



CT TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BOARD

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MINUTES

June 22, 2016

2:00 pm

The meeting of the Teachers' Retirement Board was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chairperson Clare Barnett on Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 765 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Clare Barnett, Teacher Member
Bill Myers, Teacher Member
Al Bredehorst, Teacher Member
Jonathan Johnson, Public Member
Maureen Honan, Teacher Member
Deborah Spalding, Office of the State Treasurer
Lisa Mosey, Teacher Member
Clifford Silvers, Public Member
Rosalyn Schoonmaker, Teacher Member
Charles Higgins, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Gregory Messner, Office of Policy and Management
Kathy Demsey, State Department of Education
Elaine Lowengard, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Robyn Kaplan-Cho, CEA
Karen Nolen, OPM
Dr. Joe Fields, TRB Health Insurance Consultant
James Stirling, Stirling Benefits
Scott Reed, Reed Financial
Tom Danehy, CAPSS
Christina Gellman, OFA
Walt Ciplinksi, Retired Teacher
Rick Follman, ARTC
Tom Singleton, ARTC

Open meeting –Chairperson, Clare Barnett

1. Interest to be credited to members' accounts:

Clare Barnett explained that Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, Actuary, determine as part of their annual services, the interest rate used to credit mandatory and voluntary contribution accounts at the end of each fiscal year. The mandatory interest rate is determined using the established 10-year smoothing method and the unrecognized amounts determined in prior years. The market-based rate of return is used for crediting interest to voluntary contribution balances is determined as a step along the way of the 10-year smoothed rate of return calculation balances.

The interest rate of return for the mandatory contributions: 5.00%

The interest rate of return for the voluntary contributions: -0.45%

A motion was made by Rosalyn Schoonmaker and seconded by Bill Myers to approve the proposed interest rates to be credited to members' accounts on June 30, 2016. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

2. Audit Committee Update Report:

Bill Myers informed the Board that the audit committee met prior to the Board meeting. The committee discussed monthly reports and some personnel changes the agency is going through in the Fiscal division due to the State budget cuts. Bill also advised the Board that the performance audit by the Auditors of Public Accounts is complete and a report is expected next month.

A motion was made by Rosalyn Schoonmaker and seconded by Charles Higgins to accept the Audit Committee update report. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

3. Approval of the May 25, 2016 Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Maureen Honan and seconded by Lisa Mosey to approve the May 25, 2016 meeting minutes. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

4. Consideration and Approval of the Administrator's Actions regarding:

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

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 May, 2016. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

5. Consideration and Approval to:

Transfer members' accounts deemed abandoned following twenty-five years of inactivity to the Pension Reserve Account, in accordance with Section 10-183ee of the Connecticut General Statutes.

A motion was made by Maureen Honan and seconded by Al Bredehorst to transfer members' accounts deemed abandoned to the Pension Reserve Account. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

6. Consideration and Approval of:

The Resolution renewing the Board's authorization for the Administrator (Darlene Perez) and Fiscal Administrative Manager (Shantelle Varrs) to execute the contracts and warrants for the payment of benefits and otherwise to conduct the business of the Board.

A motion was made by Rosalyn Schoonmaker and seconded by Al Bredehorst to renew the Authorization Resolution. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

7. Consideration and Approval of:

The Resolution renewal regarding the Medical Review Committee.

A motion was made by Lisa Mosey and seconded by Rosalyn Schoonmaker to renew the Medical Review Committee Resolution. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

8. Consideration and Approval of:

The July, 2016 COLA increase of 3% for those who retired prior to September, 1992. The Social Security Administration announced there will be no COLA increase for 2016, therefore the post 1992 retirees will not receive a COLA increase for July, 2016.

A motion was made by Bill Myers and seconded by Al Bredehorst to approve the COLA granted for July, 2016. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

9. Consideration and Approval of:

Post Retirement Reemployment Break in Service Policy. Clare Barnett discussed the break in service requirement for certain reemployed retirees and confirmed that the Teachers' Retirement Board will comply with Internal Revenue Code with respect to the commencement of pensions while employed.

A motion was made by Maureen Honan and seconded by Al Bredehorst to approve the Post Retirement Reemployment Break in Service Policy. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

MATTERS FOR THE BOARD INFORMATION:

Retirement Statistics for the month of May, 2016.

COMMENTS FROM OBSERVERS:

ADJOURNMENT – 2:24 PM