



Retirement Board of the Policemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY – October 24, 2024

Board Meeting Agenda
October 24, 2024, 9:00 A.M.

1. Roll Call
2. Requests from Members of the Public to Address the Board
3. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Private Equity RFP*
4. Approval of Administrative Items
 - a. Approval of Minutes – Investment Meeting held September 23, 2024
 - b. Approval of Transcript - Investment Meeting held September 23, 2024
 - c. Approval of Minutes – Board Meeting held September 26, 2024
 - d. Approval of Transcript - Board Meeting held September 26, 2024
 - e. Approval of Minutes - Executive Sessions during Investment Meeting held September 23, 2024
 - f. Approval of Minutes - Executive Sessions during Board Meeting held September 26, 2024
5. Approval of Board Orders
 - a. Officer Roberto Ramirez - Duty Disability
 - b. Officer Eric Stillman - Duty Disability
6. Consideration for Approval of Benefit Applications and Expenses
7. Consideration for Approval of Applications for Disability / Reviews
 - a. Hearing for Officer Shana Knight – Occupational/Heart Disability
 - b. Hearing for Officer Jeffery Shafer – Duty Disability
 - c. Hearing for Officer Sarah Peck – Duty Disability
 - d. Hearing for Lieutenant Michael Keeney – Duty Disability
 - e. Status Review for Officer Daniel A. Johnson – Duty Disability (1pm)
8. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Notification to State’s Attorney Pursuant to Section 1-135.
9. Legal Review*
 - a. In-process case report
 - b. Other
10. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Annual Gift to Minimum Annuitants and Widows
11. Other Business

*Topics may be discussed in closed session in accordance with the applicable Open Meetings Act provisions.

Board Members Present:

Melissa Conyears-Ervin	Trustee
Annette Guzman *	Trustee
Jill Jaworski *	Trustee
John Lally	Trustee
Michael Lappe	Trustee
Jeffrey Levine	Trustee, Vice President
Brock Merck	Trustee
Michael Stiscak	President, Recording Secretary

Staff Present:

Kevin Reichart	Executive Director
Sarah Boeckman	Board Counsel
Paul Rzeszutko	Benefits Manager
Bob Crawford	Disability Manager

Consultants and Advisors Present:

Dr. Susan Buchanan*	Board Physician
Richard Reimer*	Board Attorney/Hearing Officer
DeAnna Jones *	NEPC

City of Chicago Office of the Treasurer Staff

Public in Attendance:

Ralph Licari*	Attorney
Rosemarie Giambalvo*	Retiree, CPD
Beth Svec*	Police Officer, CPD
David Di Santi *	Retired, CPD
Michael Mette*	FOP
Thomas Lonergan*	Retired, CPD
John Catanzara*	Retired, CPD
Jerry Marconi *	Attorney
Dr. Jay Levin *^	Orthopedic Doctor
Thomas Mazur *	Attorney
Daniel Johnson *	CPD
Jeffrey Shafer *	Police Officer, CPD
Shana Knight *	Police Officer, CPD

Others in attendance not identified

*Denotes partial attendance

^ Denotes remote attendance

ROLL CALL

President Stiscak determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at approximately 9:09 a.m.

REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Trustee Stiscak asked if there were any requests from the public to address the Board.

- 1) John Catanzara addressed the Board to reconsider Officer Stillman’s disability case.
- 2) Beth Svec also addressed the Board regarding disability for Officer Stillman.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PRIVATE EQUITY RFP

A motion to enter into executive session per 2 (c) (7) of the open meetings act was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion to exit executive session and return to open session was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Guzman.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin to allocate \$100 million to private equity for vintage years 2024 and 2025, to the following investment advisors, consistent with the recommendation from NEPC.

- \$45 million to Capital Dynamics
- \$40 million to Levine Leichtman
- \$15 million to Muller & Monroe

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The first order of business was review and approval of the Board Minutes of the Investment Meeting held on September 23, 2024; approval of the Transcript of the Investment Meeting held on September 23, 2024; approval of the Minutes of the Board meeting held on September 26, 2024; and approval of the Transcript of the Board meeting held on September 26, 2024.

A motion was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe to approve the minutes from the Investment Meeting held on September 23, 2024.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe to approve the transcript of the Investment Meeting held on September 23, 2024.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting held on September 26, 2024.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe to approve the transcript of the Board Meeting held on September 26, 2024.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lally to approve the minutes from the Executive Sessions during the Investment Meeting held on September 23, 2024.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe to approve the minutes from the Executive Sessions during the Board Meeting held on September 26, 2024.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

APPROVAL OF BOARD ORDERS

Officer Roberto Ramirez

Application; Duty Disability

Board Counsel provided a draft order to the Board for Officer Ramirez.

A motion to adopt and publish the Board Order as submitted for Officer Roberto Ramirez was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

Officer Eric Stillman

Application; Duty Disability

Board Counsel provided a draft order to the Board for Officer Stillman.

A motion to enter into executive session per 2 (c) (4) of the open meetings act was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

A motion to exit executive session and return to open session was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Jaworski.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: 0.

No final action was taken.

A motion was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Guzman to adopt and publish the Board Order as submitted for Officer Stillman.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Guzman, Jaworski, Lally, Lappe, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: Lally.
 Absent: Levine
 Motion passes.

Whereupon, Trustee Guzman and Trustee Jaworski left the meeting.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES

DOCKET: SCHEDULE I-A Incurred Expenses for the Month of September 2024

A motion to approve the Incurred Expenses as detailed on Schedule I-A was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES - continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-A Refunds of Member Contributions

A motion to approve the contribution Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-A was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-B Refunds of Surviving Spouse Contributions

A motion to approve the spousal Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-B was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-C Refunds of Exempt Rank Contributions

A motion to approve the Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-C was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE II-D Refunds Payment to Heirs of Deceased Annuitants

A motion to approve the Refunds as detailed on Schedule II-D was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-A Annuities with a Summary Page

A motion to approve the Annuities as detailed on Schedule III-A, was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES - continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-B Annuities to Widows with a Summary Page

A motion to approve the Annuities to Widows as detailed on Schedule III-B was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE III-C Annuities to Children - Rescinded

A child's annuity was presented to the Board at the September 2024 meeting in error. Staff discovered in the process that the disabled child was from a former marriage. Therefore, a child's annuity application is required from the child's birth mother for benefit consideration.

A motion to rescind the Board's motion approving Schedule III-C from the September 2024 Board meeting that was providing a disabled child's annuity to Stacy Fox, was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE IV Disability Applications - New

Ordinary Disability for Officer Gilbert Escamilla

Dr. Buchanan provided the Board with a short medical summary of the injury incurred by Officer Escamilla. *A motion to approve Officer Gilbert Escamilla for ordinary disability at 50% was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.*

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE IV-A Disability Benefits Revised

Due to City wage contract agreements, retroactive salary increases were provided to officers whereas their disability rate must now be adjusted accordingly.

A motion to approve revised disabilities was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Stiscak.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE V Payment of Death Benefits with a Summary

A motion to approve payment of the Death Benefits as indicated on Schedule V was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF BENEFIT APPLICATIONS AND EXPENSES – continued

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VI Pension Credit – Military Leave in Service 5/5-212

As detailed in Schedule VI, requests to purchase pension credit for military service while on leave from the City pursuant to Section 5-212 of the Code.

A motion to approve the requests to purchase pension credit for military while on leave from City service as detailed on Schedule VI was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Merck.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VII Prior Service Requests – MILITARY 5/5-214.3

As detailed in Schedule VII, requests to purchase pension credit for military service prior to City employment pursuant to Section 5-214.3 of the Code.

A motion to approve the requests to purchase pension credit for military service prior to City employment as detailed on Schedule VII was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Merck.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

General docketed items completed.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII-A DISABILITY HEARINGS

Disability Hearings Claims / Reviews

A motion to appoint Richard Reimer as the Hearing Officer for all disability cases scheduled to be heard at this meeting was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

Officer Shana K. Knight – Duty Disability Review

This hearing was conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the disability claim of Officer Shana K. Knight.

Officer Knight appeared before the Board, without counsel, on her claim for an occupational disability benefit. Records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to grant Officer Peck an occupational 65% disability benefit was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII-A DISABILITY HEARINGS - continued

Officer Jeffrey Shafer – Duty Disability Claim

This hearing was conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the disability claim of Officer Jeffrey Shafer.

Officer Shafer appeared before the Board, with Attorney Jerry Marconi as counsel, on his claim for a 75% duty disability benefit.

Dr. Jay Levin joined the hearing remotely to provide medical clarifications regarding Officer Shafer's medical condition. Dr. Levin fielded questions from the Board and from Attorney Marconi. The Board thanked Dr. Levin for appearing at the hearing and closing arguments were heard.

Records were reviewed and testimony was taken from claimant.

A motion to enter into executive session per 2 (c) (4) of the Open Meetings Act was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

A motion to exit executive session and return to open session was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Levine.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

A motion to grant Officer Shafer duty disability benefits at 75% of salary as provided for in the Pension Act, was made by Trustee Lappe, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: Conyears-Ervin.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.
 The motion passes.

Officer Sarah L. Peck – Duty Disability Claim

Officer Sarah L. Peck was not present at the meeting and was represented by Attorney Ralph Licari. Attorney Licari requested a continuance because he was waiting additional records before presenting Officer Peck's case to the Board.

A motion to grant Officer Peck with a continuance was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

DOCKET: SCHEDULE VIII-A DISABILITY HEARINGS - continued

Lieutenant Michael D. Keeney – Continuance

Lieutenant Michael D. Keeney was not present at the meeting and was represented by Attorney Thomas Mazur. Attorney Mazur requested a continuance; they are waiting for a medical opinion. A tentative hearing was discussed for December or later if needed.

A motion to grant Officer Keeney a continuance until December, and further out if needed, was made by Trustee Stiscak, seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

Officer Daniel A. Johnson – Status Review

This status hearing was conducted pursuant to Article 5 of the Illinois Pension Code concerning the duty disability claim of Officer Daniel A. Johnson.

Officer Johnson appeared before the Board without counsel and requested a continuance to obtain counsel.

A motion to grant Officer Keeney a continuance to February 2025 in order to obtain counsel was made by Trustee Levine, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

**CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NOTIFICATION TO STATE’S ATTORNEY
PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-135 OF THE PENSION CODE**

Executive Director Kevin Reichart informed the Board that the Fund entered into an agreement with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) obtaining death match records reported in Illinois. Several members in receipt of annuity payments were reported as deceased resulting in overpayment of annuity benefits. Benefit payments were stopped and recovery efforts were implemented utilizing the Fund’s banking custodian. Individuals with access to the annuitant’s account are being contacted, and pursuant to Section 1/1-135 of the Code, the State’s Attorney’s Office will be notified that alleged fraud may have been committed.

A motion for Fund counsel to notify the State’s Attorney’s Office of alleged fraud was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

LEGAL REVIEW

Fund attorney Sarah Boeckman requested the Board enter into executive session involving pending litigation.

A motion to enter into executive session per 2 (c) (11) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss pending litigation was made by Trustee Levine seconded by Trustee Lally.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

A motion to exit executive session and return to open session was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.
 The Board did not take any action.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ANNUAL GIFT CHECKS TO MINIMUM ANNUITANTS AND WIDOWS

Executive Director Kevin Reichart informed the Board that there are currently 1,166 annuitants and widows with annuity payments below the poverty level threshold. For approximately the last 23 years, the Fund has approved Gift Payments to these individuals of \$500 each. It was tabled whether the Board would consider \$500 for the upcoming 2025 gift payment, approximate total cost of \$583,000.

A motion to allocate \$583,000 from the Gift Reserve to provide \$500 gift payments in to minimum annuitants and widows, was made by Trustee Lally, seconded by Trustee Conyears-Ervin.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

OTHER BUSINESS

Signature Verification Forms

Executive Director Kevin Reichart informed the Board that third and final Signature Verification forms were mailed in mid-September with a return due date of October 15th. There are less than 160 annuitants who have not yet returned their forms and complied. Fund staff will suspend annuity payments beginning with the October 31st payment. When annuitants comply and return their forms, fund staff will then reinstate benefits retroactively.

Mr. John Catanzara wanted to make a public comment regarding the signature verification forms.

A motion was made by Trustee Levine and seconded by Trustee Stiscak to allow a public comment from John Catanzara.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.

OTHER BUSINESS - continued

Signature Verification Forms -continued

Mr. Catanzara wished to be heard. He expressed his thoughts to contact financial intuitions to find lost annuitants. In rebuttal, Trustee Stiscak indicated the Fund likely does not have authority and likely financial institutions likely will not release member's personal information for contact purposes.

2024 Trustee Elections

Lastly, Executive Director Kevin Reichart informed the Board the election is ongoing and the last day to cast a vote is by 11:59 pm on October 30, 2024. Reminders to vote were sent.

All business concluded.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Lally and seconded by Trustee Lappe.

ROLL CALL: For: Conyears-Ervin, Lally, Lappe, Levine, Merck, Stiscak.
 Against: 0.
 Absent: Guzman, Jaworski.