



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WHEELING POLICE PENSION FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 29, 2024**



A regular meeting of the Wheeling Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees was held on Monday, January 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Wheeling Village Hall Scanlon Conference Room located at 2 Community Blvd, Wheeling, Illinois 60090, pursuant to notice.

CALL TO ORDER: Trustee Musolf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Trustees Troy Musolf, Michael Bieschke, John Connolly (*arrived at 9:01 a.m.*), Michael Kaplan and Keith MacIsaac

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Jeff Goodloe, Puchalski Goodloe LLC; John Falduto, Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC; Stephanie Masson, Amanda Secor and Lora Murphy, Lauterbach & Amen, LLP (L&A)

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: *October 30, 2023 Regular Meeting:* The Board reviewed the July 31, 2023 regular meeting minutes. A motion was made by Trustee MacIsaac and seconded by Trustee Bieschke to approve the July 31, 2023 regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Trustee Connolly arrived at 9:01 a.m.

Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Meeting Minutes: The Board reviewed the closed session meeting minutes. A motion was made by Trustee MacIsaac and seconded by Trustee Bieschke to not release the minutes from the Stephen Hull and James Haeger closed sessions at this time due to pending matters subject to semi-annual reviews of closed session meeting minutes. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Musolf, Bieschke, Connolly, Kaplan and MacIsaac

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The Board reviewed the closed session meeting minutes from the Anthony Gazzarde disability hearing. A motion was made by Trustee MacIsaac and seconded by Trustee Bieschke to publish the closed session meeting minutes and destroy the recording from the Anthony Gazzarde disability hearing. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Musolf, Bieschke, Connolly, Kaplan and MacIsaac

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT – LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP: *Monthly Financial Report:* The Board reviewed the Monthly Financial Report for the twelve-month period ending December 31, 2023 prepared by L&A. As of December 31, 2023, the net position held in trust for pension benefits is \$69,274,305.61 for a change in position of \$7,868,030.82. The Board reviewed the Cash Analysis Report, Revenue Report, Expense Report, Member Contribution Report, Payroll Journal, Quarterly Deduction Report and Transfer Report for the period October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The Board also reviewed the Quarterly Disbursement Report for the period October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 for total payments of \$36,875.71. A motion was made by Trustee MacIsaac and seconded by Trustee Kaplan to accept the Monthly Financial Report as presented and to approve payments in the amount of \$36,875.71 as listed on the Quarterly Disbursement Report. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Musolf, Bieschke, Connolly, Kaplan and MacIsaac
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Presentation and Approval of Bills and Additional bills, if any: The Board reviewed Puchalski Goodloe LLC invoice #0000666 in the amount of \$6,482 for the 1st quarter 2024 retainer fee and miscellaneous legal services rendered. A motion was made by Trustee Kaplan and seconded by Trustee Bieschke to approve the additional bill as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Musolf, Bieschke, Connolly, Kaplan and MacIsaac
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Discussion/Possible Action – Cash Reserve Balance/Cash Management Policy/Guidelines: Mr. Falduto discussed the current 2024 Repeat Monthly IPOPIF instructions that the Board approved at the October 30, 2023 meeting in the amount of \$470,000 and recommended the Board decrease it to \$450,000. A motion was made by Trustee MacIsaac and seconded by Trustee Kaplan to amend and decrease the current Repeat Monthly Instructions for 2024, which is provided by L&A, to \$450,000. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Musolf, Bieschke, Connolly, Kaplan and MacIsaac
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

INVESTMENT REPORTS: *Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC – Quarterly Report:* Mr. Falduto presented the Quarterly Report and reviewed the Cash Flow and Performance for the period ending December 31, 2023. As of October 1, 2023, the beginning market value within the Schwab cash account was \$482,281 and as of December 31, 2023 the market value in the cash account was \$453,437. Mr. Falduto answered all questions. A motion was made by Trustee Kaplan and seconded by Trustee Bieschke to accept the Quarterly Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

IPOIF – Verus Investment Advisory, Inc: The Board reviewed the IPOPIF Investment Performance Report Monthly Statement prepared by Verus Investment Advisory, Inc. for the period ending December 31, 2023. As of December 31, 2023, the one-month total net return is 4.6% and the year-to-date total net return is 13.7%, for an ending market value of \$10,001,345,755.

Summary Review – State Street: The Board reviewed the Market Value Summary and Statement of Transaction Detail prepared by State Street for the period ending December 31, 2023. As of December 31, 2023, the ending balance is \$67,145,950.41, the month to date net return is 4.62% and the year-to-date net return is 13.66%.

The Board acknowledged receipt and review of the most recent IPOPIF Investment Performance Report Monthly Statement as prepared by Verus Investment Advisory, Inc. and the Fund's Market Value Summaries and State of Transaction Detail prepared by State Street.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS: *Affidavits of Continued Eligibility:* The Board noted that L&A mailed Affidavits of Continued Eligibility to all pensioners in December 2023 with a due date of January 31, 2024. A status update will be provided at the next regular meeting.

Statements of Economic Interest: The Board noted that the List of Filers must be submitted to the County by the Village by February 1, 2024. Statements of Economic Interest will be sent to all registered filers who will need to respond by the deadline of May 1, 2024.

TRUSTEE TRAINING UPDATES: The Board discussed Trustee Training opportunities and were reminded to submit any certificates to L&A for recordkeeping.

Approval of Trustee Training Registration Fees and Reimbursable Expenses: There were no trustee training registrations or reimbursable expenses presented for approval.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP/WITHDRAWALS FROM FUND: *Withdrawal from Fund – Sgt. Christopher Rogers:* The Board reported that Christopher Rogers has separated service from the Wheeling Police Pension Fund. Mr. Rogers last day of employment was November 3, 2023 and the Board noted that deferred pension paperwork may be forthcoming. Updates will be provided as they become available.

APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT/DISABILITY BENEFITS: *Deceased Pensioner Overpayment – William Sharpe:* The Board noted that L&A issued correspondence to William Sharpe’s estate requesting repayment of the overpaid September 2023 benefit in the amount of \$151.63 with no response. A second request has been sent to the estate via Certified Mail. An update will be provided at the next regular meeting.

Update of Complaint of Administrative Review regarding Non-Duty Disability Pension – Stephen Hull: Attorney Goodloe noted Mr. Hull’s attorney requested an extension to the briefing schedule, which will be due by February 28, 2024. The Board’s brief will subsequently be due in April 2024. An update will be provided at the next regular meeting.

Review/Approve Decision and Order – Stephen Hull’s Disability Pension Termination as a Result of the Evidence Reviewed at the September 29, 2023 Pension Hearing: Attorney Goodloe informed the Board that he is currently drafting the Decision and Order for Stephen Hull’s disability pension benefit that the Board voted to terminate at the September 29, 2023 special meeting.

Discussion/Possible Action – Application for James Haeger’s Survivor’s Pension Benefit Pursuant to 40 ILCS 5/3-112(a): Attorney Goodloe noted that all the requested and subpoenaed documents in the James Haeger matter have been received and exhibits have been provided to the Board members. A hearing date will be scheduled, and an update will be provided at the next regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: *Transfer of Creditable Service/Portability – Viktoriia Kuzmykha:* Attorney Goodloe is in the process of drafting a payment agreement for the Pension Fund’s records for Viktoriia Kuzmykha’s five-year payroll deduction payment plan to transfer creditable service of 57 months and 9 days from Article 5 Chicago Police to the Wheeling Police Pension Fund. An update will be provided at the next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: *Approve Annual Cost of Living Adjustments for Pensioners:* The Board reviewed the 2024 Cost of Living Adjustments calculated by L&A. A motion was made by Trustee Bieschke and seconded by Trustee Kaplan to approve the 2024 Cost of Living Adjustments as required by statute and calculated by L&A. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Musolf, Bieschke, Connolly, Kaplan and MacIsaac
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Review Trustee Term Expirations and Election Procedures: The Board noted that the active member term currently held by Trustee Musolf is expiring in May 2024. Trustee Musolf expressed his interest in remaining on the Board if nominated. L&A will conduct an election on behalf of the Pension Fund for one of the two active member Trustee positions.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT – PUCHALSKI GOODLOE LLC: *Legal Updates:* Attorney Goodloe provided legislative updates pertaining to Article 3 Pension Funds; including recent court cases and decisions, as well as general pension matters including the Supreme Court’s ruling of the consolidation. Attorney Goodloe also discussed a FOIA request that the Pension Fund recently received requesting a

closed session recording and transcript. Attorney Goodloe will draft a reply denying the request since closed session minutes and recordings are exempt from disclosure under the Illinois Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act, unless the Pension Fund Board approved at an open meeting to publish the closed session meeting, in this case they have not.

CLOSED SESSION, IF NEEDED: There was no need for closed session.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Bieschke to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Board President or Secretary

Minutes approved by the Board of Trustees on _____

Minutes prepared by Lora Murphy, Pension Services Administrator, Lauterbach & Amen, LLP