



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE BOARD OF PENSION TRUSTEES
AND
OFFICE OF PENSIONS
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BOARD OF PENSION TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Pension Trustees was called to order by Suzanne Grant, Chair, at 3:34 p.m. via videoconferencing.

Trustees Present

Suzanne Grant
Art Agra
Harold Stafford
Nancy Shevock
Rick Geisenberger
Cerron Cade

Trustees Absent

Tom Shaw

Others Present

Joanna Adams, Pension Administrator
Jodie Wedel, Deputy Pension Administrator
Ryan Connell, Deputy Attorney General
Ann Marie Johnson, Deputy Attorney General
Jamie Mayan, Pension Office
Josh Hitchens, Pension Office
Khairat Makanjuola, Pension Office
Stephenie Tatman, Pension Office
Cindy Starr, Pension Office
Mary Wood, Pension Office
Rob Gooderham, Windmark
Garry Musto, Windmark
Drew Dinger, Windmark
Danny Zito, Windmark
Bert Scoglietti, Deputy Controller General

Seth Yablonovitz , Windmark
Pat Paoli, Windmark
Dan Barner, Windmark
Amy Cole, Pension Office
Antonia Kramer, Pension Office
Jennifer Dilworth, Pension Office
Dale Stratton, Investment Committee
Jeffrey Gundlach, DoubleLine Capital
Christine Clanton, DoubleLine Capital
Fred Schachinger, DoubleLine Capital
Kevin Balaod, Journalist

1. OPENING COMMENTS

S. Grant welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Jodie Wedel for her service.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Trustees reviewed the Public Minutes of the November 19, 2021 meeting.

MOTION made by A. Agra and seconded by N. Shevock to approve the Public Minutes of the November 19, 2021 Board of Pension Trustees' meeting with changes as noted.

MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

The Trustees reviewed the Executive Minutes of the November 19, 2021 meeting.

MOTION made by N. Shevock and seconded by H. Stafford to approve the Executive Minutes of the November 19, 2021 Board of Pension Trustees' meeting with changes as noted.

MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

3. AUDIT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Next meeting February 4th.

4. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Next meeting is February 9th.

5. PENSION ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Next meeting January 12th.

6. PENSION ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Employee Recognition

Ms. Adams recognized Jodie Wedel and Christy Ulmer who are retiring. Christy used to support the Board as the former Office Manager and has worked her way up to retire as a supervisor. December is a busy month. December check write is processed a week early which puts short time frames on payroll and pension calculation section's deadlines.

Positions

Ms. Adams reported we are currently conducting second interviews for the Administrative Specialist II. The Sr. Human Resources Technician reclass has gone to the Department of Human Resources. The Human Resources Specialist V Limited Term request to fill has been submitted. The Executive Assistant is still with the Department of Human Resources.

Office Activities

Ms. Adams reported there are five classes scheduled for January Payroll training, Pension application training and Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association training.

Reporting Schedule

Ms. Adams stated that the 2022 meeting dates have been updated.

7. DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL UPDATE

Nothing to report

8. INVESTMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Gooderham reported that global equity markets retreated in November as concerns over elevated inflationary pressures and the emergence of the omicron COVID-19 variant more than offset positive corporate earnings results. Commentary from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell indicating the central bank may consider a faster tapering of asset purchases also weighed on sentiment. The broad US equity market, as measured by the Russell 3000 index, fell 1.5%. Within US equities, growth stocks outperformed value stocks and large cap outpaced small cap. International equity markets experienced steeper declines as the MSCI EAFE index fell 4.7% and the MSCI Emerging Markets index declined 4.1%. In fixed income markets, yields moved lower (prices rose) and credit spreads widened, resulting in a modest 0.1% return for the Bloomberg Universal bond index, while the more credit-sensitive Bloomberg High Yield index fell 1.0%.

Mr. Gooderham reported that DPERS Fund assets at Northern Trust are estimated to be \$15,503.5 million at November 30, 2021, representing a net increase of \$156.3 million during the month. Estimated returns through November 30, 2021 are as follows:

	Month Ended 11-30-21	Fiscal YTD 11-30-2021	Calendar YTD 11-30-21	1 Year Ended 11-30-21
Total Fund	1.3	7.0	23.5	26.6
DPERS Policy Benchmark**	-1.8	1.2	9.9	13.5
S&P 500 Index	-0.7	6.9	23.2	27.9

- ** Benchmark mix: 46% Russell 3000 Index, 24% MSCI ACWI ex US IMI (Net), 27.0% BB Universal Bond Index, 3% T-bills
12/01/20 – 02/28/21: 43% Russell 3000 Index, 23% MSCI ACWI ex US IMI (Net), 31.0% BB Universal Bond Index, 3% T-bills

Mr. Gooderham reported that the Committee had met earlier that day to review and discuss:

- A presentation by T. Rowe Price on their Global Growth Equity Strategy
- A presentation on Blockchain and Digital Assets: Risks and Opportunities

The Committee had approved under its authority an amendment to the Limited Partnership Agreement for Summit Subordinated Debt Fund IV, L.P., subject to legal review.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25th, 2022.

MOTION made by A. Agra and seconded by H. Stafford to enter into Executive Session to consider pension personnel matters, confidential medical records, legal matters, sensitive commercial trade secrets and confidential financial information.

MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board then moved into Executive Session to discuss pending personnel matters, confidential medical records, legal matters, sensitive commercial information, proprietary business information, trade secrets and confidential financial information.

MOTION made by N. Shevock and seconded by H. Stafford to exit Executive Session.

MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION made by R. Geisenberger and seconded by H. Stafford to adopt the report and recommendation of the panel to deny the appeal of Nichols Mirro.

9. NEW BUSINESS


There was no new business.

10. ADJOURNMENT


At 5:33 p.m., there being no further business,
MOTION was made by H. Stafford and
seconded by N. Shevock to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,


Joanna Adams (Feb 7, 2022 14:42 EST)

Joanna M. Adams
Pension Administrator


Suzanne B. Grant (Feb 8, 2022 08:50 EST)

Suzanne B. Grant, Chair
Board of Pension Trustees