



CT TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BOARD

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DRAFT MINUTES

November 2, 2016

2:00 p.m.

The meeting of the Teachers' Retirement Board was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairperson Clare Barnett on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 765 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Clare Barnett, Teacher Member
Bill Myers, Teacher Member
Jonathan Johnson, Public Member
Maureen Honan, Teacher Member
Charles Higgins, Public Member
Deborah Spalding, Office of the State Treasurer
Gregory Messner, Office of Policy and Management

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Al Bredehorst, Teacher Member
Elaine Lowengard, Public Member
Clifford Silvers, Public Member
Lisa Mosey, Teacher Member
Rosalyn Schoonmaker, Teacher Member
Kathy Demsey, State Department of Education

STAFF PRESENT:

Darlene Perez, Administrator
Shantelle Varrs, Fiscal Administrative Manager
Charlene Hill, Assistant to the Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Robyn Kaplan-Cho, CEA
Karen Nolen, OPM
John Garrett, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC
Eric Gary, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC
Joseph Centofanti, CohnReznick, LLP
Jamie Stirling, Stirling Benefits
Christina Gellman, OFA
June Pinkin, HFT-R
Walt Ciplinski, Retired Teacher
Rick Follman, ARTC

Open meeting: Chairperson, Clare Barnett

1. Agency Report:

TRB 100th Anniversary:

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Teachers' Retirement Board, Darlene Perez advised that there will be cake at the conclusion of the June, 2017 board meeting.

Regional Meetings:

Darlene Perez and Joe Fields have participated in a number of regional meetings primarily having to do with informing business managers and retired teachers what the post-retirement reemployment rules are due to the new laws that were passed making changes to the provisions for post-retirement reemployment. Some of the information provided at the sessions included membership rules, who qualifies, how to report the reemployment to TRB and obligations for health insurance.

TRB Training Sessions:

There have been several internal training sessions led by our IT and Fiscal staff for the people employed by Board of Educations who transmit information to us electronically on behalf of active teachers.

2. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Valuation:

Eric Gary, Actuary from Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC provided a presentation on the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) valuation report which included but was not limited to GASB 74 and GASB 75, general observations, valuation results and cost of retiree health benefits.

A motion was made by Bill Myers and seconded by Greg Messner to approve the OPEB valuation report. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

3. Pension Valuation Report:

John Garrett, Actuary from Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC provided a presentation of the actuarial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the system as of June 30, 2016; which included but was not limited to general observations, historical membership data, contribution rates and valuation results.

A motion was made by Bill Myers and seconded by Maureen Honan to approve the pension valuation report pending updated market values to reflect GASB 72. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

Chairperson Clare Barnett, advised that discussions regarding further reducing the discount interest rate will continue and reiterated the importance of adhering to the Bond Covenant.

4. GASB 68 Report.

Joseph Centofanti provided a presentation on the GASB 68 report in regards to the schedule of employer allocations and schedule of pension amounts by TRB.

A motion was made by Bill Myers and seconded by Deborah Spalding to approve the GASB 68 Report. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

5. Approval of the October 5, 2016 Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Bill Myers and seconded by Charles Higgins to approve the October 5, 2016 meeting minutes. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

6. Consideration and Approval of the Administrator's actions regarding:

- a. Granting of service retirement benefits for the month of October, 2016.
- b. Survivor benefits for the month of October, 2016.
- c. Reports & recommendations of the Medical Review Committee regarding applications for Disability Payments as presented to the Medical Review Committee at the October, 2016 meetings.

A motion was made by Bill Myers and seconded by Maureen Honan to approve the granting of service retirement, survivor benefits and applications for a disability allowance for the month of October, 2016. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

7. 2017 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA):

A motion was made by Bill Myers and seconded Maureen Honan to approve the 3% COLA increase for pre September, 1992 members and 0.3% for post September, 1992 members. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

MATTERS FOR THE BOARD INFORMATION:

Retirement Statistics for the month of October, 2016.

COMMENTS FROM OBSERVERS:

June Pinkin asked, what is the percentage of members who retired prior to September 1992? Darlene Perez advised there's approximately 4,000 pre-1992 members (approximately 11%).

June Pinkin asked for clarification regarding the withholding of health insurance subsidy for reemployed retirees. Darlene Perez responded that the thought by the Appropriations committee was that health insurance should be offered to reemployed retirees by their employers and therefore the State should not also be providing a subsidy for the insurance. This legislation is expected to be revisited.

Rick Follman asked about the timeframe that Joe Fields, TRB Health Consultant would be reporting information regarding the Health Fund account. Clare Barnett advised that Darlene Perez would inform the Board when Joe has completed his research and had information to present to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:28 p.m.