

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PEACE OFFICERS' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND
WEDNESDAY
March 4, 2015
10:30 A.M.

Present:

Roger Garrison, Chairman
Kaye Carter
Sherry Mowell
Homer Bryson

Gary Jones, by teleconference
Robert W. Carter, Secretary/Treasurer
William Johnston, Attorney

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roger Garrison. Mr. Robert Carter delivered an invocation. The following items were considered by the Board:

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The February 4, 2015 Board meeting minutes were reviewed.

Homer Bryson made a motion, seconded by Sherry Mowell, to approve the minutes from February 4, 2015. The motion carried.

II. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Garrison introduced Maya Saxena of the Saxena White Firm. She presented a proposal to provide Portfolio Monitoring and Securities Litigation Services. Basically, the monitoring process includes an alert when a stock is dropped. Although it rarely signifies fraud, the firm analyzes the situation by looking for red flags. Saxena White has a very conservative approach. Ms. Saxena said she started her career in a Prosecutor's Office and the rest of the staff has law enforcement experience. The firm currently works with Fulton County, as well as the Atlanta Firefighters. As a smaller firm, they provide good personalized service.

Ms. Saxena advised the service is free and the POAB fund would only pay if involved in an actual case. She further stated they have a good working relationship with our existing firm, Motley Rice. Saxena provides quarterly reports and works with the custodian of the fund.

The consensus of the Board was that additional monitoring of the funds would be to our advantage.

Homer Bryson made a motion, seconded by Kaye Carter, and unanimously carried to enter into an agreement with Saxena White for Portfolio Monitoring and Securities Litigation Services.

III. RETIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL (See attached listing)

A motion was made by Sherry Mowell, seconded by Gary Jones, to approve the

requests for retirement. The motion carried.

- IV. REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE** – A motion was made by Homer Bryson, seconded by Kaye Carter and unanimously carried, approval of the following leave of absence: Craig L. Ladner - Service Credit - 2-5-15; age 53; left Flowery Branch P.D. 12-6-14, started Gwinnett S.O. 2-17-15. Request Leave of Absence for 2 months, 11 days.

V. LEGAL MATTERS

William Johnston provided an update on the status of a case involving John D. Bearden. He retired, then started work at the Paulding County Judicial Circuit as an investigator. He was working six months and then drawing his retirement for six months. We discovered he did not have arrest powers, so he could in fact have been drawing his retirement all year. However, he was responsible for knowing whether or not he had arrest powers, and did not know himself. Now, he wants the fund to reimburse him for the benefits that he missed. Mr. Johnston said we took him at his word when he said he had arrest powers and we should not pay.

After discussion, Sherry Mowell made a motion, seconded by Homer Bryson, to settle for up to half (9 months) of the amount Mr. Bearden is seeking. The motion carried.

Mr. Johnston stated his intention is to re-write the requirements for employment after retirement from the Fund.

Mr. Johnston noted the lawsuit involving John Prevost was settled for much less than he was asking, with confidentiality provisions for Mr. Prevost and his spouse, as part of the settlement agreement.

VI. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

There was discussion regarding a program in the City of Atlanta, a pre-trial intervention that is basically to settle charges and fines outside the courtroom. The program allows individuals to keep their criminal record clean. There are huge fees associated with the program, none of which we are receiving. We could ask for legislation for a percentage of fees for court ordered intervention.

Chairman Garrison advised we might be spinning our wheels to go after that, as well as the liability insurance add-on currently on the table.

Mr. Carter advised the Board that Jefferson County State Court has penalties in the amount of \$991.52 and requested the amount be waived if they are willing to pay the interest in the amount of \$159.79. The consensus of the Board was to waive the penalties.

Mr. Carter provided a membership report for the month of February.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Garrison advised in July we have to come up with a strategy for

approaching the Legislature to get our bill passed for more funding. It's going to take a lot of work and we need to be mobilizing forces to push it through. He said the Peace Officer's 30-year payout is still not significant, and less than the Firefighter's payout. The members of the Board agreed.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at the Fund office, 1208 Greenbelt Drive, Griffin, GA 30223. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. The Board agreed the meeting would be by teleconference.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Carter
Secretary/Treasurer