



## **TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS**

2815 West Washington Street | P.O. Box 19253 | Springfield, Illinois 62794-9253

R. Stanley Rupnik, Executive Director & Chief Investment Officer

<http://www.trsil.org>

877-927-5877 (877-9-ASK-TRS)

### **MINUTES**

#### **Board Meeting**

**February 22, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois (TRS) was held on February 22, 2024 at NIU Naperville, 1120 E. Diehl Rd., Naperville, IL. Trustee Matt Hunt (President) called the meeting to order at 1:42 PM. Roll call attendance was taken with the following Trustees present: Trustee Beth Anderson, Trustee Kevin "Duffy" Blackburn, Trustee Joe Blomquist, Trustee Marsha Byas, Trustee Mike Goetz, Trustee Andy Hirshman (Vice-President), Trustee Matt Hunt, Trustee Mia Jazo-Harris, Trustee Maureen Mena, Trustee David Miller, Trustee Fred Peronto, Trustee Larry Pfeiffer, Trustee Tony Sanders, and Trustee Doug Strand. A quorum was present.

Others in attendance: Stan Rupnik, Executive Director & CIO; Sally Antonacci, Executive Officer; Chelsea Duis, Executive Administrator; Deron Bertolo, Chief Financial Officer; Gloria Lasley, Chief Operating Officer; Emily Peterson, General Counsel; Cynthia Fain, Senior Legal Counsel; Michelle Kissel, Director of Human Resources; Lori Dour, Chief Benefits Officer; Stacy Smith, Director of Internal Audit and Risk; John Gerding, Director of Information Technology; Janelle Gurnsey, Director of Public Relations; Ghiané Jones, Deputy Chief Investment Officer; Jenna Guymon, Human Resources Business Partner; Claire Kramer, Organizational Effectiveness Specialist; Kyle Thornton, Network Administrator; Will Daugherty, Senior Technical Support Specialist; Becky Gratsinger of RVK, Inc. (Investment Consultant); Andrew Bodewes of Leinenweber, Baroni & Daffada Consulting LLC (Legislative Consultant); and Jessica Culotti of Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren (Fiduciary Counsel).

Remote attendees: Terri Worth, Pension Administration System Program Director

Visitors: Elston Flowers, IEA-Retired; Elliott Mallen, Unite Here Local 1; Jordan Fein, Fernando Perez, and Ricardo Blanco, Unite Here Local 11; and Angela Myers, Loop Capital Markets.

#### Public Comment

Elliott Mallen, Unite Here Local 1, and Jordan Fein, Ricardo Blanco, and Fernando Perez, Unite Here Local 11 provided comments related to assets managed by Blackstone.

#### Minutes

A draft of the December 12, 2023 minutes of the Board meeting was sent to the Board members for review. On a motion by Trustee Sanders, seconded by Trustee Goetz, the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote. Documentation is on file.

## Committee Reports

### Audit Committee

Trustee Duffy Blackburn (Committee Chair) reported that the Audit Committee met on February 22, 2024. The Committee had no action items to bring to the Board.

### Deferred Compensation Plan Committee

Trustee Matt Hunt (Committee Chair) reported that the Deferred Compensation Plan Committee met on February 22, 2024. The Committee had no action items to bring to the Board.

### Investment Committee

Trustee David Miller (Committee Chair) reported that the Investment Committee met on February 22, 2024. The Committee had no action items to bring to the Board.

## Legislative Update

Andrew Bodewes, Legislative Consultant, provided a legislative update regarding Governor Pritzker's State of the State Address and FY2025 budget proposal.

Stan Rupnik, Executive Director & CIO, introduced Janelle Gurnsey as the new Director of Public Relations and Human Resources staff members Jenna Guymon and Claire Kramer.

## Working Groups Update

Trustees Matt Hunt and David Miller gave updates regarding the Technology Working Group and Investment Working Group, respectively. The Strategic Plan Working Group has not met since the previous Board meeting.

## Executive Director's Report

### Financials

The financial reports for the quarter ended December 31, 2023 were sent to trustees for review. Documentation is on file. On a motion by Trustee Jazo-Harris, seconded by Trustee Blomquist, it was resolved:

To approve the financial statements and schedule of expenditures for the quarter ending December 31, 2023 as presented.

Roll call resulted in affirmative voice votes from Trustees Anderson, Blackburn, Blomquist, Byas, Goetz, Hirshman, Hunt, Jazo-Harris, Mena, Miller, Peronto, Pfeiffer, Sanders, and Strand.

Governance Update

Stan Rupnik provided background on the staff delegation model. Discretion thresholds will continue to be reviewed annually. Documentation is on file.

On a motion by Trustee Sanders, seconded by Trustee Hirshman, it was resolved:

- To maintain the current discretion thresholds, as presented.

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Threshold</b>
<b>Global Public Equity</b> <i>(including US Equity &amp; Int’l Equity)</i>	\$500 million
<b>Income</b>	\$500 million for public debt mandates \$250 million for private debt
<b>Private Equity</b>	\$300 million
<b>Real Estate &amp; Real Assets</b>	\$300 million for commingled funds \$500 million for separately managed accounts
<b>Diversifying Strategies</b>	\$250 million

- To continue portfolio rebalance activity as necessary, with notification for significant rebalance activity given to the Investment Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Roll call resulted in affirmative voice votes from Trustees Anderson, Blackburn, Blomquist, Byas, Goetz, Hirshman, Hunt, Jazo-Harris, Mena, Miller, Peronto, Pfeiffer, Sanders, and Strand.

Retreat Topics

Stan Rupnik provided a preliminary agenda of retreat topics and asked the Trustees for input on other topics to be discussed at the upcoming April 2024 Board retreat.

Gemini Update

Gloria Lasley, Chief Operating Officer, and John Gerding, Director of Information Technology, provided an update on the Gemini project.

Board Travel/Education Requests

On a motion by Trustee Peronto, seconded by Trustee Jazo-Harris, it was resolved to approve:

- Travel for Trustees Marsha Byas and Larry Pfeiffer to attend the National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR) 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Trustee Workshop on July 21-24, 2024, in Berkley, CA.

- Travel for Trustee Larry Pfeiffer to attend the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS) Annual Conference and Exhibition (ACE) on May 19-22, 2024, in Seattle, WA.
- Travel for Trustee Andy Hirshman to attend Pension Bridge The Annual 2024 on April 15-17, 2024, in Half Moon Bay, CA.

Motion passed by roll call vote from Trustees Anderson, Blackburn, Blomquist, Byas, Goetz, Hirshman, Hunt, Jazo-Harris, Mena, Miller, Peronto, Pfeiffer, Sanders, and Strand.

#### Executive Session

A motion was made by Trustee Blomquist, seconded by Trustee Sanders, that the Board enter into executive session to discuss matters as authorized and permitted under the following exceptions set forth by the Open Meetings Act: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or legal counsel for the public body, to determine its validity [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]; Deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)]; Sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7)]; Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)]; and Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the public body of the minutes, or semi-annual review of the minutes to determine if the need for confidentiality still exists [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)].

Motion passed by roll call vote from Trustees Anderson, Blackburn, Blomquist, Byas, Goetz, Hirshman, Hunt, Jazo-Harris, Mena, Miller, Peronto, Pfeiffer, Sanders, and Strand.

The public meeting closed at 2:36 PM.

No action was taken during executive session.

The public meeting reconvened at 4:40 PM. Roll call attendance was taken with the following trustees present: Trustees Anderson, Blackburn, Byas, Goetz, Hirshman, Hunt, Jazo-Harris, Miller, Pfeiffer, Sanders, and Strand.

#### Approval of Destruction of Audio Recordings & Release of Executive Session Minutes

On a motion by Trustee Sanders, seconded by Trustee Goetz, it was resolved to approve the public release of executive session minutes listed below that were reviewed as part of the semi-annual review and to approve the destruction of audio recordings in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Minutes/Audio
June 16, 2022	Board	Audio
August 12, 2022	Board	Audio
June 8, 2023	Rules & Personnel Committee	Minutes
August 14, 2023	Audit Committee	Minutes
August 15, 2023	Rules & Personnel Committee	Minutes
October 27, 2023	Audit Committee	Minutes

Trustee Concerns

Trustee Hirshman noted the Investment Working Group will discuss the use of responsible contractor policies.

Trustee Miller congratulated Ghiané Jones on her recent National Association of Securities Professionals Chicago 2024 Trailblazing Women in Finance Honoree award.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made by Trustee Goetz, seconded by Trustee Strand, to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 PM. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Stan Rupnik, Executive Director & Chief Investment Officer

Approved: 06/18/2024