



Donald K. Myers, Chairman
Myra L. Tammy Miller, Secretary

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Retirement Board

COUNTY OF ARMSTRONG

ARMSTRONG COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2022, 10:30 AM

The meeting of the Armstrong County Retirement Board (The Board) was called to order by Commissioner Myers in the Commissioners' Conference Room on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 10:32 AM. The following attended, unless marked absent:

Board Members:

Commissioners Donald K. Myers (Chairman), Jason Renshaw (Member), Pat Fabian (Member) - ABSENT, Controller Myra L. Miller (Secretary), Treasurer Amanda Hiles (Member)

Guests:

Mr. Pat Wing, Consultant/VP, Marquette Associates
Mr. Aaron Poole, Financial Management Director
Ms. Anne Cloonan, Leader-Times Reporter (10:48 AM)
Mrs. Amanda Rybarik, Retirement Specialist

Commissioner Myers announced that the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Commissioner Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was motioned by Commissioner Renshaw, seconded by Controller Miller, and carried unanimously to approve the Minutes of the December 15, 2021 Retirement Board Meeting.

It was motioned by Treasurer Hiles, seconded by Controller Miller, and carried unanimously to acknowledge the Peirce Park Group/Marquette Associates Cash Flow Summary Reports for 11/30/2021 – 01/31/2022. It was noted that during the same time period there was a net decrease in the Combined Asset Market Value of \$466,125 (11/30/2021 - \$83,392,370 to 01/31/2022 - \$82,926,245).

It was motioned by Controller Miller, seconded by Treasurer Hiles, and carried unanimously to acknowledge the Trade Transactions for **DECEMBER 2021 – JANUARY 2022.**

It was motioned by Controller Miller, seconded by Treasurer Hiles, and carried unanimously to acknowledge Retirement Summary for **DECEMBER 2021 – FEBRUARY 2022.**

It was motioned by Controller Miller, seconded by Commissioner Renshaw, and carried unanimously to acknowledge Retirement A/P Bills for **DECEMBER 2021 – (\$56,669.02)**, **JANUARY 2022 – (\$2,898.00)**, and **FEBRUARY 2022 – (\$15,860.20)**.

Mr. Wing presented an investment review, discussing the global economic environment, capital markets and performance of the Retirement Fund in Q4 2021. Notably, markets were strong as the year ended, leaving the Retirement Fund's investment return for 2021 well ahead of the 7.0% Actuarial Assumed Rate of Return.

He then reviewed year-to-date performance through February, noting that equity markets had declined meaningfully amid investor concerns around inflation, monetary policy and the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

After the discussion, Mr. Wing provided background on the Retirement Fund's allocation to Private Credit, an asset class approved by the Board in May 2020. At that time, the Board approved a \$2.5 million commitment to the H.I.G. Bayside VI Loan Opportunity Fund. Then, in March 2021, the Board approved a \$1.5 million commitment to the Bain Capital Global Direct Lending 2021 Fund. He reviewed the performance of both funds, which have seen strong returns thus far.

In order to continue to move up to the target allocation for Private Credit, Mr. Wing stated that the Board should consider a commitment to another fund. He then reviewed a Private Credit investment manager, Carlyle, along with a fund they recently launched, Direct Lending Fund IV. He spoke to the firm's investment process and historical track record, along with the key terms for the fund.

After discussion, a motion was made by Controller Miller, seconded by Treasurer Hiles, and unanimously carried to make a \$2.0 million commitment to the Carlyle Direct Lending Fund IV, as Mr. Wing had recommended.

Finally, Mr. Wing noted that Mr. Poole and he were reviewing a proposal from another provider regarding the County's 457(b) Plan. They will review the relative merits of the proposal with the Board at the next meeting in June.

It was motioned by Commissioner Renshaw, seconded by Controller Miller, and carried unanimously to adjourn the March 9, 2022 Retirement Board Meeting at 11:31 AM. The next 2022 Retirement Board Meeting will be in the Commissioners' Conference Room on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at 10:30 AM, unless otherwise rescheduled and advertised.

Respectfully submitted,



Myra L. Miller
Secretary/Controller

MLM