



**MEETING OF THE RETIREMENT BOARD
OF THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' AND OFFICERS' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND
OF COOK COUNTY AND EX OFFICIO FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND OF COOK COUNTY
33 N Dearborn St, Suite 1000
Chicago, IL 60602**

Minutes for the July 11, 2013 Meeting

The County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County and the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County are herein collectively referred to as the "Fund."

Call to Order and Roll Call.

Trustees Present: John Fitzgerald, Robert Benjamin, Diahann Goode, Alexis Herrera, Brent Lewandowski, Patrick McFadden, Samuel Richardson, Jr., Ivan Samstein

Staff Present: Nickol R. Hackett, Executive Director & CIO; Michael Maratea, Director of Finance; Margaret Fahrenbach, Legal Adviser; Rachel Farris, Manager of Communications and Research; Gary LeDonne, Senior Benefit Advisor; Beverly Romanini, Executive Administrative Assistant; Kwesi Quaye, Investment Analyst; and Paul Rzeszutko, Director of Annuity Benefits

Others Present: Mary Pat Burns, Burke Burns & Pinelli, LTD; Katie Sabo, Commissioner Gainer's Office; Jason Parks, Loop Capital; Cynthia Dillon, Member; Robert Maxwell, Member; Dana Kurtz, Attorney for Robert Maxwell

1. Review and Consideration of:

- a. June 6, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes.

It was moved by Trustee McFadden and seconded by Trustee Richardson that the minutes of the June 6, 2013 Board Meeting be adopted.

Vote Result: **MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**

- b. Bills, Payroll Records, Annuities, Spouse and Child Annuities, Ordinary and Duty Disabilities, and Refunds.

The Fund's monthly bills and payroll records were then presented for the Board's approval.

It was then moved by Trustee McFadden and seconded by Trustee Richardson that the action taken by the Fund's staff in remitting payments for the presented bills and payroll records be approved.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Benjamin, McFadden, Herrera, Lewandowski, Samstein, Goode, Richardson, Fitzgerald

NAYS: None

Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED

c. Annuities, Spouse and Child Annuities and Refunds

The Fund's staff then presented their recommendations to the Board regarding the applications for annuities, spouse and child annuities and refunds and confirmed that they followed the Fund's procedures in reviewing and processing the applications in making their recommendations.

It was then moved by Trustee Lewandowski and seconded by Trustee Samstein, having received confirmation from the staff that they followed the Fund's procedures in reviewing and processing the applications, that the recommendations for the presented annuities and refunds be approved.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Benjamin, McFadden, Herrera, Lewandowski, Samstein, Goode, Richardson, Fitzgerald

NAYS: None

Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED

d. Ordinary and Duty Disabilities

The Fund's staff then presented their recommendations to the Board regarding the applications for ordinary and duty disability benefits and confirmed that they followed the Fund's procedures in reviewing and processing the applications in making their recommendations.

It was then moved by Trustee Lewandowski and seconded by Trustee Benjamin having received confirmation from the staff that they followed the Fund's procedures in reviewing and processing the applications, that the recommendations for the presented ordinary and duty disability applications be approved.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Benjamin, McFadden, Herrera, Lewandowski, Samstein, Goode, Richardson, Fitzgerald

NAYS: None

Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED

2. Public Comment

Trustee Fitzgerald asked if anyone present would like to address the Board and, no one having requested to do so, the Board considered the next item of business on the Agenda.

3. Administrative Report

The Executive Director updated the board on administrative matters of the fund. Ms. Hackett reported on the status of internal projects including document imaging and the preparations taking place for the Fund's open enrollment meeting scheduled for November 2, 2013. Hackett further reported that the Fund's 2012 CAFR was prepared and submitted for review.

Paul Rzeszutko then presented for the Board certain changes in the parental leave policy that were being considered by Cook County and described how such changes would impact the administration of ordinary disability benefits for such employees. Generally, for employees under the Office of the President, the County would pay the birth mother four weeks of salary for a non-surgical delivery and six weeks of salary for surgical deliveries. The Fund would not pay ordinary disability benefits during the weeks in which salaries might be paid under this policy. The Fund has been in communication with the County to coordinate the administration of the parental leave policy with the administration of ordinary disability benefits and has requested that the County identify when salaries are paid pursuant to this policy so that the employee does not receive both salary and ordinary disability payments simultaneously. The new policy would also pay salaries for two weeks to the non-birth parent or partner, but that would not have any impact on the Fund because there would not be an overlapping ordinary disability benefit for such employees.

4. Benefits Report

a. Hearing Officer Appointment – Adusumilli

Margaret Fahrenbach reported that Chowdary Adusumilli had requested an administrative hearing because the Board had declined his request to purchase unused sick time when failed to meet the requirements of Section 9-220(iv) of the Pension Code. She asked that the Board appointment Retired Judge Michael C. Close to serve as the hearing officer.

It was moved by Trustee McFadden and seconded by Trustee Richardson that Retired Judge Michael C. Close be appointed to serve as the hearing officer for the administrative hearing requested by Chowdary Adusumilli.

Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

5. Finance Report

Michael Maratea presented the third quarter cash flow forecast for the County Fund and the Forest Fund through September 30, 2013. He reported that the County Fund needed to withdraw \$50.0 million and that the Forest Fund needed to withdraw \$2.3 million to cover projected expenses through September 30, 2013.

Trustee Lewandowski moved and Trustee Goode seconded the motion that the Cook County Fund shall have authority to withdraw cash in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$50.0 million dollars and that the Forest Fund shall have authority to withdraw cash not to exceed \$2.3 million dollars to cover projected expenses through September 30, 2013. It was further moved that the Fund's staff would be authorized to take all steps reasonably necessary to effectuate the same.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Benjamin, McFadden, Herrera, Lewandowski, Samstein, Goode, Richardson, Fitzgerald

NAYS: None

Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED

6. Old Business/New Business

There was no old business or new business discussed. Upon adjournment, Dana Kurtz, attorney for Robert Maxwell, interjected to inquire about the review process for Mr. Maxwell's duty disability application as considered by the Board. Mr. Fitzgerald informed Ms. Kurtz that the Board extended the opportunity for discussion during the Public Comment portion of the meeting and that the applications had been considered and an initial determination had been made. Mary Pat Burns advised Ms. Kurtz that the Board had followed its established procedures in finding that Mr. Maxwell was not eligible for the duty disability benefits he had requested and stated that the Board's decision was an initial determination by the Board based upon the record before it. Mr. Maxwell could request an administrative hearing of the Board's decision. Ms. Kurtz requested to be given copies of the records considered by the Board in its decision regarding Mr. Maxwell's application immediately and the Fund's staff agreed to provide such records promptly.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for August 1, 2013, at 9:30 am.