

CITY OF MARIETTA/BLW PENSION BOARD MEETING

**Wednesday, February 9, 2022
9:00 AM – Council Chamber**

MEETING MINUTES (UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED)

Members Present:

Post 1: Bill Bruton Post 2: Joseph Goldstein
Post 3: Cheryl Richardson Post 4: Rich Buss
Post 5: Patina Brown Post 6: Bruce Bishop
Post 7: Keisha Register Post 9: Bobby Moss

Absent:

Post 8: Patrick Bonito
Ex Officio Marty Ferrell – Police Chief

Ex Officio Members:

Davy Godfrey – Pension Board Secretary and Director, Human Resources & Risk Management
Sam Lady – Pension Board Treasurer and Finance Director
Tim Milligan – Fire Chief

Visitors / Guests

Ian Janecek – CBIZ (General Pension Consultant)
Scott Arnwine – CBIZ (General Pension Consultant)
Paul Murray – AndCo Consulting (Supplemental Pension Consultant)
Read Gignilliat – Elarbee Thompson (Pension Attorney)
Patrick Lail – Elarbee Thompson (Pension Attorney)
Ginni Harris – Nichols Cauley (Auditor)
Clark Weeks – Weeks Retirement Solutions (Actuary)
Beth Keller – Deputy Director of Finance
Elizabeth Jacobs – Benefits Manager

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Bobby Moss declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

APPOINTMENT OF 2022 OFFICERS:

Chairman Moss opened the item of appointment of officers, beginning with chairperson.

A motion was made by Member Bruton to reappoint Bobby Moss as chairman and seconded by Member Richardson.

The motion carried by the following vote: 7-0-1 (Chairman Moss abstained).

A motion was made by Member Richardson to reappoint Patina Brown as vice chair and seconded by Member Bruton.

The motion carried by the following vote: 7-0-1 (Vice Chairman Brown abstained).

A motion was made by Member Goldstein to reappoint Davy Godfrey as secretary and seconded by Member Richardson.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

A motion was made by Member Goldstein to reappoint Sam Lady as treasurer and seconded by Member Bishop.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

LEGAL MATTERS:

Chairman Moss recognized Patrick Lail, Pension Attorney, who briefed the Board on the changes to the pension application sections, especially as they relate to applications submitted less than 30 days prior to the retirement date. Member Goldstein asked questions about the process of retirement and when the calculations are done, and was answered by Secretary Godfrey, Chairman Moss, and Elizabeth Jacobs. Member Buss asked about exigent circumstances and how to distinguish them, and was answered by Lail and Godfrey.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to approve the plan application changes and seconded by Member Bruton.

The motion carried by the following vote: 6-0-2 (Members Goldstein and Richardson abstained).

Lail directed the Board to the changes, and Godfrey gave the Board a small overview of the changes. Member Goldstein recommended adding a comma in Section 5.H.

A motion was made by Member Buss to approve the changes to Article X with an addition of a comma in Section 5.H. and seconded by Vice Chairman Brown.

The motion carried by the following vote: 6-0-2 (Members Goldstein and Richardson abstained).

Secretary Godfrey detailed the changes to the disability retirement certification forms and how they were in line with the challenges observed by the Board and staff. Lail detailed why the forms have been split between the two retirement plans.

A motion was made by Member Goldstein to approve the changes to the disability certification forms and seconded by Member Richardson.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

Secretary Godfrey presented the 401a Administrative Services Agreement with Lail and Paul Murray providing supporting information. Discussion centered on ratification by Council, termination of the Agreement, and the timeline thereof. The consensus was to make April 1, 2026, the through date of the Agreement to give the next Council time to ratify.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to approve the MissionSquare Administrative Services Agreement with a change to paragraph 11 ("Term") indicating that it extends through April 1, 2026, to give the next Council time to ratify it and seconded by Member Bruton.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

Secretary Godfrey presented the Investment Policy Statement draft with Lail providing the Board supporting information. Discussion centered on how to reflect the plan sponsor information and the need to add the actuary's information.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to approve the Defined Benefit Plan Investment Policy Statement with the changes directing readers to Article X within the Plan Sponsor details, adding the

actuary information, and making other administrative updates as needed and seconded by Member Buss.

*The motion carried by the following vote: **6-0-2 (Members Goldstein and Richardson abstained).***

Secretary Godfrey presented the Investment Policy Statement draft with Paul Murray providing supporting information. Discussion centered on removing Exhibit A for investment options and directing participants to the quarterly reports.

A motion was made by Member Bruton to approve the Supplemental Pension Investment Policy Statement with the change removing Exhibit A and directing participants to the quarterly report and seconded by Member Buss.

*The motion carried by the following vote: **6-0-2 (Members Goldstein and Richardson abstained).***

Secretary Godfrey presented the retirement application of Juan Hernandez. Chairman Moss recognized Read Gignilliat, who then provided the Board with a legal overview. Discussion centered on what constitutes an application and Mr. Hernandez's appeal rights if the Board were to deny the application.

A motion was made by Member Bruton to deny the retirement application of Juan Hernandez and seconded by Member Register.

*The motion carried by the following vote: **6-0-2 (Members Goldstein and Richardson abstained).***

The Chairman recognized Daniel White from the City Attorney's office to discuss recoupment of pension overpayments. He detailed every existing case and provided color codes based on information and recommendations. The Board directed Daniel to pursue the green items (there is one remaining in that category). There is one case in yellow where Daniel will file a small claims suit in a different county if he confirms the individual still resides there. On the orange matters, Daniel will send a statement of claim to any open estates. As far as claims against deceased individuals who don't have an open estate, the Board agreed it would not be cost effective to open the estate and serve all the necessary parties. Daniel will follow up once more with one estate that has a significant asset. On the red items, Daniel will file a claim against one estate that has an asset pending sale, and he will send one final inquiry on another claim where the survivors have made a partial payment.

Member Goldstein disclosed that he, members of his family, and/or entities owned by him and/or members of his family owns property that is leased or occupied by Cobb Legal Aid, an organization that is associated with one of the attorneys representing an individual who owes the City a pension overpayment.

ACTUARIAL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:

Sam Lady opened the discussion. Clark Weeks then introduced himself and advised the Board that, although he has not run the numbers yet, he was hoping to receive some direction from the Board regarding asset smoothing and amortization. Weeks indicated that there are two goals: control costs while keeping costs from spiraling. Weeks discussed a "fresh start" approach to smoothing. To reduce the cost of running various scenarios, Weeks asked the Board for the timeline and preferred method. Chairman Moss directed Clark to incorporate what was discussed, including the five-year linear smoothing, no corridor, and a 7.5% or 8.0% return.

PENSION AUDIT:

Sam Lady presented the audit report and then asked the chair to recognize Ginni Harris from Nichols Cauley, the auditing firm. She directed the Board to the top of page 3 (Opinion), which has the following: "In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the City of Marietta, Georgia, Retirement Plan, as of June 30, 2021, and the changes in fiduciary net position for the year ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

A motion was made by Member Goldstein to receive and file the report and seconded by Member Richardson.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

GENERAL PENSION REPORT:

Chairman Moss recognized Ian Janeczek from CBIZ, who then presented the General Pension Report for the 4th quarter of calendar year 2021, along with Scott Arnwine. No action needed.

Secretary Godfrey presented the 4th quarter securities monitoring report. No action needed.

SUPPLEMENTAL PENSION REPORT:

Chairman Moss recognized Paul Murray from AndCo Consulting, who then presented the Supplemental Pension Report for the 4th quarter of calendar year 2021. No action needed.

MINUTES:

August 11, 2021, Regular Meeting (Corrected minutes)

November 10, 2021, Regular Meeting

January 12, 2022, Special Called Meeting

Motion made by Member Goldstein to approve the August 11, 2021, meeting minutes and seconded by Member Richardson.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

Motion made by Member Richardson to approve the November 10, 2021, meeting minutes and seconded by Member Goldstein.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

Motion made by Member Goldstein to approve the January 12, 2022, meeting minutes and seconded by Member Register.

The motion carried by the following vote: 7-0-1 (Member Bishop abstained).

PENSION EDUCATION UPDATE:

Secretary Godfrey provided the Board with a pension education update. Out of the twelve individuals who are required to complete it, seven have completed the hours, four will complete the hours at the March 2022 GAPPT Annual Conference, and one is underway with alternative hours.

Member Goldstein made a motion to receive and file the Pension Education report and seconded by Member Richardson.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS:

1. Roger Rozen – Effective 11/01/2021
Consolidated – Delayed
50% Joint & Survivor Option w/Pop-Up
Employed: 07/01/1982 – 10/31/2021
Total Service: 39 years 4 months
Total Credited Service: 35 years
Monthly Benefit: \$3912.28
Municipal Court Judge
2. Steven Neal – Effective 11/01/2021
Consolidated – Disability
100% Joint & Survivor Option w/Pop-Up
Employed: 03/09/1998 – 10/31/2021
Total Service: 23 years 7 months
Total Credited Service: 23 years 7 months
Monthly Benefit: \$1208.20
Senior Maintenance Technician
3. Richard M Steffes – Effective 11/01/2021
Consolidated – Normal
Single Life
Employed: 09/18/2006 – 10/31/2021
Total Service: 15 years 1 months
Total Credited Service: 15 years 3 months
Monthly Benefit: \$2291.15
Senior Programmer Analyst II
4. Cynthia D Schaffer – Effective 12/01/2021
Consolidated – Terminated Vested Early
Single Life
Employed: 10/01/1989 – 05/05/1995
Total Service: 7 years 8 months
Total Credited Service: 7 years 8 months
Monthly Benefit: \$273.15
Administrative Secretary
5. Tony L Millsap – Effective 12/01/2021
Consolidated – Terminated Vested Early
75% Joint & Survivor Option w/Pop-Up
Employed: 06/06/1985 – 10/14/1999 & 12/10/2007 – 08/24/2011
Total Service: 17 years 10 months
Total Credited Service: 17 years 10 months
Monthly Benefit: \$417.74
Materials Processor I

6. Steven Dunbar – Effective 12/01/2021
4022 – Survivor
Monthly Benefit: \$2833.09
Survivor of Harry Smith
Benefits end November 30, 2023 (24 months)

7. Fredrick Gober – Effective 12/01/2021
Consolidated – Terminated Vested Early
Single Life
Employed: 05/07/1990 – 01/08/2008
Total Service: 17 years 7 months
Total Credited Service: 17 years 7 months
Monthly Benefit: \$702.32
CSW II Parks & Grounds

8. Lavander Hines – Effective 12/01/2021
Consolidated – Unreduced Early
50% Joint & Survivor Option w/Pop-Up
Employed: 09/06/1994 – 05/26/2000 & 06/04/2001 – 11/30/2021
Total Service: 26 years
Total Credited Service: 27 years
Monthly Benefit: \$2392.43
Supervisor Water & Sewer

9. Valencia Williams – Effective 01/01/2022
Consolidated – Unreduced Early
75% Joint & Survivor Option w/Pop-Up
Employed: 12/12/2001 – 12/31/2021
Total Service: 20 years
Total Credited Service: 20 years
Monthly Benefit: \$1148.39
Police Services Rep I

10. Suzanne Johnson – Effective 01/01/2022
Consolidated – Terminated Vested Early
Single Life
Employed: 02/05/1996 – 05/26/2000 & 06/28/2000 – 08/05/2016
Total Service: 20 years 3 months
Total Credited Service: 20 years 3 months
Monthly Benefit: \$1423.48
Executive Aide to City Manager

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to approve the retirement applications with a correction to the final employment date of Lavander Hines and seconded by Member Buss.

*The motion to approve the applications carried by the following vote: **8-0-0.***

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Moss asked if anyone had any new business to mention to place on a future agenda. None was noted.

FUTURE ESTABLISHED MEETINGS:

May 11, 2022, Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Member Richardson to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Member Goldstein.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:56pm.

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**Wednesday, February 9, 2022
9:00 AM – Council Chamber**

APPROVED THIS 11th DAY OF May, 2022



Bobby Moss, Pension Board Chairman

ATTEST:



Davy Godfrey, Pension Board Secretary