

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES  
CITY OF LANSING  
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Regular Meeting  
Council Conference Room  
a.m.  
10th Floor, City Hall  
Lansing, MI

May 16, 2019  
Thursday, 8:30

The Board met in regular session and was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

Present: Kehler, Kraus, D. Parker, M. Parker, Sanchez-Gazella - 5

Absent: Dedic, Schor, Washington

Others: Karen E. Williams, Finance Department; Attorney Ken Lane (representing the Law Department).

It was moved by Trustee Mark Parker and supported by Trustee Kehler to approve the Official Minutes of the Employees' Retirement System Special Meeting of April 11, 2019.

Adopted by the following vote: 6 – 0

It was moved by Trustee Kraus and supported by Trustee Mark Parker to approve the Official Minutes of the Employees' Retirement System Regular Meeting of April 18, 2019.

Adopted by the following vote: 6 – 0.

There were no public comments for items on the agenda.

9 new member(s), 0 reinstatement(s), 0 refund(s), 0 transfers, 2 retired. Total active membership: 447. Total deferred: 76. 5 death(s) Martha Crossett, died 4/2/2019, age 86, spouse of nonbargaining retiree; Luisa E. Diaz (retired 12/3/2002 – District Court T243), died 4/4/2019, age 81, no beneficiary; Charles L. Gibbs (retired 3/1/1988 – T243CTP), died 3/24/2019, age 90, no surviving beneficiary; Charles H. Smiley (retired 5/3/1993 – FOP 911), died 3/28/2019, age 77, beneficiary to receive 50%; John Ward, died 3/21/2019, age 88, spouse of nonbargaining retiree, . Refunds made since the last regular meeting mounted to \$0.00. Retirement allowances paid for the month of March 2019, amounted to \$1,968,696.10. Total retirement checks printed for the ERS System: 930. Total Retirement checks printed for both systems: 1675. Eligible domestic relations orders received: 0. Domestic relations orders pending: 0. Eligible domestic relations orders certified: 0.

It was moved by Trustee Mark Parker and supported by Trustee Sanchez-Gazella to approve the request for regular age and service retirement:

Cynthia Brzana (District Court – NonBargaining), 13 years, 3 months of service credits, age 62, effective 6/15/2019

Adopted by the following vote: 5 -0.

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Karen Williams reported that applicant #2018 –E1108 had provided updated medical reports to be evaluated by the medical director. The Human Resources Department provided additional medical reports to be evaluated by the medical director. The medical director has seen the applicant and will issue an updated report.

There were no requests for non-duty disability.

It was moved by Trustee Dedic and supported by Trustee Kraus to approve the following request for refund of accumulated contribution:

Sherri Smith, District Court NonBargaining, not vested, \$14,888.66

Adopted by the following vote: 5 -0

It was moved by Trustee Kehler and supported by Trustee Kraus to excuse Trustee Dedic and Trustee Washington to the May Employees' Retirement System Board.

Adopted by the following vote: 5 – 0.

Trustee Dennis Parker provided an oral report for the ABS Conference. The Conference focused on in-depth emerging markets. Trustee Parker detailed workshops that discussed technology such as Google search engines, and artificial intelligence in China.

Karen Williams reported that MAPERS Spring Conference was scheduled for May 18-21, 2019. She requested that members who were interested in attending the conference contact the Retirement Office.

There were no public comments for items not on the Agenda.

Attorney Lane reported that he is updating the Employees Retirement System Ordinance. Attorney Lane proposed having a draft at the September meeting. Attorney Lane received suggestions from Trustees for updating the Frequently Asked Question document.

Attorney Lane distributed a draft to amend the Trustee Election process. The amendment would change member representation. Elected members would come from the various bargaining units: UAW, Teamsters, and all other employees.

Trustee Dennis Parker stated that the at-large election was the most fair for all employees.

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Trustee Mark Parker stated that in the past without at large election, employees at City Hall had an advantage. Trustee Mark Parker stated that with the at large elections, employees have the opportunity to be elected to the Board once a year, especially with the on-line voting eligible. He felt that the at large elections were more democratic.

Trustee Kraus expressed concern about the balance of the union membership on the Board. The Board has nine members with three UAW union representation, and with the election, there could be four UAW union represents.

Trustee Mark Parker suggested adding elected members to the Board to allow diversity and employee input. He suggested adding two additional elected members for a total of five on the Employees Retirement System Board. Trustee Parker believed that the Teamster bargaining group members are understaffed and many will not run.

Attorney Ken Lane opined that the Ordinance would need to be amended to add additional trustees.

Trustee Kraus would be agreeable to Attorney Ken Lane's proposal with the addition of two at-large trustee positions.

Trustee Kehler expressed concern that there was a communication issue contrasted with changing the membership of the Board.

It was moved by Trustee Kraus and supported by Trustee Kehler to draft an Ordinance amendment for discussion that expands the Employees Retirement System Board from three elected employee members to five.

Adopted by the following vote: 5 – 0.

Karen Williams reviewed the Duty Disability Income Verification process. Retirees are required to submit an income verification form by April 30. Members who do not submit the form may have the pension suspended until compliance. Karen Williams also reviewed the medical re-examination process. Disability retirees are subject to be re-examined under the Employees Retirement System Ordinance and Policy. The disability subcommittee has received a list of duty disability retirees for review.

Karen Williams reported that there were two candidates nominated for the Trustee Election: Matthew Bahr and Irene Cahill. Ms. Williams reviewed the election process, guideless and dates for the election. Ms. Williams also described the electronic voting process.

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The Employees Retirement requested the Legal Advisor Request for Information (RFI) remain on pending until the May Joint Retirement Board meeting so that he could discussed with the City Attorney's Office.

Karen Williams reviewed the Quarter Expenses Report and the Securities Lending report for the period ending April 30, 2019.

It was moved by Trustee Mark Parker and supported by Trustee Kraus to adjourn the Employees Retirement System Board meeting.

Adopted by the following vote: 5 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Minutes approved on \_\_\_\_\_

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Angela Bennett, Secretary  
Employees' Retirement System

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Dennis R. Parker, Chairperson  
Employees' Retirement System