

**CORRECTED MINUTES  
ROCKFORD POLICE PENSION BOARD  
DECEMBER 16, 2021**

The meeting was conducted remotely in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/7(e).

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeff Nielsen, President  
Marcia Mueller, Vice President  
Joe Stevens, Secretary  
Randy Berke, Assist. Secretary  
Scott Laue, Trustee

**ABSENT:**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mike Piotrowski – Marquette Associates  
Roberta Holzwarth – HolmstromKennedy PC

**GUESTS:** None

**STAFF:** Karla Hunter, Finance  
Carrie Hagerty, Finance Director

The December 16, 2021 Rockford Police Pension Board convened at City Hall 425 E. State St., Jeff Nielsen called the meeting to order 8:03 a.m.

Motion by Stevens and seconded by Laue to approve the corrected April 15, 2021 minutes of the Board meeting as amended. APPROVED.

Motion by Stevens and seconded by Berke to approve the November 18, 2021 minutes of the Board meeting as amended. APPROVED.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

NONE

**CASH & INVESTMENTS**

Piotrowski stated the total fund composite is approximately \$231.1 million as of November 30. The portfolio continues to be at an all-time high. The **fund** transfers were completed the end of November. The month of November was a challenging month, equity markets declined slightly. The plan had a negative **1% return** for the month of November, which brings a year-to-date return rate of 9.5%. For the month, fixed income was flat; a slight positive return of 10 basis points, US equity composite was down negative 2.2% and the Non US equity composite was down negative 3.4%. Real estate performed quite well for the month, up 6.2%. Kayne Anderson outperformed their benchmark, but was negative 3.3%. So far, for December there have been solid gains in the market.

Motion by Mueller, seconded by Stevens to approve the reallocation as proposed on the attachment to the agenda presented by Marquette Associates and to give Karla authority to place the suggested allocations. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve purchases and sales as shown on the attachment to the agenda. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

## **CITY BILLS**

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve November postage charges of \$84.97. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve November City Services of \$7,385.00. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve payment to HolmstromKennedyPC for November attorney fees for general matters in the amount of \$1,518.75. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the payment to HolmstromKennedyPC for November attorney fees for Annual Medical Reviews in the amount of \$90.00. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the payment to HolmstromKennedyPC for the disability application for Michael Landgraff in the amount of \$855.00. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the payment to HolmstromKennedyPC for the disability application for Katherine Anderson in the amount of \$950.68, which included \$866.25 for professional services and \$84.43 for disbursements. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Holzwarth stated that she sent out a draft summary that would go with the exit letter to individuals that are separating from service prior to retirement. The new draft has detail in regards to deferment of pensions if the individual has not yet reached the age to receive a pension.

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the order for the City's petition to intervene in the matter of the disability pension for Michael Landgraff. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

**An additional payment of \$116.78 is being made to the Arlington Heights Police Pension Fund in connection with Officer Benjamin Schuster's transfer of his creditable service from our fund to the Arlington Heights Fund, which comes about because of approval of the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Rockford and the officers covered by that agreement. This resulted in some retroactive pay being due Officer Schuster. A question arose because the pension code indicates that once an individual has transferred out of the fund they have waived all their rights or interest in that fund. We asked Lauterbach and Amen about this, as that firm audits many Article 3 funds and has extensive experience with transfers of creditable service. They advised that it is common practice to recalculate the amount to be paid from the transferring fund to the new fund and pay the additional amount to the new fund.**

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve Jeff Nielsen as FOIA/OMA Officer. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

For the two pending disability applications, we are still in the discovery stage-collecting records; the next action will be selecting evaluators.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the first increase for Shalene (Eagleson) Lyons for a benefit increase in the amount of \$306.04 and a monthly benefit amount of \$5,014.28/\$60,171.36 annually. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the first increase for Donald Prine for a prorated amount of \$439.57 and a monthly benefit amount of \$3,370.02/\$40,440.24 annually. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the service pension for Alan Semunchuk with an initial prorated benefit amount of \$4,535.06 and a monthly benefit amount of \$5,857.78/\$70,293.30 effective January 8, 2022. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the service pension for Bryce Lambrecht with an initial prorated amount of \$4,875.42 and a monthly benefit amount of \$6,297.42/\$75,569.00

annually effective January 8, 2022. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the service pension for Mark Jacobi with an initial prorated amount of \$5,655.48 and a monthly benefit amount of \$7,305.00/\$87,660.04 annually effective January 8, 2022. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve surviving spouse benefits for Sally Sterling for an initial amount of \$3,633.33 and a monthly amount of \$4,360.01/\$52,320.12 annually. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve surviving spouse benefits for Debra Cunningham for an initial amount of \$4,589.24 and a monthly amount of \$6,258.08/\$75,096.96 annually. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the refund application for Ludvin Santos-Tejeda in the amount of \$10,204.16 due to his separation of service on June 11, 2021. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the refund application for Dillon Rackley in the amount of \$10,744.76 due to his separation of service on August 3, 2021. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the termination of benefits for Thomas Nimmo due to his death on December 1, 2021. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the termination of benefits for Francis Licari due to his death on November 25, 2021. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the transfer of creditable service to the City of Arlington Heights for Benjamin Schuster for a retro payment of \$116.78. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the 2022 Police Pension meeting schedule. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

## **PAYROLL**

Motion by Mueller and seconded by Stevens to approve the December estimated payroll in the amount of \$1,836,000.88. The Board retains jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of enforcing the Pension Code. APPROVED.

Ayes: Nielsen, Mueller, Stevens, Berke, and Laue

Nays: None

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 8:55 a.m.