

MEETING MINUTES

LOUISIANA ASSESSORS' RETIREMENT BOARD OF THE LOUISIANA ASSESSORS' ASSOCIATION

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023
1:30 P.M.

LOUISIANA ASSESSORS' ASSOCIATION, SUITE C
3060 VALLEY CREEK DRIVE, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70808

A meeting of the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Board was held Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at the Louisiana Assessors' Association Office, located at 3060 Valley Creek Drive, Baton Rouge LA 70808. The following members were present: President Jeffrey Gardner, Vice President Gabe Marceaux, Treasurer Lucien Gauff and Members Michael Bealer, Lee Brown, Jerry Clark, Richard Earl, Irby Gamble, Glenda Gaspard, Louis Hebert, Charlie Henington, Jarrod Longman, Jimbo Stevenson, Glenn Waguespack and Erroll Williams. Absent were members Representative Aimee Freeman and Senator Ed Price.

Following the roll call, prayer, Pledge of Allegiance and the Public Comment period, wherein no members of the public spoke, the next item for discussion on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the June 13, 2023 meeting. A motion was made by Michael Bealer and seconded by Irby Gamble, all approved, and the motion to approve the minutes passed.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by Stirling Properties. Representative Foster Murphy provided information on office space located at 2111 Quail Run, Baton Rouge. The current owners recently placed the building on the market, and the LAA New Building Committee toured the property and placed an offer to purchase. The Committee was seeking final approval from the Retirement Board to move forward with the purchase. After some discussion, a motion was provided by Charlie Henington and a second by Micheal Bealer to authorize the Committee to proceed with the purchase of 2111 Quail Run building, with up to \$350,000 in renovations, with approval by the Chairman of the Retirement Board, to be rented to the Association. Michael Bealer provided a motion to authorize the Chairman of the Retirement Board to sign all documents necessary to close on the purchase of the building. Irby Gamble offered a second to the motion and with all in favor the motion passed.

The May 2023 Financial Report was delivered by Staff Accountant, Anna Wessman. The Balance Sheet and Income Statement were provided. Following is a summary:

	As of May 31, 2023	Current Month this Year	Year to Date this FY
Total Assets	\$ 496,501,324.87		
Total Liabilities	\$ 20,818.77		
Total Capital	\$ 496,480,506.10		
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$ 496,501,324.87		
Total Revenue		(\$ 3,151,275.62)	\$ 63,223,413.13
Total Expenses		\$ 2,423,845.47	\$ 20,122,419.19
Net Income		(\$ 5,575,121.09)	\$ 43,100,993.94

The Financials were approved with a motion by Erroll Williams and a second by Glenn Waguespack. All were in favor and the motion passed.

A report on the 2nd Quarter 2023 Retirement System Refunds, Transfers, Reciprocals, Retirements and Deaths was provided by the Executive Director. A motion to approve the report was provided by Jarrod Longman. The motion was seconded by Charlie Henington, and all were in favor and the motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by EnTrust Global Investors. Representatives present were David Livingston, George Fikaris and Michelle Riffelmacher. The group provided information on the portfolio and fund, Blue Ocean Onshore Fund II, which is a platform for Maritime investments. Following the presentation, the board took no action.

Jon Breth, AndCo Investment Consultant, then provided his report, covering the Preliminary Portfolio Performance review as of June 30, 2023. The Total Fund return for the second quarter 2023 was 3.04% and the Fiscal Year to Date return was 12.89%, and the 1-year return was 7.74%. The Fiscal Year to Date Market Value of the fund, as of June 30, 2023, is \$498,812,332.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by Greg Curran, with Curran Actuarial Services. Mr. Curran's presentation would provide educational credit for those in attendance and the following items were covered.

- Discussion and decision on Cost of Living Increase for retirees with effective date of October 1, 2023
- Discussion of Employer Contribution Rate:
Adoption by Board of the Employer Contribution Rate, effective October 1, 2023, contingent upon PRSAC Committee approval of the Valuation Report
- Review and approval of the Actuarial Assumption Option Factors, effective October 1, 2023
- Presentation and approval of the October 2023 - September 2024 Contract for actuarial services of Curran Actuarial Consulting, LTD.
- PRSAC Meeting date

Mr. Curran provided a discussion on the Board's ability to offer a Cost of Living Increase, to its retirees, with an effective date of October 1, 2023. The Board elected to provide a COLA as outlined in R. S. 11:246, which consist of an amount equal to two percent of the original benefit, to all retirees and beneficiaries who are sixty-five years of age or over and a COLA as outlined in R. S. 11:241, which consist an amount equal to one dollar for each of the number of years of credited service accrued at retirement plus one dollar for the number of years since retirement to 9/30/2023, fiscal year end. A motion to approve the COLA increases, pending PRSAC's approval of the Valuation report, was provided by Erroll Williams and seconded by Jarrod Longman, without opposition, the motion passed.

Mr. Curran then provided the Board with information on setting the Employer Contribution rate, effective October 1, 2023. Charlie Henington made a motion to set the Employer Contribution rate at 5%, from the current 3.5%, effective October 1, 2023, contingent

upon PRSAC's approval of the Valuation Report. Lee Brown offered a second to the motion, all were in favor, and the motion passed.

The board then approved the Actuarial Assumption Option Factors, effective October 1, 2023, contingent upon PRSAC's approval of the Valuation Report, with a motion by Michael Bealer and a second by Jarrod Longman and unanimous approval.

Mr. Curran offered a contract for actuarial services of Curran Actuarial Consulting, LTC, with dates of October 2023 to September 2024. There were no changes in the pricing of services, in the new contract and Glenn Waguespack offered a motion to approve the annual contract with signing authority provided to the Chairman. Irby Gamble made a second to the motion and without objection the motion passed.

The PRSAC meeting date to review the LARF September 30, 2022, Valuation Report was uncertain at this time, but expected to be sometime in August.

The Executive Director provided the Engagement Letters from Hawthorn, Waymouth & Carroll for the audits of the Assessors' Retirement Fund, valuation date September 30, 2023. The Engagement Letters outlined the audits of the Fund Financials, the Employer Pension Report and Agreed Upon Procedures. Approval of the three engagement letters was provided with a motion by Charlie Henington and a second by Glenn Waguespack and with no further discussion, approved by all.

The Executive Director provided the proposed October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024, Retirement Fund Budget to the Board for review and approval. Copies of the spreadsheet were provided in the packet, including a scenario reflecting an increase in the Employer Contribution rate to 5%. The Executive Director mentioned that on the Budget, a COLA, similar to that offered in the past, was taken into account, however the additional COLA approved in today's meeting was not included in the budget. The annual increase in the Retirement Benefit Expense would be calculated and added to the budget. A motion to accept the budget, with changes for the additional COLA was provided by Irby Gamble and seconded by Glenn Waguespack. Without objection, the motion passed and the 2023-2024 LARF Budget was approved.

The Retirement System Attorney, Ms. Laura Gail Sullivan, provided her annual service contract for review and approval. The Contract was approved by the Board, after a motion and a second by Glenn Waguespack and Jimbo Stevenson.

The dates for the upcoming LAPERS and LATEC conferences were provided to the Board. Both conferences offer several hours of education credits, to trustees attending.

As other business brought before the board, President Jeffrey Gardner requested approval to change the October quarterly meeting date from October 24th to October 17th. Lee Brown provided a motion to accept the change. Glenn Waguespack provided a second. There was unanimous approval, and the meeting date was changed.

There being no further business to come before the Retirement Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Glenn Waguespack, seconded by Jimbo Stevenson and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned.