

**BERKS COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT FUND BOARD MINUTES
JULY 27, 2020**

The Berks County Retirement Fund Board met in a regular session on Monday, July 27, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. via Microsoft Teams Live, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Chairman Christian Y. Leinbach called the meeting to order with Secretary Sandra Graffius, Treasurer Dennis Adams, Vice Chairman Michael Rivera in attendance. Member Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt was absent. The following County staff attended: Jessica Weaknecht, Director of Human Resources, Chad Schnee, Assistant County Solicitor, Robert Patrizio, Chief Financial Officer and Jonnelle Keller, Pension Coordinator.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 18, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT FROM THE FLOOR

None.

PRESENTATION

Terry Gerlich from SEI presented. He stated that we all know how volatile the year has been in the marketplace. There has been very significant sell-off in the bear market territory. The 1st quarter put on a very strong reversal with a strong recovery in the 2nd quarter. This was primarily a result of one of two things. First, a very significant fiscal monetary intervention was done by the federal reserve and federal government to help support the economy in this difficult time. Second, a reflection of the market being a discounted mechanism; investors will very often price in all the bad news before the bad news gets better. As a result, strong double-digit returns were seen in the domestic equities and at the same time bonds continue to do well as interest rates move forward. It was a welcome rebound after all the damage in the 1st quarter.

Mike Burke reported a \$13.8M improvement since the end of the 2nd quarter balance. We have had a very strong return in the three-month period, and we are still working our way back to where we were at the end of the calendar year.

He pointed out the Core Property Fund is on a three-month lag, the performance we see here is the first quarter ending March 31, 2020. This is to our benefit during the Covid crisis. Although there is a natural tendency of uncertainty in this corner of the investment portfolio with commercial office space, retail, malls and hotels, Mike reported a flat to above -1% for the 2nd quarter. We are seeing a very strong underweight to retail assets and a strong overweight to industrial warehouses which are a strong corner to the ecommerce market in which we are all forced to live in right now.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Jessica Weaknecht, Director of Human Resources, provided an update on the RFI for the Manager of Managers. Jessica stated the committee has selected three firms to present to the Pension Board at the August meeting. The presenting firms are SEI Investments Management Corporation, The Monteverde Group and PFM Asset Management. She reported she is working with Kelly Laubach to coordinate 15 to 20 minute sessions for each group to present to the board. We will provide questions for the firms on our end and the board with have the opportunity to ask questions as well.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

AUTHORIZE DISBURSEMENTS

1. A motion was made by Secretary Sandra Graffius and second by Vice Chairman Michael Rivera to authorize the disbursements as follows. Motion carried.

16R.2020 A. Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving annuities and refunds for June 2020 as follows:

Annuities	\$1,829,933.26
Refund	\$ 107,740.62
Total	\$1,937,673.88

2. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Michael Rivera and seconded by Secretary Sandra Graffius to authorize the disbursements as follows. Motion carried.

17R.2020 B. Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving payment of Invoice No. 195202371 in the amount of \$8,625.00 to Korn Ferry (US) for Actuarial Services to Agreement #ICA-174550-16, for 2nd Quarter Actuarial Services (April, May, June 2020).

There being no further business, on motion made by Chairman Christian Leinbach, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



 Sandy Graffius, Secretary Retirement Fund Board