# MINUTES OF THE INVESTMENT REVIEW MEETING OF THE CITY OF MIAMI FIRE FIGHTERS' AND POLICE OFFICERS' RETIREMENT TRUST

February 18, 2022

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

O. Cotera - Appointed by the City Commission
M. Fernandez - Appointed by the City Commission
T. Gabriel - Appointed by the City Commission
S. MacDonald - Elected by the Police Officers
R. Suarez - Elected by the Fire Fighters

A. Valdivia - Elected by the Police Officers

#### ALSO PRESENT

A. Lally - Investment Consultant
G. Latter - Investment Consultant
S. Bowen - Investment Consultant

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

N. Enriquez - Elected by the Fire Fighters

T. Roell - Appointed by the City Commission

Vacant - City Manager Appointee

Chairman O. Cotera called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m. with a quorum being present.

A motion was made by was made by T. Gabriel and seconded by M. Fernandez to deviate from the order of business. The motion was approved unanimously.

# **SECURITIES LITIGATION**

Board Legal Counsel R. Klausner reported on the possibility of lead plaintiff status for the Fund in a securities litigation case involving Cerece. Legal Counsel requested Board approval for Saxena White to move forward with filing. Discussion ensued. Board once again asked that these requests be made prior to an actual meeting in order to allow the Board time for a more detailed review. It was the consensus that in future, Legal Counsel will include Trustees in email notification provided to Administrator. A motion was made by T. Gabriel and seconded by R. Suarez to approve for Saxena White to move forward with filing for lead plaintiff. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by A. Valdivia and seconded by T. Gabriel to return to the normal order of business. The motion was approved unanimously.

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# FINANCIAL AUDIT FY 2020-2021

H. Garzon was present representing Marcum, LLP, the Fund's auditors. H. Garzon presented the draft of the Financial Audit for FY 2020-2021. The Audit Committee Chair reported that the Committee had met on February 8<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the Draft at length and found no issues. The Committee recommended that the Board approve the Draft as presented. Discussion followed. A motion was made by T. Gabriel and seconded by R. Suarez to approved the report. The motion was passed unanimously.

# **VANGUARD FEE PROPOSAL**

M. Sanna joined the meeting virtually representing The Vanguard Group. He reviewed with the Board a proposal that would reduce over all expenses for DROP participants by (1) reducing the expense ratio of each Vanguard Target Retirement Fund to 8 basis points (2) merging Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Funds into Vanguard Target Retirement Funds; (3) moving the Vanguard Small-Cap Index Fund to the Institutional share class, (4) moving all funds to lowest available share class and instituting a \$98 record keeping fee per participant that could be paid by the Plan Sponsor. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by M. Fernandez and seconded by T. Gabriel to adopt all the proposed changes effective October 1, 2022. Discussion resumed. The motion was approved unanimously.

# INVESTMENT /ISSUES AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW QE 12/31/2021

#### MEKETA – Represented by A. Lally, S. Bowen, and G. Latter

G. Latter was introduced as the new member of the team, replacing G. Bikkesbakker. The Consultants reviewed with the Board specific events that transpired during the last quarter of 2021 and their effect on the market. They reviewed the performance for quarter ending December 31, 2021, which showed a fiscal year-to-date return of 5.6% and a total fund asset value of \$1,909,254,064.

# <u>Asset Study/Asset Allocation Review</u> Summary:

- Return expectations for nearly all assets increased because:
  - higher yields in fixed income result in higher forward-looking return expectations
  - lower valuations for internal public equities more than offset the lower earnings growth expectations and result in higher forward-looking return expectations
- Risk expectations remained the same for many classes
- Increase risk assets when expectations are higher

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#### INVESTMENT /ISSUES AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW QE 12/31/2021

#### Asset Study/Asset Allocation Review

What Can/Should You Do?

- Keep the long term in mind
- Recognize the goal is a long-term return over your actuarial target
- Trust the long-term asset allocation
- Rebalance
- Increase risk assets when expectations are higher

<u>International Equity</u> – present portfolio was reviewed by the Consultants and different possibilities or pairings were presented.

Conclusion was provided as follows:

- All four pairings would have outperformed historically.
- When evaluating what is the best pairing going forward it is important for the Trustees to evaluate the following: (1) correlation of excess returns which strategies are least correlated with Wellington product? (2) Beta how comfortable are you with wider dispersion of returns? (3) Upside/downside capture would you rather keep up/outperform in up markets or lose less in down markets? (4) concentration and investment approach three strategies are fundamental stock pickers and quasiconcentrated. One option is a quant model that will hold very diversified portfolio; (5) fees the new First Eagle product is roughly 15 bps cheaper than current strategy. ....

Discussion followed the presentation. A motion was made by T. Gabriel and seconded by M. Fernandez to move forward with transition to the new strategy with First Eagle. The motion was approved unanimously.

A full copy of the Meketa's report is on file and available for review upon request.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. by a motion from T. Gabriel a second from M. Fernandez and a unanimous vote.

. Cotera, Chairman

Attest:

Dania Orta, Administrator