



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION INVESTMENT FUND
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
JULY 16, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Firefighters' Pension Investment Fund of Illinois Elections Committee was held on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the FPIF Headquarters located at 1919 S. Highland Avenue – Building A, Suite 237 Lombard, Illinois 60148 and via videoconference in accordance with Public Act 101-0640, pursuant to notice.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Schick called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Taking of the Roll

Robina Amato from Lauterbach & Amen, LLP took the roll. Chairman Schick, Trustee Nichting and Trustee Bramwell were present; there were no absences.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the May 29, 2020 Elections Committee meeting minutes. A motion was made by Trustee Nichting and seconded by Trustee Bramwell to approve the May 29, 2020 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES: Chairman Schick, Trustees Bramwell and Nichting

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

IV. Presentations from Election Vendors

Steve Zahn introduced Drew Kendall and Tim Walsh from Governmental Business Systems (GBS) and Danielle Tyler from Bansley and Kiener, LLP who presented the committee with an overview of both firms and the proposal for election services. Mr. Walsh reviewed Governmental Business Systems' experience with county, government and pension systems' elections and explained the partnership with Bansley and Kiener, LLP to provide independence to the election process. Ms. Tyler reviewed the election process utilized by Bansley and Kiener, LLP and shared her current experience with both the Chicago Police and Firefighters' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago, Chicago Municipal Fund, Cook County and multiple park district funds.

Mr. Zahn inquired about the election schedule previously approved by the committee and how GBS will adhere their process to comply with approved deadlines and the process to maintain integrity of completed ballots. Mr. Walsh and Ms. Tyler answered all questions.

Trustee Nichting inquired about any history of voter fraud being experienced by GBS in the past and was informed none had been experienced.



Trustee Hunt inquired about any beneficiary members with reciprocity and how a ballot is assigned to them. Mr. Walsh answered all questions.

John Westerhaus and Bob Claus from Survey and Ballot Systems presented a general overview of the firm and the proposal for election services including encryption processes, SOC 2 Type 2 compliance, election process, project execution, quality controls, their partnership with a local CPA firm for independence, variety of voting methods, hosting practices and innovative technology for meeting and voting purposes and reviewed feedback and testimonials from recent and past clients.

Trustee Bramwell inquired about the printing process for ballots and coding procedures. Mr. Westerhaus and Mr. Claus addressed all questions.

Trustee Nichting inquired about any experience with voter fraud and Mr. Westerhaus informed the committee they have not had any history with voter fraud. Mr. Zahn inquired about the ability to change the third party engaged to audit the election process and Mr. Claus answered all questions.

Thuan Wynn and Maggie Wynn from Yes Elections presented a proposal for election services including an overview of the firm's expertise, election capacity and ballot tracking. Trustee Nichting inquired about voter fraud and Mr. Zahn asked for an overview of security measures. Mr. Wynn answered all questions and further reviewed ballot validation and tabulation procedures.

V. Revision to Election Rules

Article 4 Reciprocity: Steve Zahn reviewed amendments to the 2020 FPIF Election rules regarding members' eligibility to vote for a participant Trustee if they are categorized as a beneficiary from a prior fund due to reciprocity but still currently employed as an active member with their current fund. In addition, a member who is considered a beneficiary from multiple participating funds due to reciprocity may vote for a beneficiary Trustee but is only allowed to cast one ballot.

Mr. Zahn also addressed participants who are currently active members with more than one pension fund that will still be eligible to vote for a participant Trustee position and only allowed to cast one ballot.

Candidate Withdrawal: Mr. Zahn reviewed amendments to part V. *Determination of Candidates* to include that a candidate may withdraw their candidacy by notifying the Election Panel in writing. If a candidate withdraws their candidacy after ballots are printed all votes for such a candidate are not counted. This amendment does not invalidate the ballots but will not count the votes specific to a withdrawn and/or ineligible candidate.

VI. Voter File Update

Steve Zahn informed the Board that as of July 16, 2020 250 of the 296 data files from individual participating Pension Funds have been received by Lauterbach & Amen,



LLP with a third request having been already sent and due back on July 17, 2020. After July 17, 2020 Allison Barrett from Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will be contacting the remaining 42 pension fund contacts by phone to obtain the outstanding data. Further updates will be provided to the Board as they become available.

Steve Zahn also informed the Board that Vice Chairman Cole provided the Executive and Municipal voter file data and expressed his gratitude for the partnership in obtaining the required information to ensure all data is available for the 2020 Trustee election.

VII. Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

VIII. Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

The Board noted the next Elections Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

IX. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Bramwell and seconded by Trustee Nichting to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m. Motion carried by roll call vote.

AYES:	Chairman Schick, Trustees Bramwell and Nichting
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None