

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD MINUTES

December 4, 2019

4:04 PM

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Lamont McClure called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.
2. **Call of the Roll:** The following appointees to the Retirement Board were present: Mr. Lamont McClure, County Executive; Mr. Ronald Heckman, Council President; Ms. Lori Vargo Heffner, Council Vice President; Mr. William McGee, Council Member; Mr. Thomas Guth, active employee Member of Northampton County Retirement system; Mr. Gerald Seyfried, Retiree Member, and Mr. Stephen Barron, Director of Fiscal Affairs.

Others Present –Mr. Marc Ammaturo, PFM; Mr. Brandon Dunstane, Fiscal Affairs; Mr. Bryce Meyers, Fiscal Affairs, Ms. Danielle Mutarelli, Human Resources; Ms. Elizabeth Kelly, Board Secretary.

3. **Courtesy of the Floor** – Ms. Vargo Heffner thanked everyone present for their willingness to reschedule the October meeting to today. Ms. Kelly, Secretary, noted for all present that Mr. Gerald Seyfried was approved by County Council for a second two year term on the Retirement Board, which will begin on January 1, 2020 and end on December 31, 2021.

Mr. McGee reminded all present that at a recent meeting, Mr. Guth had raised the concern that updated summary plan booklets explaining the County’s retirement plan were needed. Mr. McGee suggested that due to the high cost of printing, perhaps the Board could look into creating the summary plan booklet as a Google Doc or Ibook. Mr. Barron agreed to look into seeing if this can be done.

4. **Approval of the July 25, 2019 Retirement Board minutes.** Mr. Barron made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2019 Board meeting. Ms. Vargo Heffner seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.
5. **Performance Updates – PFM, Marc Ammaturo.** Mr. Ammaturo gave the presentation of the fund’s performance in the third quarter of 2019.

Pension Fund
Market Value as of September 30, 2019 = \$418.24 million
As of September 30, 2019:
Q3 gain: .71 percent
Gain since inception: 6.79 percent (inception date is 9-1-17)
YTD gain: 14.07 percent
1 year gain: 3.34 percent
3 year gain: 8.72 percent
5 year gain: 6.95 percent

Mr. Ammaturo added that, as of November 30, the year-to-date performance of the fund was close to an 18% increase.

Mr. Barron addressed all present and reminded them that the fund’s position is currently heavy in equities, as it is 75% equity and 25% fixed income. He noted that the Fund needs to stay in this position in order to make the 7.5% actuarial assumption realistic.

Mr. Heckman stated that 2020 is a Presidential election year and that we could see abrupt changes in the market because of the upcoming election.

Mr. McGee raised the subject of fees charged by PFM, and asked if the amounts shown in the performance report included fees. Mr. Ammaturo answered that all fund amounts are net of fees and that he can resend a list of fees charged. Mr. McGee also asked for a report that would show peer scoring at least once. Mr. Barron stated that he would like to see peer scoring in every report. Mr. Ammaturo stated that this was not a problem.

Motion – Mr. McGee moved that PFM provide a report showing the fees paid to the various fund managers and PFM and the peer rankings of the various fund managers and PFM. The Motion was **seconded** by Ms. Vargo Heffner. By roll call vote all members voted to approve the Motion, and the Motion passed.

6. **Pension Updates – Danielle Mutarelli**

Ms. Mutarelli prepared a summary sheet showing the individuals who retired during the third quarter and the amount of their pension benefits. The summary sheet was distributed to each member present.

Approval of 3rd Quarter 2019 Pensions: A Motion was made by Mr. Seyfried to approve the list of retirees submitted by Ms. Mutarelli. Ms. Vargo Heffner seconded the Motion. The unanimous vote was taken by acclamation.

7. **Adjournment** – A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Vargo Heffner. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Heckman. The Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.