

TRS Board of Trustees
Minutes of Bimonthly Meeting
July 28, 2021

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia met in its bi-monthly meeting on July 28, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. via in person and Webex Video/Audio Conference. Trustees present in person were Ms. Deborah K. Simonds, Chair, Mr. Kenneth Dyer, Mr. Thomas W. Norwood, Ms. Miriam M. Shook and Dr. William G. Sloan. Trustees participating via Webex were Dr. Jason L. Branch, Ms. Marion R. Fedrick and Mr. Christopher M. Swanson.

TRS staff members present were: Dr. L. C. (Buster) Evans, Ms. Laura L. Lanier, Mr. Winston C. Buckley, Mr. R. Cory Buice, Mr. Eddy A. Hicks, Ms. Surbrena Johnson, Ms. Dina N. Jones, Ms. Sonya M. Kinley, Mr. J. Gregory McQueen and Ms. Vonnie B. Stewart.

Ms. Shelley Seinberg and Mr. Bryan Webb were present as legal counsel.

Visitors in attendance: Mr. Sean DeVetter, Mr. Harold Grindle, Ms. Natalie Heath, Ms. Emily Jones, Mr. Dan Powers, Mr. Kirk Shook, Ms. Toni Smith, Ms. Karen Solheim and Mr. Don Splinter.

Ms. Simonds called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present at meeting.

Item 1

Mr. Norwood made a motion to adopt the Board of Trustees meeting minutes for May 12, 2021, and June 23, 2021, and the Investment Committee meeting minutes for May 12, 2021, and June 23, 2021. Mr. Dyer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Item 2

Dr. Evans provided an operational update for FY 2021. Work items, statistical data and updates for each division were reviewed. Financial Services completed FY 2021 interim audit by KPMG, fiscal year end processing activities and GASB 68 and 75 financial reporting documents for all employers. Cyber security statistics comparison was provided for FY 2020 versus FY 2021. Communications conducted 212 events, with over 14,000 attendees (virtual and in-person). TRS received the Governor's Award for GASCCP for third straight year and raised \$48,462.99. New service retirements increased in FY 2021 compared to FY 2019: 6,835 to 6,116, while refund applications were down in FY 2021 to 5,983 compared to FY 2020 at 7,191. Retirement Services Division processed for FY 2021 125,612 service retirees with benefit payroll of \$5.4 billion.

Item 3

Ms. Lanier reported on the financial statements and expense fund as follows:

- 3.1 Assets restricted for pensions were \$102.2 billion as of June 30, 2021, compared to \$81.1 in June 30, 2020.
- 3.2 Total contributions for FY 2021 were \$3.3 billion, a 6.1% decrease. This decrease is attributed to employer required contribution rate decrease. Change in net position for FY 2021 was \$21.0 billion, compared to \$2.4 billion in FY 2020.
- 3.3 The expense fund closed under budget for FY 2021. With the end-of-the year closing, TRS expended 90.8%. Mr. Norwood made a motion to approve the expense fund. Dr. Sloan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.
- 3.4 The Beta Building report was provided for information.

Item 4

Ms. Lanier presented the amended FY 2022 and proposed FY 2023 budgets. The FY 2022 amended budget reflects current assessment of needed resource increase of \$1,519,312 in order to achieve mission objectives. The recommended increase is primarily attributed to increased allowance for potential forfeited leave payouts resulting from retirements, in addition to some salary increases due to promotions, new hires and market adjustments. Also included are increased costs for computer charges for cyber security tools and contractual services for strategic planning event, FileNet upgrade and contract for death searches. There was a decrease in travel costs for movement away from in-person training events and towards more virtual events, along with decrease in costs of publications and printing. These enhancements will be included as the continuation budget for Fiscal Year 2023. Mr. Norwood made a motion to adopt the amended FY 2022 budget and FY 2023 budget as presented. Mr. Dyer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Item 5

Dr. Evans presented information regarding request from Georgia Department of Transportation to purchase TRS land parcels for proposed right of way project. Mr. Dyer made a motion to authorize Executive Director to negotiate and execute the transfer of property to the Georgia Department of Transportation. Ms. Norwood seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

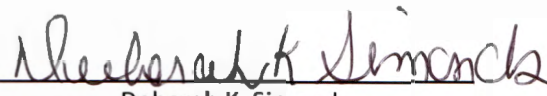
Item 6

Dr. Evans presented Ms. Sonya Kinley and Ms. Surbrena Johnson with a Certificate of Recognition from the Georgia Department of Administrative Services for their contribution during the 2020-2021 Georgia State Charitable Contributions Program annual campaign. TRS won the Governor's Award for the third straight year raising \$48, 462.99.

Item 7

Ms. Simonds reviewed the process for the evaluation of the Executive Director.

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Simonds thanked members and visitors for being present and adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.


Deborah K. Simonds
Chair


L. C. Evans
Executive Director