Minutes of the meeting held on January 3, 2023

Present: Francis Murphy – Chair, Michael Gardner, John Shinkwin, Joseph McCann, Ellen Philbin, James Quirk, and Chris Burns.

Arrived Late: Nadia Chamblin-Foster (Not present for agenda items #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.)

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM. The meeting was digitally recorded. This was a hybrid meeting, held in-person in the Sheila Tobin Conference Room at 125 CambridgePark Drive, with some participants joining via Webex videoconference.

Agenda Item #1 – Minutes

Motion by McCann, seconded by Shinkwin to accept the minutes of the investment review meeting held on December 1, 2022. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote, with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Motion by Shinkwin, seconded by Gardner to accept the regular minutes of the meeting held on December 5, 2022.

Motion by Gardner, seconded by McCann to accept the executive session minutes of the meeting held on December 5, 2022. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Agenda Item #2 - Warrants

Motion by Gardner, seconded by McCann to accept payment of Warrant #24 in the amount of \$8,893,252.74 and Warrant #1 in the amount of \$183,151.64. Gardner asked that Segal discuss the cash flow needs for the system at the next investment review meeting. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Agenda Item #3 – Superannuations

Motion by Gardner, seconded by McCann to accept the Superannuation retirement applications submitted by Thomas Ahern, Lieutenant, Police Dept. with twenty-nine years, eight months; Janet Borron, Staff Librarian with ten years, one month; Stephen Boyle, Lieutenant, Fire Dept. with thirty-five years, six months; Michelle Caldon, Supervisor of Micrographics, Traffic & Parking Dept. with twelve years, five months; Janeth Izquierdo, Financial Assistant, Cambridge Health Alliance with twenty-seven years, one month; Hercot Miller, Patrol Officer, Police Dept. with thirty-five years, eight months; Ranjit Singanayagam, Commissioner, Inspectional Services Dept. with thirty-nine years, five months; Robert Steck, Supervising Landscape Architect, Community Development Dept. with thirty-seven years, five months; Jeffrey Turner, Firefighter with thirty-seven years, three months; Maureen Van Stry, Paraprofessional, School Dept. with thirty-one years, three months. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Agenda Item #4 - Make-ups/Redeposits/Liability

The Board reviewed make-up and redeposit worksheets for three members.

Motion by Shinkwin, seconded by McCann to allow the make-up of deductions for Karen A. Raso, 7 months, accepting liability from Wakefield. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Motion by McCann, seconded by Shinkwin allow the redeposit of refunds for Evan C. Bjorkfund, 4 months and Tamine L. Son, 4 years, 2 months. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Agenda Item #5 – Refund Applications

The Board reviewed a list of refund applications submitted in December.

Motion by Gardner, seconded by Shinkwin to accept six refund applications. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Agenda Item #6 – Survivor Benefit – Steven Lopez

The Board reviewed an application for survivor benefits and Steven Lopez' death certificate. Attorney Quirk stated that the application appeared to be in order. He worked as an Apparatus Repairman in the Fire Dept. with twenty-six years of service.

Motion by Gardner, seconded by Shinkwin to grant survivor benefits pursuant to Section 12-2-d to Marcia Lopez, surviving spouse of Steven Lopez. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

The Chairman requested to adjourn the open meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of discussing disability retirement applications. The Chairman stated that the meeting would reconvene in open session the conclusion of the executive session. On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

John Shinkwin: YES
Michael Gardner: YES
Joseph McCann: YES
Francis Murphy: YES
Nadia Chamblin-Foster: ABSENT

Agenda Item #7 – Accidental Death Benefit – Dominic Musto

The Board reviewed Mr. Musto's death certificate, correspondence from his treating physician and the certificate and narrative report of his 1976 medical panel.

Motion by Gardner, seconded by Shinkwin to grant Accidental Death benefits to Dina Musto, surviving spouse of Dominic Musto, a retired Firefighter. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Agenda Item #8 – Administrative Budget

The Board reviewed a draft budget for calendar year 2023.

The Director noted that the rent and utilities expenses have increased significantly, as the system is now under a new lease for the 125 CambridgePark Drive Space. The system had still been paying the rate for the 100 CPD space until that lease expired. The Director stated that she increased the budget for investment management fees from \$10 million to \$11 million, although this is highly dependent on investment returns. The budget also includes the cost of conducting an election in 2023. Gardner asked what effort the office had made to consider less expensive options for office space. The Director noted that the current rent is less expensive than the Kendall Square area, and at the time the office was reviewing different locations, there was very little available in Central Square. She also noted that the system negotiated to have the office build-out cost paid by the landlord. The present lease runs for another nine years. Gardner requested that the Director report on the annual rate of increase for the lease payments at the next meeting. The budget for legal expenses was also increased as the Director stated that she anticipated more RFPs being issued and more legal costs for drafting contracts. The Director noted that the increase in the staff compensation amount assumes a 1% COLA effective January 1, 2023 and a 2.5% COLA effective July 1, 2023. These are the amounts the City will grant to all non-union employees.

Shinkwin moved to adopt the administrative budget in the amount of \$13,098,530.00. McCann seconded the motion. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote with Chamblin-Foster absent.

Agenda Item #9 – PERAC Memos

The Board reviewed PERAC Memos #31, 32, 33, and 34. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #10 - Old Business

Quirk reported that Pension Technology Group and hrMecca have settled their lawsuit and the case has been dismissed with prejudice. The Director reported that she has not received any notification from PTG about the case. Gardner requested that she contact PTG to ask for a statement from them on the matter.

The Director stated that she had requested that Kathy Riley provide information on the cost of adopting a 5% COLA payment for 2022. The Director stated that the matter should be ready for consideration at the February meeting.

Quirk reported that the House passed a home-rule bill granting Group 2 status to Emergency Communications Dispatchers in Belmont. He stated he was not sure when or if the Senate would act.

Agenda Item #11 - New Business Not needed.

Agenda Item #12 – Executive Session Agenda Item #7 – adopted

Agenda Item #13 - Chairman's Report None offered.

Agenda Item #14 – Executive Director's Report

The Director stated the final direct deposit statements for 2022 were mailed, as well as a calendar showing 2023 payment dates. The staff is working on year-end matters. 1099R forms will be issued by the end of January.

Quirk noted that an appeal was filed in the Hartnett case. The case could have a significant impact on the ability for the legislature to make changes which might have any negative impact on an existing employee's pension. Quirk stated that antispiking provisions might be one area that would be affected.

The following documents were also reviewed by the Board:

- Notice of Retiree Deaths
- PERAC Pension News December 2022
- Notice of Appeal Eduardo Santana
- Correspondence from Attorney Quirk re: Paul Mahan vs. Boston Retirement Board
- Correspondence from Attorney Quirk re: Notice Requirement, 840 CMR 18:00
- Correspondence from Attorney Quirk re: hrMecca, Inc. vs. Pension Technology Group

McCann moved to adjourn at 12:00 PM.