

**NEW CASTLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' PENSION PROGRAM
MINUTES of February 16, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on February 16, 2022 via Zoom video conference in the Government Center, 87 Reads Way, New Castle, DE 19720.

Rollcall Taken

<p><u>TRUSTEES PRESENT:</u> Daniel McFadden, Chairperson Daryl Brown, Trustee Douglas Merrill, FOP Lodge #5 Jacqueline Jenkins, CHRO Jon Hall, Trustee, Local #459 Michael Finnigan, Trustee, Retirees Michael Smith, CFO Paul Frese, Trustee Non-Union Members Regis Yurcich, Trustee, Local #1607 Saul Polish, Trustee, Local #3911</p>	<p><u>TRUSTEES ABSENT:</u> Terry Stone, Trustee Vacant, Trustee, Local #3109</p> <p><u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u> Kevin Baload, Journalist with Intelligence Lindsay Saienni, Financial Investment News Mark Wolanski, NCC</p>
<p><u>STAFF PRESENT:</u> Frank Benevento, Pension Benefits Administrator Grace Dehel, Pension Program Analyst Daniel Mann, Pension Program Analyst Mengting Chen, Assistant County Attorney I Rowena P. Liles, Program Analyst</p>	<p><u>INVITED GUESTS:</u> Kevin Leonard, NEPC Daniel Beaton, NEPC</p>

Frank – *Before we call the meeting to order I wanted to give everyone an update on Rich Piekarski. We have a vacant position from 3109 representative for the Pension Board of Trustees. Rich Piekarski was promoted to a position outside of 3109 and from an administrative perspective, our staff will reach out to 3109 President Joe Cochran and request a recommendation for trustee. This will go to the County Executive for recommendation to the board. So, we will be processing that in the coming weeks and will keep the board apprised of the decision.*

The meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the January 19, 2022, meeting are attached for approval.

A motion was made by Saul Polish and seconded by Daryl Brown to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2022, meeting.

***THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPROVAL OF THE INVOICES

Boomershine Consulting Group	\$430.00	Benefit Statements
IR&M	\$4,322.98	TIPS Fund
IR&M	23,908.93	CBFII Portfolio
JP Morgan Asset Mgt.	\$53,395.14	4 th Quarter 2021
Loomis Sayles	\$57,930.97	4 th Quarter 2021
MFS	\$136,087.39	4 th Quarter 2021

A motion was made by Saul Polish and seconded by Daryl Brown to approve the payment of the invoices.

***THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COORDINATOR'S REPORT by Frank Benevento

- ❖ Gross Payroll and Employer Contributions for the month of December 2021.
- ❖ Pension Trust Asset Summary – December 2021
- ❖ Pension Payments - January 2022
 - Payees for January 1,548
 - Active Participants 1,020
 - DelPen 375
 - DelPen (ret) 85
 - Benefits total \$3,961,636.17

CAPITAL CALLS

- None

DISTRIBUTION OF CAPITAL

➤ Crayhill Principal Strategies Fund II LP	\$2,781.00	01/14/2022
➤ Crayhill Principal Strategies Fund II LP	\$367,017.00	01/25/2022
➤ Brookfield Cap Partners Fd IV	\$136,396.96	01/24/2022
➤ Lexington Partners	\$37,710.00	01/28/2022
➤ Crescent Direct Lending	\$6,476.00	01/28/2022
➤ Northstar Mezzanine	\$323,358.00	01/28/2022
➤ Crayhill Principal Strategies Fd II LP	\$147,225.00	02/08/2022

APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATIONS FOR BENEFITS

Service Retirements

(06428)	\$200.00	01/15/2022	SCGPen (vested)
(05683)	\$7,686.47	03/15/2022	RetGen

Lump Sum Benefits

(15456)	\$10,624.47	02/01/2022	RetGen
(15457)	\$1,946.82	02/01/2022	RetGen

Refund Benefit

** (14347)	\$1,797.33	02/01/2022	CPGen
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**** Frank has requested the refund payment be tabled until next month due to information needed from the former employee.**

APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATIONS FOR BENEFITS (Cont'd)

A motion was made by Saul Polish and seconded by Paul Frese to approve the Coordinator's Report, service retirements, lump sum and refund benefits.

***THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.**

OLD BUSINESS

➤ Update – (Frank Benevento)

- Pension Hardware/Software Updates - During our November 17, 2021, Pension Board meeting, we informed the Pension Board of the necessity for updating the Pension Boards aging hardware, software and accessories. After further discussions with our Procurement Department on pricing and technical aspects we would like to request a budget of \$30,000 to procure these upgrades. The budget request is to cover the purchase of hardware, software, accessories and should take approximately 4-6 months to complete. Any questions? (A motion would be necessary to budget \$30,000 to procure updated hardware, software and accessories).

A motion was made by Daryl Brown and seconded by Saul Polish to approve the budget of \$30,000 for the Pension Hardware/Software and accessories.

***THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEW BUSINESS

- New Castle County 2011 Plan – 401(a) Plan Flash (NEPC) - Today we have Dan Beaton, Senior Consultant from our defined contribution consultant (NEPC) to present the New Castle County 2011 Plan – 401(a) Plan Flash report through 12/31/2021. The County 2011 Plan became effective November 1, 2011. The Plan is a hybrid plan consisting of two components.

1. Defined Benefit Portion
2. Defined Contribution Portion – 401(a) Plan

For the defined contribution portion, the County will make an annual non-elective contribution of one (1) percent of the member's annual base salary to an individual defined contribution account (401a). The County will also make an annual matching contribution up to a maximum of two (2) percent of the member's annual base salary for those who elect to contribute into the County's tax deferred 457(b) Plan. These 401(a) defined contributions for the County 2011 Plan fall under the administration of the Pension Board.

A review was held on the County 2011 Plan – 401(a) Plan.

- Kevin Leonard (NEPC) - Discussion on Asset Allocation – A review and discussion was held on the Asset Allocation.
 - NEPC recommends the following
 - Move 1.5% out of the S&P 500 and move to CoHo
 - Increase Private Debt and lower Fixed Income
- Kevin Leonard (NEPC) - Review the Preliminary Investment Performance “Flash” report for the period ending January 31, 2022 – A review and discussion was held on the performance report for January 31, 2022.

COMMENTS

- None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Daryl Brown and seconded by Saul Polish to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

***THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.**