Louisiana State Employees Retirement System Management Committee Meeting February 16, 2023

The Management Committee of the Louisiana State Employees Retirement System met on Thursday, February 16, 2023, in the fourth floor Board Room of the Retirement Systems Building, located at 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Judge William Kleinpeter, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:57 p.m. Roll was called by Ms. Beth Labello, recording secretary.

- Members present: Mr. Thomas Bickham, Mr. Charles Castille, Mr. Byron Decoteau, Ms. Ternisa Hutchinson, Representative Barry Ivey, Judge William Kleinpeter, Ms. Amy Mathews, Mr. Rick McGimsey (designee of the Commissioner), Ms. Barbara McManus, Mr. Julius Roberson (designee of the Treasurer), and Ms. Shannon Templet
- Members absent: Ms. Virginia Burton and Senator Barrow Peacock
- Staff present: Ms. Cindy Rougeou, Executive Director; Mr. Trey Boudreaux, Chief of Staff; Mr. Travis McIlwain, Chief Administrative Officer; Ms. Tina Grant, Executive Counsel; Mr. Bobby Beale, Chief Investment Officer; Ms. Tricia Gibbons, Retirement Benefits Administrator; Mr. Ryan Babin, Audit Director; Ms. Wretha Drinnon, Deputy Fiscal Officer; Mr. Johnathon Sprouse, IT Director; Ms. Mallory Sharp, PID Director; Mr. Steve Stark, Deputy General Counsel; Ms. Morgan Robertson, Attorney; Mr. Barney Miller, IT Technical Support Analyst; Mr. Logan Davis, IT Technical Support Analyst; Amanda Celestine, Executive Staff Officer; and Ms. Beth Labello, recording secretary
- Also present: Ms. Shelley Johnson, Actuary, Foster & Foster; Mr. Joey David, Legislative Analyst; Ms. Lebra Bias, Attorney, Louisiana Senate Judiciary A Committee; and David Gorbaty, Retired Judge 4th Circuit Court of Appeals

A quorum was declared present, and the meeting opened for business.

Public Comment

Judge Kleinpeter called for public comment. Judge Gorbaty appeared before the Committee to speak about the importance of COLA funding for retirees.

Regular Business

Judge Kleinpeter called for approval of the January 18 & 19, 2023, Management Committee minutes. **Ms. McManus moved, seconded by Mr. Bickham, to approve the minutes.** With no discussion or objection, the motion passed.

In the Executive Counsel's report, Ms. Grant announced that Dr. Ralph Slaughter filed a new petition naming LASERS a defendant. The petition is for declaratory judgment, compensatory damages, and injunctive relief. He is challenging all the statutes that allow judges' supplemental pay to be retirement eligible. The judicial administrator for the Supreme Court, all the clerks of court, LASERS, and all fiduciaries of LASERS are named defendants. He also filed a motion for the recusal of all judges in the state of Louisiana. Although this case is being handled primarily by ORM, Ms. Grant will serve as a counsel of record.

New Business

Ms. Celestine gave a presentation on the 2023 strategic plan updates.

Mr. McIlwain reviewed the Chief Administrative Officer's comments. Mr. McIlwain will resend the link to the risk survey to the Board.

Mr. Boudreaux reviewed the Chief of Staff's comments. He included the Member Satisfaction Survey Results in his comments.

Ms. Rougeou reviewed the Executive Director's comments.

Judge Kleinpeter announced there were no disability approvals or denials this month.

Ms. McManus moved, seconded by Mr. Bickham, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Executive Director's position. With no discussion or objection, the motion passed.

Ms. McManus moved, seconded by Mr. Bickham, to return to regular session. With no discussion or objection, the motion passed.

Ms. McManus moved, seconded by Mr. Bickham, to approve that effective June 30, 2023, Trey Boudreaux is named Executive Director, with the same salary as the current Executive Director, and in Ms. Rougeou's absence prior to that date, Mr. Boudreaux will serve as acting Executive Director with the full power and authority of the Executive Director. With no objection and one abstention by Mr. Robertson, the motion carried.

Other Business

There was no further business to discuss.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.