

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**GENERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
316 NE FOURTH STREET, SUITE 2, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
Thursday, January 14, 2021  
12:00 PM

Due to the state of emergency created by COVID-19, the Pension Board did not meet in person and instead the meeting was held electronically. This electronic meeting was made possible through an emergency order and declaration of the Mayor of the City of Fort Lauderdale and in accordance with Sections 252.38(3) and 252.46 Florida Statutes and Section 2-274(c) of the Code Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Special measures were implemented to provide access to the meeting by the public.

**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, Chairperson  
Jill Prizlee, Vice-Chairperson  
Marian Dollard, Secretary  
Jeri Pryor, Trustee  
Mark Burnam, Trustee  
Susan Grant, Ex-officio

Absent: Ron Cameron, Trustee

Also Present: John Herbst, City Auditor  
Linda Logan-Short, City Finance Department  
Glenn Thomas, Board Attorney  
Nick Schiess, Pension Administrator  
Richard Dahab & William Dahab, Dahab Associates  
Jane Dyar, Pension & Recording Secretary  
Other Visitors

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Wenguer called the meeting to order and roll call was taken.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was not any public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the meeting held December 10, 2020. **Ms. Pryor made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held December 10, 2020. Ms. Dollard 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. Ms. Dollard seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

**BENEFIT REVIEW**

**RETIREMENTS**

<b>Name/Department</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Type</b>
DELMAN, RICHARD Police & Fire	1/1/2021	14 Y, 6 M, 26D	Commence Vested Deferred
ELIODOR, WISLY Parks & Recreation	2/1/2021	32 Y, 0 M, 15 D	Normal
DEW, DEBORA Public Works	2/1/2021	21 Y, 0 M, 8 D	Normal
SANGUINETTI, MICHAEL Sustainable Development	1/21/2021	24 Y, 5 M, 9 D	Normal

**DROP EXITS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
FORTIER, ROBERT	1/31/2021

**DROP ENTRIES**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>
CRAWFORD, JAMES Public Works	2/28/2021	24Y 0M 16D

**INVESTMENT CONSULTANT REPORT**

Mr. Dahab provided a preliminary investment performance report for the quarter ending December 31, 2020. He reported that the investment return for the quarter was a remarkable 10.8%. Mr. Dahab reviewed the performance of the individual investment products in great detail, noting nearly all were satisfactory. He reported that the return of the DePrince Race and Zollo large cap value portfolio was 24.1% versus 16.3% for their index, which had eliminated the margin of underperformance that was of previous concern to the Board.

Mr. Dahab provided and reviewed in great detail the results of a domestic large cap value equity manager search and ultimately recommended no changes to the current investment managers for this allocation. Mr. Dahab provided and reviewed in great detail the results of large cap growth equity manager search. He recommended that, in lieu of outright replacement, the portfolio managed by Sawgrass Asset Management should be used as a source for funding benefit payment obligations of approximately \$3.4M monthly, which would provide additional time for improvement of relative performance or eventually eliminate the portfolio altogether. Mr. Burnam objected, noting that the relative performance of investment managers and even asset

allocations had historically demonstrated to be cyclical in nature and that even greater value can be achieved by instead increasing allocations during their downturns in order to take greater advantage of their upturns.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

As a follow up to the last meeting, Mr. Thomas provided an update on scheduling a pension forfeiture hearing for Phillip Peterson. Mr. Thomas noted that he was finally successful in acquiring Mr. Peterson's address and would therefore contact him regarding his prior request for the hearing.

### **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.

Mr. Schiess noted that \$3.4M must be raised to fund benefit payment obligations for February 2021, which the investment consultant recommended raising from the Sawgrass Asset Management portfolio. Mr. Burnam expressed dissatisfaction with the proposed strategy to draw down the manager's portfolio, noting that the manager's investment process remained intact but more importantly all managers' relative performance should be evaluated over a longer term as they are all subject to performance swings within any given market cycle. A very lengthy discussion ensued and ultimately **Ms. Pryor made a motion to raise \$3.4M from the Sawgrass Asset Management portfolio to fund the payment obligations for February 2021. Ms. Wenguer seconded the motion, which was approved 4 to 1 with Mr. Burnam dissenting.**

Mr. Schiess provided an update on the document archival project, noting that the expected date to finalize the process should be around the date of the office relocation.

Mr. Schiess reported that the customary reporting and documents were being prepared for the auditor and actuary and their respective reports are on schedule.

Mr. Schiess announced that the City will discontinue issuance of monthly retiree benefit payments with a target date of mid-year 2021. He discussed alternative parties capable of issuing the payments and reviewed the scope of the engagement. Mr. Schiess proposed obtaining proposals from the current custodian, Comerica Bank, as well as dedicated outside payment entities and the Board agreed by consensus.

Mr. Schiess discussed the results of a recent staff review of Jane Dyar, which was considered satisfactory and as such warranted a 1.5% pay increase. **Ms. Pryor made a motion to approve a retroactive pay raise of 1.5% for Ms. Dyar. Mr. Burnam seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Schiess provided an update on the extended opening of the City appointed Trustee position vacated by Paul Tanner.

#### **MONTHLY FUND ASSET MIX**

Mr. Schiess reviewed the monthly fund asset mix, noting that all asset allocations were in compliance.

#### **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 1:24 PM.