

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF LOUISIANA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

The Board of Trustees of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana met in regular session on Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 3:30 P.M. at the New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 in the Galerie 2 meeting room.

PRESENT:

Mayor Clarence Fields, Chairman
Mr. Mike Sands, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ronnie Harris, Trustee
Ms. Mary O. Vice, Trustee
Ms. Andrea Mahfouz, Trustee
Ms. Claire Sarradet, Trustee
Mayor Carroll Breaux, Trustee
Marsha Guedry, Division of Administration
John Broussard, State Treasurer's Office

UNABLE TO ATTEND:

Representative J. Kevin Pearson, Chairman,
House Retirement Committee
Senator Elbert Guillory, Chairman,
Senate Retirement Committee

IN ATTENDANCE:

Warren Ponder, Acting Director
Susita Suire, Retirement Benefits Administrator
Nancy LaGarde, Chief Financial Officer
Greg Curran, G.S. Curran Actuary
Gustavo Bikkesbakker, Investment Consultant

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Chairman asked Ms. Vice to open the meeting with a prayer and Mr. Harris to lead everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

The Chairman asked Ms. Suire to call roll. A quorum was present.

The Chairman asked for approval of the minutes of the meeting held on August 20, 2015.

Mr. Harris moved that the minutes of the meeting held on August 20, 2015 be approved; the motion was seconded by Ms. Vice. The motion carried without objection or opposition. A copy of these minutes are attached and made a part of these minutes.

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The Chairman asked for approval of the Plan A and Plan B retirements (a list was provided to the Board Members).

Ms. Sarradet moved that the Plan A and Plan B retirements be approved; the motion was seconded by Ms. Mahfouz. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

The Chairman asked for approval of reduction in benefits (a list was provided to the Board Members).

Ms. Sarradet moved that the reduction in benefits be approved; the motion was seconded by Mr. Harris. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Mr. Ponder will review the statutes in reference to the Board approving the monthly reduction in benefits.

After a brief discussion and upon the recommendation of Meketa and Mr. Ponder, Ms. Sarradet moved to relinquish MERS' seat on the CSFC Management Committee and to authorize MERS to accept the final fee for the committee seat in the amount of \$56,099; the motion was seconded by Ms. Vice. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Gustavo Bikkesbakker presented the Board with a copy of the Preliminary Performance Report for the month of August 2015. The performance of the portfolio as of August 31, 2015 was down -3.1%. Domestic equities were down -5.4% and the international equities were down -6.7%. Fixed income was down -1.2% and hedge funds were down -0.7%. A copy of this report is attached and made part of these minutes.

Gustavo Bikkesbakker gave the Board an update on the volatility during the month of August 2015.

Mr. Harris moved to accept Meketa's report; the motion was seconded by Mayor Breaux. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Ms. LaGarde presented a budget report through August 31, 2015 detailing the amount budgeted and the balance year to date. She also presented a report on the amount spent to date on the new building addition.

Mayor Breaux moved to approve the budget report through August 31, 2015 as presented; the motion was seconded by Ms. Vice. The motion carried without objection or opposition. A copy of this budget report is attached and made part of these minutes.

Ms. LaGarde updated the Board that the IRS Qualification letter has been received.

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Ms. Vice moved to adopt the MERS Credit Card Policy as presented; the motion was seconded by Ms. Mahfouz. The motion carried without objection or opposition. A copy of this policy is attached and made part of these minutes.

Ms. Sarradet moved to set the premium on health insurance for new hires at 25% paid by the employee and 75% paid by MERS for a single coverage policy; the employee will pay 50% of the premium and MERS will pay the other 50% for dependent coverage; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sands. The motion passed with Mr. Harris voting no.

The Board asked that Ms. Suire compare what is being paid for insurance premiums now and what the cost to the system would be if the change affected all employees.

Ms. Sarradet moved that Mr. Ponder be offered health insurance to be paid 100% by MERS. He was not offered health insurance on his date of hire; the motion was seconded by Ms. Vice. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Mr. Harris moved to approve the new MERS letterhead until another design can be created; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sands. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Mr. Harris moved to accept the proposed process to hire a Chief Investment Officer including the ad, and amend the qualifications for a CFA and/or MBA to be preferred instead of required, but put the timeline on hold pending other matters; the motion was seconded by Ms. Mahfouz. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Ms. Sarradet moved to waive the late fees for the City of Mandeville and the City of Westwego provided they begin sending monthly payments by ACH; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sands. The motion passed with Mr. Harris voting no.

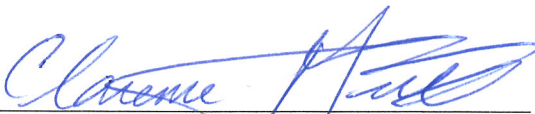
Mr. Ponder gave the Board an update on the City of Independence. The staff has met with the MPERS' staff and their attorney concerning funds due both systems by the City of Independence. Mr. Ponder will report to the Board with status updates.

Mr. Ponder gave the Board an update on the building progress.

Mr. Harris stated that it is time to send another memo to the municipalities with reminders as to what responsibilities the municipalities have concerning the retirement system.

Mr. Harris moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Ms. Vice. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

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APPROVED



ATTEST