

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
GENERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**
401 NE FOURTH STREET, SUITE 201, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
Thursday, February 9, 2023
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, Chairperson
Jill Prizlee, Vice-Chairperson
Marian Dollard, Secretary
Mark Burnam, Trustee
Jeri Pryor, Trustee
Bob McComsey, Trustee
Pam Harrell, Ex-officio Designee

Absent: Douglas Meade, Trustee

Also Present: Richard Dahab, Dahab & Associates
Glenn Thomas, Board Attorney (via teleconference)
Nick Schiess, Pension Administrator
Anne-Marie Lacroix-Vega, Pension Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Wenguer called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was not any public comment.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OFFICERS

Mr. Schiess noted the requirement of electing Board officers for the 2023 calendar year pursuant to City Ordinance. **Ms. Pryor nominated Ms. Wenguer as Chairperson of the Board, Ms. Prizlee as Vice-Chairperson, and Ms. Dollard as Secretary. Mr. Burnam seconded the nomination, which was approved unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the meeting held January 12, 2023, and several changes were noted. **Mr. Burnam made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held January 12, 2023 as amended. Ms. Dollard seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

BENEFIT REVIEW

RETIREMENT

Name	Date	Service	Type
YOUTE, ANTOINE Parks & Recreation	3/1/2023	25 Y, 9 M, 25D	Normal
ALBINO, RAFAEL Public Works	3/1/2023	28 Y, 1 M, 1D	Normal
GREEN, CATHY Public Works	3/1/2023	16 Y, 2 M, 3D	Normal
MOORE, FRANKIE Public Works	2/11/2023	17 Y, 4 M, 23D	Normal
FREUND, BRUCE Finance	2/26/2023	20 Y, 1 M, 10D	Normal

SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS

Name	Date
VONACHEN, SUSAN Spouse of GEORGE VONACHEN	2/1/2023
GARRARD, PAUL Spouse of KAREN GARRARD	2/1/2023
GARRARD, TYLER Son of KAREN GARRARD	2/1/2023
BRACEY, ANNAMARIE Spouse of ROY BRACEY	2/1/2023

INVESTMENT CONSULTANT REPORT: DAHAB ASSOCIATES

Mr. Dahab provided the Board with a report on the investment portfolio for the calendar year ending December 31, 2022. He reported that net investment return for the last quarter was 5.6% versus 5.6% for the composite target index. The net calendar year investment return was -11.9% versus -12.9% for the composite target index, which ranked in the top 23rd percentile of the public pension fund universe.

Mr. Dahab discussed market and geopolitical factors in great detail that attributed to the investment losses over the calendar year, primarily inflation and the invasion of Ukraine. He then discussed the factors that attributed the significant return for the quarter, primarily the tapering of inflation

and considerable returns in the international and emerging markets. Mr. Dahab attributed these returns to the softening of the U.S. Dollar.

Mr. Dahab reviewed the performance of the individual investment products in great detail, noting all was mostly satisfactory long-term. He concluded his report with a review of the asset allocation, noting all was satisfactory. Mr. Dahab reported that for domestic equities the value style had greatly outperformed growth style.

Mr. Dahab recommended raising any required cash equally from value managers DePrince Race & Zollo, Earnest Partners and Wedge Capital Management.

NEW BUSINESS

The Trustees conducted an annual review of all existing Board policies without any recommendations for revision from staff. Mr. Schiess noted that the Investment Policy Statement would require minor revision in the event that agriculture investments were added.

Mr. Schiess presented a draft of the revised Summary Plan Description for the Board's consideration, noting that the final draft was contingent upon a few exhibits from the next actuarial valuation.

OLD BUSINESS

There was not any old business to consider.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Thomas reviewed recently passed Federal legislation that affects the pension plan, noting that a plan amendment would be required before the year 2027 when the provisions become effective.

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, monthly fund asset mix and miscellaneous organizational changes.

Mr. Schiess provided another progress report on the internet service for the pension office noting that it had finally been installed and the office was again functional in all respects.

Mr. Schiess reported that work had progressed on the annual audit and actuarial valuation.

Mr. Schiess provided an update on the application for service related disability benefits from Jennifer Lowell. He explained that the physician performing her independent medical exam had requested records from her treating physicians but many had failed to respond despite many numerous requests. Mr. Schiess had reported that he had physically drove to and called upon the physicians with the outstanding records in order to achieve some progress in this matter. He reported that he had gathered additional records but many of the physicians had retired or were

otherwise unreachable. Mr. Schiess advised that scheduling the independent medical exam was close. He relayed Ms. Lowell's request for the Board to reimburse her and a travelling companion for travel expenses to return to Florida for the exam, which the Board did not approve.

PLEASURE OF THE BOARD

Mr. McComsey provided comment on the consideration of agriculture as an alternative asset class. He suggested the consideration of dedicated energy related investment products as another alternative asset class. He noted that the demand for energy should remain strong and recommended consideration of dedicated energy investment such as an energy ETF. The Board assigned Mr. Dahab to research dedicated energy products including ETFs.

BOARD COMMUNICATION TO THE CITY COMMISSION

There was nothing to communicate to the City Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM.