



**City of Cincinnati Retirement System
Governance Committee Meeting
Minutes
May 5, 2022/ 1:30 P.M.
City Hall – Council Chambers and remote**

Board Members

Mark Menkhaus, Jr., Chair
Don Stiens, Vice Chair
Tom Gamel
Kathy Rahtz
Erica Winstead
Jeff Cramerding

Administration

Mike Barnhill
Ann Schooley

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:50 p.m. by Chair Menkhaus and a roll call of attendance was taken. Committee members Menkhaus, Stiens, Rahtz, and Winstead were present. Trustees Gamel and Cramerding were absent. Additionally, Trustee Moller and Trustee Juech attended.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the April 7, 2022, meeting was moved by Trustee Rahtz and seconded by Trustee Winstead. Trustee Moller observed that the minutes as drafted make reference to tabling certain items, when in fact the Committee merely took no action on those items. Trustee Menkhaus proposed an amendment to change the language from “the item was tabled” to “no action was taken.” The amendment was accepted by the makers of the motion. The minutes, as amended, were approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Unfinished Business

Legal Advice Regarding DROP participants’ role in CRS Elections

Trustee Menkhaus invited Ms. Schooley of the Law Department to provide advice regarding the issue raised in the last meeting regarding whether DROP participants should vote in the election for an active trustee or in the election for a retired trustee. Ms. Schooley stated that the issue is not addressed in any of the governance authorities for the CRS, and therefore is not a legal issue. As such it is a “business” issue for the Board and system to decide. Trustee Menkhaus observed that the CRS practice is to permit DROP participants to get notice of and to vote in the election for an active trustee only.

Trustee Menkhaus moved to revise Board Rule 7(b)(4) governing active trustee elections to add the language “including DROP participants” so that the language is clear that DROP participants get notice of the active trustee election. Trustee Winstead seconded the motion. Trustee Stiens raised the issue of who

DROP participants are more aligned with: active or retired. Director Barnhill referenced the previous legal opinion regarding whether a DROP participant could serve as an active trustee. In that opinion, the Law Department stated that a DROP participant is a hybrid category in that they have interests aligned with both active members and retired members. Director Barnhill stated that the Board should not seek to disenfranchise DROP participants, and therefore supported the pending motion. Trustee Menkhaus asked if DROP participants receive active employee health insurance. Director Barnhill confirmed this is correct. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 3-0 (majority of committee members present; Stiens abstained).

Adjournment

Following a motion to adjourn by Trustee Stiens and seconded by Trustee Rahtz, the Governance Committee approved the motion by unanimous roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Meeting video link: <https://archive.org/details/crs-governance-comm-5-5-22>

Next Meeting: July 14, 2022, 12:00PM, City Council Chambers and via TEAMs

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Barnhill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "M".

Secretary