

**Meeting of the Retirement Plan for CTA Employees**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**January 26, 2023**  
***VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS***

**Regular Session**  
**Meeting Minutes**

The Board of Trustees of the Retirement Plan for Chicago Transit Authority Employees, by way of Microsoft Teams and telephone conference calls, and in compliance with the Illinois COVID-19 Executive Order, convened a meeting on January 26, 2023, at 9:36 a.m. Participants in the meeting were:

Mr. Tom McKone, Chairman  
Mr. Keith Hill, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Burke  
Mr. Christopher Kasmer, Alternate Trustee for John Burkard  
Mr. Mark Weems, Alternate Trustee for Eric Dixon  
Mr. Woodrow Eiland  
Mr. Jeremy Fine  
Ms. Theresa Fletcher-Brown  
Mr. Andrew Fuller  
Mr. Tiant Gatewood  
Ms. April Morgan

Also present:

Mr. Paul Sidrys  
Interim Executive Director

Richard W. Burke  
General Counsel

Mr. Dan Salemi,  
on behalf of RTA Appointed Trustee

Mr. Michael Bowen,  
General Manager, HR Services

Mr. Marquel Williams,  
Local 241

Ms. Michele Curran,  
Deputy CFO and Comptroller

Mr. George Hampton,  
Senior Manager, Human Resources

Mr. Jairo Naranjo, CTA

Appearances:

Mr. Kweku Obed,  
Marquette Associates

Mr. Matthew Bohdan  
Plante Moran

Ms. Felicia Donaldson  
Plante Moran

Ms. Gabrielle Wafer  
Plante Moran

Mr. Jeffrey Mills  
Segal

### **Consideration of Minutes from prior Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McKone at 9:36 a.m. Mr. Sidrys reported that 11 members were present and that a quorum was present. Mr. McKone stated that the election of a chairman and a vice chairman, normally scheduled for the first meeting of the year, will occur at the February meeting in order to provide adequate prior notice. Mr. McKone called for consideration of the minutes from the December meeting. Mr. Kasmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the December meeting. The motion was seconded by an unidentified Trustee. Mr. Sidrys did a roll call. At the roll call the motion passed on a vote of 11 yeases and no nos.

Mr. McKone then called for the report of the Investment Committee which was given by Mr. Obed.

### **Investment Committee**

Mr. Kweku Obed stated at the close of the market on January 25, 2023, the market value of the portfolio was \$1,933,872,263.40. Mr. Obed added that of that amount cash was held in the amount of \$13.78 million. Mr. Obed then gave an overall review of the market conditions and then spoke of the specific holdings in the investment portfolio. Mr. Obed commented that the entire portfolio was down close to 9.5% for the year, fixed income composite was down 11.8% and that the breakdown in different sectors was as follows: overall equity was down 16%, real estate was up 5.6%, infrastructure was down 60 basis points. Private equity was positive 3.2%, and equity was

down close to 16%. After reviewing the market conditions, Mr. Obed then spoke of individual holdings within the portfolio.

### **Old Business**

Matthew Bohdan led the reporting team from Plante Moran. The Plante Moran team inspected documents and then through observation identified instances where internal controls appeared to be in place and instances where they were not in place but designed effectively. The work at Plante Moran was not an audit but basically an internal control assessment. They looked at benefit initiation, disability allowances, contribution refund, death benefit process, retiree survivorship, changes in beneficiary, overall benefit changes, QDROs, vendors payable and treasury. They were looking for risks of error, fraudulent activity from the beneficiary changes. Plante Moran has developed and delivered a Microsoft Excel dashboard to help monitor change activity, and this particular dashboard will help mitigate the risks of the gaps they have mentioned.

The assessment that Plante Moran provided offered key initiatives to contemplate and ultimately implement recommendations as an actionable tool to help empower the Retirement Office to efficiently and effectively monitor activity, continuous improvement, and risk management standpoints.

The report was given in regard to the Executive Director Search by Chairman McKone. The process is on-going with the recommendation as to posting and advertising and also the verbiage for the Search Committee's review and approval.

There was a motion by an unnamed Trustee which was seconded by Trustee Weems, providing that a refund request for Tanika Townsend and Cassania Harrison both be granted. A roll call vote was taken. There were 11 yes votes and the motion passed.

The Chairman then announced that there was a proposal for the PAS vendor selection and project management. It is a proposal by Segal which would be a continuation of the operational assessment. Mr. Sidrys mentioned that this was basically a proposal to purchase some operational assessment. The proposal is for a project for over 20 to 28 weeks and would call for a fee in the range of \$75,000 to \$85,000. Mr. McKone made a motion to approve the preparation of the RFP. The work would be done by Segal. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 11 yeases and zero nos.

### **New Business**

Mr. Richard Burke presented a written Litigation Report. Mr. Weems gave the report of the General Administration Committee. Mr. Weems made a further motion to approve the board package including benefits as set forth in item 6-a through 6-J. He also made a motion to approve the attendance by Mr. McKone at an Educational Conference (Agenda Item 6-k) which motion was seconded by Mr. Kasmer and passed on a vote of 11 yeases. There was no Executive Session. An unidentified Trustee made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by an unidentified Trustee.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed on a vote of 11 yeases. The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.