



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RETIREMENT BOARD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2016
1:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joseph M. Bress, Chairman
Lyle M. Blanchard
Joseph W. Clark
Mary A. Collins
Gary W. Hankins
Edward C. Smith
Thomas N. Tippet
Michael J. Warren
Lenda P. Washington

DCRB STAFF PRESENT

Sheila Morgan-Johnson, Acting Executive Director
Erie Sampson, General Counsel
Johnetta Bond
Peter Dewar
Anthony Shelborne
Joan Passerino
Daniel Hernandez
Vernon Valentine
Ortencia Nichols
Sebastian Podesta
Deborah Reaves
Johniece Harris
Denice McSears
Wukyanos Gebremeskel

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Barbara Davis Blum
Darrick Ross
Nathan A. Saunders
Jeffrey Barnette, ex officio

OTHERS PRESENT

John Amoriello, Hewlett-Packard
Karen Anderson, Hewlett-Packard
Fred Duball, Hewlett-Packard

ROLL CALL

Chairman Bress called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. and Ms. Deborah Reaves called the roll.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Bress introduced a motion to approve the January 21, 2016 Board meeting minutes.

Motion #1: To approve the January 21, 2016 Board meeting minutes.

The motion was moved by Trustee Tippet and properly seconded by Trustee Hankins. The motion was approved (8-0), with one abstention. (*See Tally #1*)

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Bress commented on the following topics:

Meeting With Council Chairman Mendelson

I met with Council Chairman Mendelson on February 5, 2016. We discussed the Board's accomplishments over the past year, the expired terms of Trustee Warren and me, and I answered questions he raised.

Financial Disclosure Forms

Trustees have a responsibility to annually submit Financial Disclosure and Trustee Acknowledgement forms. The due date this year is April 30, 2016.

Open Meetings and Ethics Training

The District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) will conduct training sessions for Trustees on Open Meetings and Ethics at the April 21, 2016 Board meeting, which should be attended by everyone.

DCRB Performance Oversight Hearing

DCRB's performance oversight hearing will be held before the D.C. Council's Committee of the Whole on March 8, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in room 412.

ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On behalf of Mr. Eric Stanchfield, Acting Executive Director, Sheila Morgan-Johnson, commented on the following topics:

Performance and Budget Testimony

As already reported, our performance testimony before the DC Council's Committee of the Whole is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2016. Responses to the first round of preliminary questions have been submitted to Chairman Mendelson. A first draft of the performance testimony is being finalized. DCRB's budget testimony is scheduled for April 14, 2016 at 10 a.m.

DCRB Newsletter - Police/Fire Edition

A special DCRB newsletter for police officers and firefighters has been printed and will soon be mailed to members. The newsletter announces Trustee Tippett's reelection to the Board, and contains various articles of interest to members. A copy of the newsletter is attached.

Congressional Staff Inquiry

In response to a request from a staffer from the House Committee on Governmental Oversight and Reform's Subcommittee on Government Operations, DCRB staff had a conference call on January 29, 2016 regarding Max80/COLA Lookback issues. DCRB provided answers to questions about the different treatment of overpayments by DCRB and Treasury, the governing statutes of each agency, and the reasoning behind the differing interpretations.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no report, since the Committee did not meet this month.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of Committee Chair Ross, Vice-Chair Collins indicated that the Committee met earlier today, and provided the following motions:

Motion #2: That the Board approve the proposed amendments to 7 DCMR Section 1500 that clarify the Board's Governance Rules and repeal in its entirety the existing rules as published in 7 DCMR Section 1500, and that the Board adopt the proposed Board Governance Manual.

Ms. Erie Sampson, the Board's General Counsel, explained any changes, their purpose, and the process for publishing the Manual.

The motion was moved by Trustee Collins and properly seconded by Trustee Washington. The motion was approved 9-0. (*See Tally #2*)

Motion #3: That the Board approve the proposed DCRB salary schedule effective February 18, 2016, and that the Executive Director conduct an independent classification and compensation study for staff.

The motion was moved by Trustee Collins and properly seconded by Trustee Tippett. The motion was approved 9-0. (*See Tally #3*)

Motion #4: That the Board authorize the Acting Executive Director to execute a one-year contract with four option years subject to contract negotiations for oversight vendor procurement.

Trustee Tippett expressed his wish to go on the record with his concerns about the number and cost of information technology projects, while there has been little or no focus on benefits administration improvements.

The motion was moved by Trustee Collins and properly seconded by Trustee Hankins. The motion was approved 8-1. (*See Tally #4*)

Motion #5: To authorize the Acting Executive Director to enter into a contract for incident response retainer services for the base year, subject to contract negotiations.

The motion was moved by Trustee Collins and properly seconded by Trustee Hankins. The motion was approved 8-1. (*See Tally #5*)

Motion #6: To authorize the Acting Executive Director to enter into a contract for an Altiris System upgrade and enhancement services, subject to contract negotiations.

The motion was moved by Trustee Collins and properly seconded by Trustee Hankins. The motion was approved 8-1. (*See Tally #6*)

BENEFITS COMMITTEE REPORT

Benefits Committee Chair Smith reported that the Committee did not meet in either January or February, and provided the following Report on activities that occurred since its December meeting:

Health Benefits Open Enrollment

DCRB's Benefits Department staff successfully processed approximately 1,200 Open Enrollment changes for the Federal Employees' Health Benefit (FEHB) Program and the District Employees' Health Benefit (DCEHB) Program by the scheduled due date. This significant increase in changes (normally, there are fewer than 200) was a result of the new federal benefit type (Self Plus One).

Tax Form 1099-R

2015 1099-R Forms were mailed to 15,173 annuitants on January 19, 2016. Approximately 380 envelopes were returned to DCRB with address problems. The Member Services Center is working with these members to determine the correct addresses.

2016 Cost-of-Living Adjustments

In accordance with the changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) during calendar year 2015, the following Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) will be applied to annuitant and survivor benefits effective March 1, 2016 and payable on April 1, 2016:

Teachers who retired prior to March 1, 2015 will receive a COLA of 0.4%, based on the change in the CPI-W.

Police Officers and Firefighters who retired on or after February 15, 1980 and prior to March 1, 2015 will receive 0.7%, based on the change in the CPI-U.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Blanchard indicated that there was no meeting this month and provided the same information regarding the agency's upcoming oversight hearings.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Hankins stated that the Committee did not meet this month, but noted that DCRB's audited Financial Statement has been printed and posted to the Agency website, and that the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) will be completed by the end of March.

DCRB OFFICER ELECTIONS 2016

Chairman Bress moved to begin the officer elections voting. Prior to the start of the election process, Mr. Bress noted the new positions of Vice-Chair/Secretary and Treasurer (who also serves as Audit Committee Chair) and the elimination of the Parliamentarian and Sargent-at-Arms positions. He also noted the need for a waiver if Trustees wanted to allow officers to serve more than two consecutive terms.

Motion #7: To waive Board Rule 1502.12, to allow the Treasurer of the Board to serve more than two consecutive terms.

The motion was moved by Trustee Smith and properly seconded by Trustee Tippett. The motion was approved 9-0. (*See Tally #7*)

Chairman Bress began the elections and called for nominations for each Officer position.

- ▶ Treasurer: Trustee Tippett nominated Lyle Blanchard.
- ▶ Vice Chairman/Secretary: Trustee Tippett nominated Joseph Clark.
- ▶ Chairman: Trustee Tippett nominated Joseph Bress.

Results of the Board Officer Elections

Chairman Bress then presented the following results of the Officer elections:

Treasurer: Lyle Blanchard

Vice Chairman/Secretary: Joseph Clark

Chairman: Joseph Bress

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bress introduced the following motion to adjourn the meeting, which was moved by and properly seconded by Trustee Collins:

Motion #8: To adjourn the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

The motion was approved 9-0. (*See Tally #8*)

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RETIREMENT BOARD
RECORD OF OFFICIAL BOARD ACTIONS**

Tally #1:		Date: February 18, 2016			
To approve the January 21, 2016 Board meeting minutes.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle			√		
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				
Ross, Darrick O.					√
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.	√				
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				

Tally #2:		Date: February 18, 2016			
That the Board approve the proposed amendments to 7 DCMR Section 1500 that clarify the Board's Governance Rules and repeal in its entirety the existing rules as published in 7 DCMR Section 1500, and that the Board adopt the proposed Board Governance Manual.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle	√				
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				
Ross, Darrick O.					√
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.	√				
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				

Tally #3:		Date: February 18, 2016			
That the Board approve the proposed DCRB salary schedule effective February 18, 2016, and that the Executive Director conduct an independent class and compensation study for staff.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle	√				
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				
Ross, Darrick O.					√
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.	√				
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				

Tally #4:		Date: February 18, 2016			
That the Board authorize the Acting Executive Director to execute a one-year contract with four option years subject to contract negotiations.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle	√				
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				√
Ross, Darrick O.					
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.		√			
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				

Tally #5:		Date: February 18, 2016			
To authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for incident response retainer services for the base year, subject to contract negotiations.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle	√				
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				
Ross, Darrick O.					√
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.		√			
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				

Tally #6:		Date: February 18, 2016			
To authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for an Altiris System upgrade and enhancement services, subject to contract negotiations.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle	√				
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				
Ross, Darrick O.					√
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.		√			
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				

Tally #7:		Date: February 18, 2016			
To waive Board Rule 1502.12, to allow officers to serve more than two consecutive terms.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle	√				
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				
Ross, Darrick O.					√
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.	√				
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				

Tally #8:		Date: February 18, 2016			
To adjourn the meeting at 2:23 p.m.					
Members	Aye	Nay/ Oppose	No Vote/ Abstain	No Vote/ Recuse	Absent
Bress, Joseph M., Chair	√				
Blanchard, Lyle	√				
Blum, Barbara Davis					√
Clark, Joseph W.	√				
Collins, Mary A.	√				
Hankins, Gary W.	√				
Ross, Darrick O.					√
Saunders, Nathan					√
Smith, Edward C.	√				
Tippett, Thomas N.	√				
Warren, Michael J.	√				
Washington, Lenda P.	√				