

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD MINUTES

March 22, 2018

4:00 PM

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Lamont McClure called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. **Call of the Roll:** The following appointees to the Retirement Board were present: Mr. Lamont McClure, County Executive, Mr. Kenneth Kraft, Council President, Mr. Ronald Heckman, Council Member, Mr. William McGee, Council Member, Mr. Gerald Seyfried, retired member of Northampton County Retirement system, Mr. Thomas Guth, active employee member of Northampton County Retirement system, and Mr. Stephen Barron, Director of Fiscal Affairs.

Others Present – Mr. John Spagnola and Mr. Mark Ammotur, of PFM. Mr. Brandon Dunstane, of Fiscal Affairs. Ms. Gina X. Gibbs, Registrar of Wills and Notary Public.

3. **Oath of Office** – Ms. Gina Gibbs, Recorder of Deeds and Notary Public, administered the Oath of Office by asking all appointees present to raise and their right hands and to swear or affirm as follows:

“I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth,
And the ordinances of the County of Northampton;
That I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity;
That I will not knowingly violate or permit to be violated
Any of the provisions of the County’s Pension laws;
That I will not knowingly receive, directly or indirectly;
Any money or other valuable things for the performance or non-performance
Of any act or duty pertaining to my office
Other than the compensation allowed by law.”

4. **Courtesy of the Floor** – No Remarks
5. **Approval of the December 4, 2017 Retirement Board minutes.**

None of the members were present at the December 4, 2017 meeting, so the minutes could not be approved. However the minutes were distributed to each member and were recognized by each. The minutes, which were prepared by Michael Twining, the former Board Secretary, will be posted and kept on file as the official record of the December 4, 2017 meeting.

6. **Performance Updates – PFM, John Spagnola and Mark Ammotur**

Pension Fund

Market Value as of December 31, 2017 = \$405.74 million

Q4 gain: 4.40 percent

Q4 ROI: \$17.265 million

YTD gain: 17.10 percent

1 Year gain: 4.65 percent

3 year gain: 3.15 percent

5 year gain: 2.91 percent

Mr. Spagnola gave market updates and there was discussion of rising interest rates and the expected effect on investment activity. The 70:30 split in the retirement fund investments was discussed. Mr. Spagnola advised that weight of investment activity could be changed and made a recommendation to move \$250 million into PFM's Multi-Manager Series Trust ("MMST").

A Motion was made by Mr. McClure to commit \$200 million dollars to be invested in the MMST. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Seyfried. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Pension Updates – Danielle Mutarelli**

Ms. Mutarelli was not present at the meeting but she prepared a summary sheet showing the individuals who retired during the period and the amount of their pension benefits. The summary sheet was distributed to each member present. The summary sheet also listed the retirement system members who died during the period and the benefits payable to their beneficiaries. The individuals who separated from County employment prior to vesting and received refunds of their own contributions to the fund were listed as well. Finally, there were four individuals who received death benefits from the fund during the period.

8. **Adjournment** – A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:02 PM by Mr. Kraft; The Motion was seconded by Mr. Barron. The Motion was passed unanimously.

9. **Addendum** – The meeting was re-opened briefly following adjournment. A Motion was made by Mr. Barron to decrease the commitment of the Retirement System funds in the MMST to \$180 million. The Motion was seconded by Mr. McClure. The Motion carried unanimously.