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DRAFT MINUTES

Classified Employees Retirement Fund Quarterly Meeting was held remotely on Thursday, July 20, 2023 via a Zoom meeting

Those in attendance were:

Mayor Caroline Simmons	David Yanik, Controller	Kevin M. Nichols, Morgan Stanley
Mary Lou Rinaldi, Chair & Trustee	Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources	Joseph J. Matthews, Morgan Stanley
Steven Bonaparte, Trustee	Angelo Sestito, Assistant Director of Human Resources	Lindsay Pereguda, Morgan Stanley
Jeff Curtis, Trustee	James Lavin, Retirement Benefits Specialist Human Resources	Diana Kodanov, Northern Trust
Eric Newman, Trustee	Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources & Benefits Assistant	Patricia Koulouris, Northern Trust
Rick Petersen, Retiree Association	Dan Colleluori, MAA Union President	Members of the Public

Chair, Mary Lou Rinaldi called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

I. Minutes:

A motion to approve the June 8, 2023 CERF Board meeting Minutes was made by Steven Bonaparte and seconded by Eric Newman. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

II. Public Participation: NONE

III. New Business:

A. Northern Trust – Diana Kodanov

i. Administrative Report

Diana Kodanov reviewed the Administrative Report for the month dated June 30, 2023, which included financials for the Fund, such as opening balance, contributions, distributions, fees and expenses. According to the report, the Fund had a gain for the month, as well as the fiscal year.

Controller, David Yanik reported that the contributions of \$3.8 million for fiscal year 2024 from the City of Stamford were sent to Northern Trust on July 18, 2023. As a result, Norther Trust stated that the Fund now has a cash balance of \$6.4 million.

B. Morgan Stanley Consulting Group

Prior to presenting the reports, Kevin M. Nichols reviewed the Agenda.

i. Wealth Management Update

Joseph J. Matthews reviewed the Wealth Management Perspectives and mentioned the Global Investment Committee (GIC) reported over the next 6-9 months margins may not be sustainable, because of that, earnings may be difficult for certain sectors of the economy, because of that Morgan Stanley mentioned that will be reflected in the portfolio.

However, there will be opportunities in both the U.S. & International markets because of the portfolios Actively Managed accounts, which protect on the downside and will participate on the upside while generating cash flow in the form of dividends.

ii. Investment Performance Report

Kevin M. Nichols highlighted the Fee and Cost of Services Analysis reports, which annually has saved the Fund over \$170,000 across the portfolio. Furthermore, according to the Portfolio Growth report, the portfolio has grown approximately \$40 million (net) over the last three years. In addition, Mr. Nichols reviewed the Performance Report, Risk verse Return Report, Asset Allocation and Manager Performance report as of June 30, 2023.

Morgan Stanley made a recommendation to distribute \$1.5 million of excess funding by allocating \$900,000 to High Grade U.S. Corporate Bonds and another \$600,000 to Emerging Market Equities. The risk versus the reward for these asset classes offer the Fund the best outcome over the next 12-18 months.

Eric Newman motioned to approve the recommendation from Morgan Stanley of distributing \$1.5 million in excess funding as presented above. Jeff Curtis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

C. Vested Pensions

i. Franklin Griffin \$489.35 July 1, 2023

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the vested pension request for Franklin Griffin. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Keith Reynolds* \$1,058.80 May 1, 2023

* QDRO for Lisa Reynolds, Vested Term., previously approved at May 2023 CERF meeting

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the vested pension request for Keith Reynolds. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

iii. Kevin Rueffer \$1,069.86

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the vested pension request for Kevin Rueffer. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

July 1, 2023

iv. Carmen Ulloa \$1,298.91 July 1, 2023

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the vested pension request for Carmen Ulloa. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

D. Return of Contributions:

i. Jeffrie Hausman \$4,883.82 July 1, 2023

Mary Lou Rinaldi made a motion to approve the return of contributions request for Jeffrie Hausman. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Pedro Ramos \$63,909.48 August 1, 2023

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the return of contributions request for Pedro Ramos. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

E. Retirements:

i. Victor Eng \$2,548.25 August 1, 2023

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the retirement request for Victor Eng. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Lynne Fife \$2,867.70 August 1, 2023

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the retirement request for Lynne Fife. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

iii. Marie Milbrun \$3,234.71 July 1, 2023

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the retirement request for Marie Milbrun. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

iv. Jo-Ann Mori \$2,631.35 June 1, 2023

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the retirement request for Jo-Ann Mori. Mary Lou Rinaldi seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

v. Stephen Ostaszewski \$2,724.33 August 1, 2023

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the retirement request for Stephen Ostaszewski. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

vi. John Subrizi \$2,596.83 August 1, 2023

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the retirement request for John Subrizi. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. Other

i. Nancy Palamarcuik

- a. Beneficiary Designation
- b. Return of Pension Contribution

Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources and James Lavin, Retirement Benefits Specialist Human Resources provided background information on the request and answered any questions.

The request presented to the Board was to uphold the decedent's, Nancy Palamarcuik's retirement paperwork, which was to designate her husband, Mr. Tore Palamarcuik as her beneficiary. However, since he had also passed shortly thereafter, the return of contributions would pass to the estate of Mr. Tore Palamarcuik.

After a brief discussion, Mary Lou Rinaldi made a motion to approve the beneficiary designation and return of pension contributions for Nancy Palamarcuik as requested above. Erik Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. Disability Retirements NONE

H. Buy Back NONE

I. <u>Bills:</u> Director Cava presented the following bills to the Board as one vote:

i. Morgan Stanley Invoice# 10804023191 TOTAL: \$123,455.56

Investment Advisory Fee: July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023

ii. Robinson+Cole Invoice# 50417982 TOTAL: \$148.50

Fees for Legal Services

iii. Sage Advisory Services Invoice# 20230630-1098-A TOTAL: \$8,617.75

Investment Management Services: July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023

Eric Newman motioned to approve the payment of the bills as presented and read into the record by Director Cava. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

With no further business, Steven Bonaparte made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Eric Newman. Mary Lou Rinaldi adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

The next Meeting of the Trustees for the Classified Employees Retirement Fund will be a Regular Meeting scheduled for September 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.