jill Prizlee, Secretary
Ron Cameron, Trustee
Marian Dollard, Trustee
Jeri Pryor, Trustee
Paul Tanner, Trustee
Susan Grant, Ex-officio

Absent: Mark Burnam, Trustee

Also Present: Glenn Thomas, Board Attorney (Via Teleconference)
Nick Schiess, Pension Administrator
Jane Dyar, Pension & Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Wenguer called the meeting to order and roll call was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the meeting held December 12, 2019. **Ms. Prizlee made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held December 12, 2019. Mr. Cameron seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

The Board reviewed the consent items. **Ms. Pryor made a motion to approve the consent items as presented. Ms. Dollard seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

BENEFIT REVIEW

RETIREMENTS

Name/Department	Date	Service	Type
POTTS, LAWRENCE Parks & Recreation	1/3/2020	29Y, 3M, 18D	Normal
SHUSTER, MEREDITH Public Works	1/7/2020	16Y, 6M, 0D	Normal
NORALUS, ROLAND Parks & Recreation	1/22/2020	31Y, 7M, 10D	Normal
EATON, RICHARD Sustainable Development	1/3/2020	15Y, 8M, 8D	Normal
EDMUNDS, NORMA Public Works	1/3/2020	30Y, 7M, 20D	Normal
OLIVEIRA, LUIS Public Works	1/26/2020	17Y, 1M, 17D	Normal
SHUSTER, MEREDITH Public Works	1/11/2020	16Y, 6M, 4D	Normal
DALEY, HESLOP Transportation & Mobility	1/26/2020	14Y, 10M, 29D	Normal
FELDMAN, ADAM Sustainable Development	1/2/2020	23Y, 1M, 0D	Normal
RIVERA, ABILMAEL Public Works	2/1/2020	31Y, 0M, 29D	Normal
WELCH, TIMOTHY Public Works	2/1/2020	13Y, 1M, 21D	Commence Vested Deferred
MARSCHKA, GERALD Public Works	2/6/2020	22Y, 3M, 1D	Early

DROP EXITS

Name	Date
STACY, EDWARD	12/10/2019 12/10/2019

POST RETIREMENT DEATH

Name	Date
FINNEY, LOUISE Beneficiary Bolivia Finney	2/1/2020

DROP ENTRIES

Name	Date	Service
ESDELLE, DANE Public Works	2/1/2020	29Y 6M 2D

NEW BUSINESS

The Trustees conducted an annual review of all existing Board policies receiving recommendation from staff for revision of only the Investment Policy Statement. Mr. Schiess reviewed the minor proposed changes to the Investment Policy Statement and suggested deferral until the next meeting when the Investment Consultant would be present. He introduced and discussed provisions of a proposed new Returned Direct Deposit and Advice Policy to manage rejection of mail and direct deposits. Mr. Schiess discussed circumstances wherein it might be necessary to temporarily suspend benefit payments when death, fraud or inability to locate retirees occurs. Mr. Thomas advised that it was acceptable to suspend, but not terminate, benefit payments when

administratively necessary or fraud is suspect. Mr. Schiess introduced and discussed provisions of a proposed new Disbursement Payment Policy to formalize past practice for disbursements including use of the purchasing card. Lengthy discussion of both new policies ensued and the Trustees provided revisions for further consideration at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Schiess provided an update on the previously proposed cost-of-living adjustments, noting that although it was not approved the Board's direction was to retain the matter on the agenda. He advised that the next actuarial valuation should be presented at the March 10, 2020 meeting with evaluation of whether the Plan will again meet the necessary prerequisites to permit cost-of-living adjustments. Ms. Grant was requested for the Finance Department to include a placeholder for funding possible cost-of-living adjustments in the next budget cycle.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

As a follow up to the last meeting, Mr. Thomas provided an update on his research into the basis that the current Board inherited for the provision within the Investment Policy Statement limiting the overall allocation to just 5% for private equity. He reported that a request had been submitted to the State for clarification on provisions within the Statutes.

As a follow up to a prior meeting, Mr. Thomas provided an update on the pending forfeiture of pension benefits for Phillip Peterson. He reminded the Board that Mr. Peterson had requested a deferral of his formal hearing until circumstances allow. Mr. Thomas anticipated the resolution of those circumstances and would correspond with Mr. Peterson regarding scheduling a hearing.

Mr. Thomas provided a legislative update, noting that there was not any pending State legislation that would affect the Plan.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schiess provided a financial report including account and benefit payment reconciliations, fulfilled and pending capital calls, funding status of the alternative investments and miscellaneous organizational changes. He advised that \$3.3 million must be raised to fund the February benefit payments, which the Investment Consultant recommended be raised from the Russell 1000 Growth Index Fund.

As a follow up to the last meeting, Mr. Schiess provided an update on the overpayments to deceased retiree Kevin Day, noting that they were all recovered and no fraud was suspect.

Mr. Schiess reported that the City had recently approved a 1% cost-of-living raise for employees and the past practice of the Board was to grant the same increase for staff. **Ms. Pryor made a motion to approve a 1% cost-of-living raise for Jane Dyar. Ms. Dollard seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Schiess provided an organizational update, noting that the production of documents and reports to the auditor and actuary in conjunction with the fiscal year end had been completed. He also noted that the archiving project had progressed further with a goal of completion before relocation of the pension office in October 2020.

MONTHLY FUND ASSET MIX

Mr. Schiess reviewed the monthly asset allocation report, noting compliance with the exception of a slight overage of the real estate allocation for which a remedy had already been implemented.

PLEASURE OF THE BOARD

There was no pleasure of the Board.

BOARD COMMUNICATION TO THE CITY COMMISSION

There was nothing to communicate to the City Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 PM.