

**MINUTES OF THE RETIREMENT BOARD**  
**Thursday, October 8, 2020**

A meeting of the Retirement Board was held on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 8:30 a.m., electronically in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and Executive Order 2020-4 issued by Governor Whitmer in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public. The following members were present remotely via Cisco Webex Events:

Present:

Mark Deldin, Bryan Santo, Gary Cutler, Michael Grix, Matthew Murphy, Larry Rocca, George Brumbaugh

Excused:

Harold Haugh

Also Present:

Stephanie Dobson, Andrew McKinnon, Christina Miller, Tom Michaud, Mike Holycross

**1. Call to Order**

There being a quorum of the Board present, the meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Deldin.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

*A motion was made by Trustee Rocca, supported by Trustee Grix to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried.*

**3. Approval of Minutes from September 24, 2020**

*A motion was made by Trustee Rocca, supported by Trustee Grix to approve the minutes from September 24, 2020 as presented. The motion carried.*

**4. Approval of Invoices**

There were no invoices presented for approval today.

**5. Public Participation**

None

**6. Retirement Administrator Report**

**a. Update on Buck's new Admin Platform**

Ms. Dobson reported that she and her staff have still been working diligently on testing the new Buck platform and she referred to a memo that she had sent out to the Board members via email last Friday. She was able to confirm that the DROP statements appear to be working finally, but there are still a number of outstanding issues that require attention from the Buck programmers. Her office is continuing

to do estimates manually as the system still does not appear to be calculating correctly. The calculations for some unions appear to be working correctly, but others are not, so they are trying to track which ones are still a problem. She advised that they will be meeting with Buck again this Friday.

Vice-Chair Santo asked if there seems to be an issue with Buck needing more staff to work on these issues and wondered if there is any estimate on when these problems will be resolved. Ms. Dobson noted that Buck has not added any additional staff, but the Director of Buck's IT program is more involved than he was previously. Vice-Chair Santo requested further discussion on payment for the items that are not working and what else can be done to ensure that these issues get resolved as quickly as possible. Trustee Grix inquired about the terms of the contract the Board has with Buck. Mr. Michaud noted that the Board does have some options, but he would hope that Buck would be able to resolve the issues without legal intervention becoming necessary. Mr. Michaud offered to work with Ms. Dobson and Chair Deldin to review possible legal options moving forward.

*A motion was made by Vice-Chair Santo, supported by Trustee Grix to receive and file the Retirement Administrator Report. The motion carried.*

## **7. Disability Retirements**

### **a. Siobhan O'Brien (Re-examination Opinion)**

The Board was in receipt of the Medical Director's confidential medical reports regarding the re-examination of Siobhan O'Brien. The Medical Director has concluded, based on the re-exam, that Ms. O'Brien's disability retirement should be continued.

*A motion was made by Trustee Rocca, supported by Trustee Grix that based on the Medical Director's opinion, the continuation of the disability retirement of Siobhan O'Brien should be approved and the following resolution should be adopted:*

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board is vested with the general administration, management and operation of the Macomb County Employees Retirement System ("Retirement System") and has fiduciary responsibilities relative to the proper administration of the pension trust fund, and

**WHEREAS**, Siobhan O'Brien was granted a disability retirement on May 16, 2016, after a finding by the Retirement Board that the requirements of the Retirement System had been met, and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 32 of the Retirement Ordinance, at least once each year during the first five (5) years following retirement of a member with a disability pension and at least once every three (3) year period thereafter, the Retirement Board requires a disability retiree to undergo a medical examination directed by the Retirement Board Medical Director, and

**WHEREAS**, that the Retirement Board directed the Human Resources and Labor Relations Department to contact the Medical Director to set up an appointment for Siobhan O'Brien to be re-examined and to advise the Medical Director of their responsibilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board is in receipt of a certification from the Medical Director, dated September 16, 2020, which states that Siobhan O'Brien is totally and permanently incapable of resuming employment with the County in the same or similar job classification in which said individual was employed at the time of disability, and

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board has discussed this matter and has determined that Siobhan O'Brien has met the eligibility requirements for a continual disability retirement from the Retirement System, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Retirement Board hereby approves the continual disability retirement of Siobhan O'Brien and directs that benefits be paid consistent with the Retirement System's provisions, and further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Siobhan O'Brien and all other appropriate parties.

*The motion carried.*

**b. Michael Ureel (Re-examination Opinion)**

The Board was in receipt of the Medical Director's confidential medical reports regarding the re-examination of Michael Ureel. The Medical Director has concluded, based on the re-exam, that Mr. Ureel's disability retirement should be continued.

*A motion was made by Trustee Rocca, supported by Trustee Grix that based on the Medical Director's opinion, the continuation of the disability retirement of Michael Ureel should be approved and the following resolution should be adopted:*

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board is vested with the general administration, management and operation of the Macomb County Employees Retirement System ("Retirement System") and has fiduciary responsibilities relative to the proper administration of the pension trust fund, and

**WHEREAS**, Michael Ureel was granted a disability retirement on May 15, 2006, after a finding by the Retirement Board that the requirements of the Retirement System had been met, and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 32 of the Retirement Ordinance, at least once each year during the first five (5) years following retirement of a member with a disability pension and at least once every three (3) year period thereafter, the Retirement Board requires a disability retiree to undergo a medical examination directed by the Retirement Board Medical Director, and

**WHEREAS**, that the Retirement Board directed the Human Resources and Labor Relations Department to contact the Medical Director to set up an appointment for Michael Ureel to be re-examined and to advise the Medical Director of their responsibilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board is in receipt of a certification from the Medical Director, dated September 15, 2020, which states that Michael Ureel is totally and permanently incapable of resuming employment with the County in the same or similar job classification in which said individual was employed at the time of disability, and

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board has discussed this matter and has determined that Michael Ureel has met the eligibility requirements for a continual disability retirement from the Retirement System, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Retirement Board hereby approves the continual disability retirement of Michael Ureel and directs that benefits be paid consistent with the Retirement System's provisions, and further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Michael Ureel and all other appropriate parties.

*The motion carried.*

**c. Randall Smith (Re-examination Opinion)**

The Board was in receipt of the Medical Director's confidential medical reports regarding the re-examination of Randall Smith. The Medical Director has concluded, based on the re-exam, that Mr. Smith's disability retirement should be continued.

*A motion was made by Trustee Rocca, supported by Trustee Grix that based on the Medical Director's opinion, the continuation of the disability retirement of Randall Smith should be approved and the following resolution should be adopted:*

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board is vested with the general administration, management and operation of the Macomb County Employees Retirement System ("Retirement System") and has fiduciary responsibilities relative to the proper administration of the pension trust fund, and

**WHEREAS**, Randall Smith was granted a disability retirement on June 22, 2018, after a finding by the Retirement Board that the requirements of the Retirement System had been met, and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 32 of the Retirement Ordinance, at least once each year during the first five (5) years following retirement of a member with a disability pension and at least once every three (3) year period thereafter, the Retirement Board requires a disability retiree to undergo a medical examination directed by the Retirement Board Medical Director, and

**WHEREAS**, that the Retirement Board directed the Human Resources and Labor Relations Department to contact the Medical Director to set up an appointment for Randall Smith to be re-examined and to advise the Medical Director of their responsibilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board is in receipt of a certification from the Medical Director, dated September 29, 2020, which states that Randall Smith is totally and permanently incapable of resuming employment with the County in the same or similar job classification in which said individual was employed at the time of disability, and

**WHEREAS**, the Retirement Board has discussed this matter and has determined that Randall Smith has met the eligibility requirements for a continual disability retirement from the Retirement System, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Retirement Board hereby approves the continual disability retirement of Randall Smith and directs that benefits be paid consistent with the Retirement System's provisions, and further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Randall Smith and all other appropriate parties.

*The motion carried.*

**8. Constitution Capital Partners Annual Investment Update**

Mr. Peter Melanson, Mr. Rob Hatch and Ms. Ashley Gleavy joined the meeting remotely to provide the Board with an update on their investment with Constitution Capital Partners. Mr. Melanson introduced the team members joining him today. Mr. Hatch continued with a brief overview of the firm and their full team which includes a few new additions. He also provided a snapshot of both funds and the impact of COVID on their performance.

Trustee Cutler expressed some concern that the members of Constitution Capital's Finance team appear to be brand new. Mr. Hatch explained that they are in the process of bringing that operation in-house. They previously used an outsourced accounting firm.

*A motion was made by Vice-Chair Santo, supported by Trustee Rocca to receive and file the Constitution Capital Partners Annual Investment Update. The motion carried.*

**9. 2019 Financial Summary Report**

Chair Deldin noted that Mr. Smigiel was not available to attend the meeting this morning, but that this report is the same as those that were submitted for 2017 and 2018 at the last meeting. This report has been updated with 2019 data. He asked that anyone with questions reach out to Mr. Smigiel directly.

*A motion was made by Trustee Cutler, supported by Trustee Grix to receive and file the 2019 Financial Summary Report provided by Mr. Smigiel. The motion carried.*

**10. Unfinished Business**

None

**11. New Business**

None

**12. Adjournment**

*There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made by Vice-Chair Santo, supported by Trustee Rocca to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m. The motion carried.*