

TRS Board of Trustees
Minutes of Bi-monthly Meeting
March 23, 2022

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia met in its bi-monthly meeting on March 23, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. via Webex Video/Audio Conference. Trustees present in person were Ms. Deborah K. Simonds, Chair, Mr. Kenneth Dyer, Mr. Greg S. Griffin, Mr. Thomas W. Norwood and Dr. William G. Sloan. Trustees participating via Webex were Mr. Steven N. McCoy, Ms. Miriam M. Shook and Mr. Christopher M. Swanson.

TRS staff members present were Dr. L. C. (Buster) Evans, Ms. Laura L. Lanier, Mr. C. William Cary, Mr. Winston C. Buckley, Mr. R. Cory Buice, Ms. K. Paige Donaldson, Mr. Eddy A. Hicks, Ms. Dina N. Jones, Ms. Sonya M. Kinley, Mr. Carlos Marshall, Mr. Thomas W. McMurry, Ms. Vonnie B. Stewart and Ms. Lisa Watry.

Ms. Shelley Seinberg and Ms. Mary Catherine Greaber were present as legal counsel.

Visitors in attendance were Mr. Sean DeVetter, Mr. Dan Powers, Ms. Toni Smith and Mr. Don Splinter.

Ms. Simonds called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present at meeting. Ms. Simonds thanked Mr. Cary for his 50 years of service to the Division of Investment Services of the Teacher Retirement System of Georgia and Employees Retirement System.

Item 1

Mr. Dyer made a motion to adopt the January 26, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting minutes and the Investment Committee meeting minutes for January 26, 2022, and February 23, 2022. Dr. Sloan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Item 2

Dr. Evans presented the Executive Director's Operational Status Update. Work items, statistical data and updates for each division were reviewed. Communications and Outreach attended 43 events, with 34 counties reached and 3,257 total attendees (virtual and in-person). The new 2022 LDIP (Leadership Development Institute Program) Cohort classes were held in January and February. The March 1, 2022, benefit payroll showed the maximum plan continues to be the most popular plan elected by members at 58%. There were 126,636 service retirees who received an average monthly benefit of \$3,487, with a monthly total benefit payroll of \$473.5 million.

Item 3

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

- 3.1 Assets restricted for pensions were \$98.9, a 3.5% increase from February 2021.
- 3.2 Total contributions recognized year-to-date as of February 28, 2022, were \$2.3 billion while benefit payments made were \$3.8 billion.
- 3.3 The expense fund remained on target with normal operations. Year-to-date with 67% of the year completed, TRS has expended 59.6%. Mr. Griffin made a motion to approve the expense fund. Mr. Dyer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Item 4

Ms. Lanier presented the amended FY 2022 and FY 2023 budgets. The FY 2022 amended budget reflects current assessment of needed resource increase of \$1,721,646 in order to achieve mission objectives.

The recommended increase is primarily attributed to increase in Personal Services to address cost of living increase of \$5,000 per employee along with associated fringe benefits; an increase in equipment for storage project for FileNet moved from FY 2023 to FY 2022; and a decrease in state funds for Floor and COLA funds for local system retirees. The FY 2023 amended budget reflects current assessment of needed resource increase of \$3,015,285. Primary changes include increase in Personal Services due to increase in ERS employer contribution rate as a result of current legislation of the funding of forfeited leave, cost of living adjustments to retirees, and increase in the employer 401k match; increase in Personal Services to reflect FY 22 cost of living adjustment annualized for FY 2023 of \$5,000 per employee along with associated fringe benefits; decrease in equipment for storage project for FileNet moved from FY 2023 budget to FY 2022 budget; and decrease in state funds for Floor and COLA funds for local system retirees. Mr. Dyer made a motion to adopt the amended FY 2022 and FY 2023 budgets as presented. Dr. Sloan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Item 5

Dr. Evans presented a legislative update. House Bill 385 related to working after retirement was passed by both House and Senate and awaits Governor's signature. Senate Bill 267, originally written involving TRS, was amended by Senate Substitute and no longer pertains to the Teachers Retirement System. The report was provided for information.

Item 6

Ms. Lisa Watry and Mr. Carlos Marshall provided an update on TRS' Strategic Plan. Strategic plan highlights included: outstanding balance of overpayments decreased by 31%; On-Time processing rates for New Retirees is 99.3%, Refund at 96%, and Disability at 87.7%; 49.55% of active members have designated beneficiaries; 49.0% of active members and 66.6% of retired members have online accounts; and TRS Learning Management System has been renamed to TRS University (TRSU).

Item 7

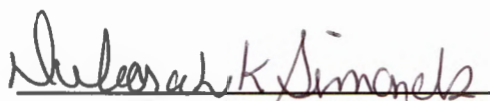
Mr. Buice presented an overview of member mortality rates and COVID's impact on our nation, state and TRS.

Item 8

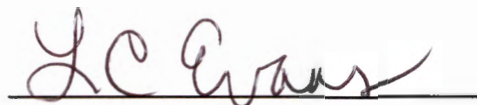
Dr. Evans presented Ms. Kinley the plaque for the 2021-2022 Georgia State Charitable Contributions Program Governor's Award for the highest dollar amount donated to charities amongst agencies with 101-500 employees. TRS won the Governor's Award for the fourth straight year raising \$49,039.

Item 9

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Simonds adjourned the meeting.



Deborah K. Simonds
Chair



L. C. Evans
Executive Director