MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF LOUISIANA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES — FEBRUARY 13, 2020

The Board of Trustees of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana met in regular session on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. at the Municipal Employees' Retirement System, 7937 Office Park Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

PRESENT:

Mayor Donald Villere, Chairman
Ms. Susan Percle, Vice Chairman
Mr. Mike Sands, Trustee
Mayor Raymond Harris, Trustee
Ms. Phyllis McGraw, Trustee
Mayor Greg Jones, Trustee
Mr. Donald Clause, Trustee
Mr. Phillip Qualls, State Treasurer's Office
Ms. Desiree Honore' Thomas, Commissioner of Administration Office

UNABLE TO ATTEND:

Representative from the House Retirement Committee
Senator Edward J. Price, Chairman,
Senate Retirement Committee

IN ATTENDANCE:

Warren Ponder, Executive Director
Susita Suire, Retirement Benefits Administrator
Christopher Saik, Chief Investment Officer
Nancy LaGarde, Chief Financial Officer
Gustavo Bikkesbakker, Investment Consultant
Aaron Lally, Investment Consultant
Greg Curran, G.S. Curran, Actuary
Tyler Bosworth, House Retirement Committee
Nicole Edmonson, LA Legislative Auditor's Office

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Chairman asked Ms. McGraw to open the meeting with a prayer.

The Chairman led 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 January 16, 2020.

Mayor Jones moved that the minutes of the meeting held on January 16, 2020 be approved; the motion was seconded by Ms. Honore' Thomas. The motion carried without objection or opposition. A copy is attached and made a part of these minutes.

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

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

Mr. Saik presented the investment cash flow report as of January 31, 2020.

Mr. Saik presented the ACT 1004 Comparison as of December 31, 2019.

Mr. Clause moved to accept the investment cash flow report as of January 31, 2020, and the ACT 1004 Comparison as of December 31, 2019; the motion was seconded by Mayor Harris. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Mr. Bikkesbakker and Mr. Lally presented the Board with the preliminary performance report for the month of January 31, 2020. A copy of this report is attached and made part of these minutes.

Mr. Bikkesbakker and Mr. Lally presented to the Board an Asset Allocation Study. After discussing the study, the Board made no changes to the current allocation.

Mr. Clause moved to invest $5MM in the Northern Trust S & P 500 Fund from cash; the motion was seconded by Ms. Percle. The motion carried without objection or opposition.

Mr. Lally gave the Board a brief overview of the First Eagle Investment Fund.

Claire Miller Hare gave the Board an update on the First Eagle Investment Management Fund with education.

Ms. LaGarde presented the budget ending January 31, 2020.

Ms. McGraw moved to approve the budget ending January 31, 2020; the motion was seconded by Mayor Jones. The motion carried without objection or opposition. A copy of this report is attached and made part of these minutes.

Ms. LaGarde updated the Board on the GASB 68 report.

Ms. Suire updated the Board on the LMA Mid-Winter Conference, City of Covington, Town of Arcadia, and the City of Kenner.

After a lengthy discussion Mr. Sands moved to adopt an increase in the employee rate to 10% and an increase in the employer rate to 29.50% for Plan A without using any funds from the "Funding Deposit Account" to become effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; the motion was seconded by Ms. McGraw. The Chairman asked for a roll call vote. Mayor Villere, Ms. Percle, Mr. Sands, Ms. McGraw, Ms. Honore' Thomas, and Mr. Qualls voted yes. Mayor Harris, Mr. Clause, and Mayor Jones voted no. The motion carried.

Mr. Sands moved to adopt no change to the employee rate of 5% and an increase in the employer rate to 15.50% for Plan B without using any funds from the "Funding Deposit Account" to become effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; the motion was seconded by Mayor Jones. The Chairman asked for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ponder updated the Board on Senate Bill 1, Senate Bill 5, Senate Bill 6, Senate Bill 7, House Bill 15, House Bill 19, and House Bill 20.

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

APPROVED

ATTEST