

**Carbondale Police Pension Fund
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 8, 2022**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

The Board met remotely via the Zoom online conference platform. Paul Echols called the meeting to order at about 2:03 pm. Present were board members Anthony Williams, Jeff Davis, and Kevin Geissler. Board attorney Dennis Orsey was also present. Board member Brandon Weisenberger had a pre-announced absence.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Minutes

Davis moved, and the board voted by unanimous roll call vote, to accept the minutes from the January 18, 2022 board meeting.

4. Correspondence

A. Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation (Executive Order)

Attorney Orsey advised that this Order remains in effect.

B. Recent correspondence from IPOPIF regarding consolidation

Discussion held during Item 8A.

9. New Business

B. Annual Disability Review Hearing for Trey Harris

Jason Caraway, attorney for Trey Harris, joined the meeting and reported that Harris had been examined by Dr. Adam Gilden. Dr. Gilden determined that Harris remains disabled and unable to physically perform the duties of a police officer. Dr. Gilden completed a Certification of Doctor form, which has been forwarded to the board. Williams made a motion to accept the Certificate of Doctor form and to continue to pay Harris disability benefits. All present members voted 'yes' by roll call vote. Motion carried.

5. Bills

Two bills were presented to the board for approval and payment:

A. Dennis J. Orsey, P.C. for \$175.00 for services provided that exceeded the 11/21/2021 to 01/31/2022 quarter retainer amount.

B. Levi, Ray, and Shoup, Inc (LRS) for \$3,000.00 for annual pension fund software maintenance. It should be noted that the amount due shown on the bill was \$6,000.00 but the bill will be split in equal portions with the Carbondale Fire Pension Fund, as both funds utilize the software.

Williams moved, and the board voted by unanimous roll call vote, to pay both of these bills.

6. Treasurer's Rerport

Davis reported that, as of 01/31/2022, the fund stood at \$38,332,877, a decrease of \$1,367,144 since the previous month, but an overall increase of \$653,259 for FY2022. Davis

pointed out that the fund received \$121,954.40 from the City as its portion of the Food & Beverage Tax receipts. Payroll for January 2022 stood at \$261,620.74, the increase largely due to cost of living adjustments. Davis moved, and the board voted by unanimous roll call vote, to accept the treasurer's report.

7. Investment Report

N/A

A. Pension Obligation Bonds

Davis reported that, at the 01/25/2022 meeting, the City Council voted to adopt the ordinance authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds for the 100% funding of the Carbondale Police Pension. Davis said that the Police Pension Fund will receive \$21,961,000. Davis added that the City will retain 5% for a stabilization fund, which will offset market risks. Davis stated that the process to receive a rating and to distribute the preliminary official statement are ongoing. Bonds will sell on 02/15/2022, proceeds will be received shortly thereafter.

8. Old Business

A. Status of Circuit Court filing of lawsuit to challenge consolidation law

Attorney Orsey reported that the trial judge in this case has not yet issued his ruling. Attorney Orsey presented an Agreed Order that was entered into by both parties and filed on 01/27/2022. Attorney Orsey explained that the Agreed Order essentially means that, at least as long as the Circuit Court case remains pending, no disciplinary action will be taken by the defendant or IL DOI against any pension funds that do not comply with the laws that are being challenged.

Attorney Orsey also advised that there are currently bills pending in both the IL Senate (SB 3211) and IL House of Representatives (HB 4622). Both of these bills propose to move the deadline for consolidation from 06/30/2022 to 06/30/2023.

After much discussion by the Board, it was ultimately decided to stay with an approved motion from a previous meeting to not do anything as far as naming representatives or transferring money until at least the Circuit Court issues a ruling.

9. New Business

A. Annual Disability Review Hearing for Christine Snyder

At this point, Christine Snyder joined the meeting, was sworn in by Attorney Orsey, and provided testimony regarding her recent examination by Dr. Dale Blaise. Snyder testified that Dr. Blaise determined that she is unable to physically perform the duties of a police officer and that Dr. Blaise completed a Certification of Doctor form, which has been forwarded to the Board. Snyder provided additional information regarding the potential for further surgery in the future, medications she is taking, and current employment status.

Williams moved, and the Board voted by unanimous roll call vote, to accept the Certification of Doctor form and that Snyder should continue to receive disability benefits.

8. Old Business

B. Update on Annual Retiree Affidavit returns

Davis reported that the only two outstanding Affidavits are those of Trey Harris and John Sytsma.

During the discussion of Agenda Item 9.B., Attorney Caraway reported that he has spoken to Harris about this and that Harris said that he sent the completed Affidavit to Caraway's secretary the previous evening. Caraway advised that his secretary was momentarily unavailable but he would see to it that the affidavit is forwarded to the Board as soon as possible. Caraway added that he has been in frequent recent contact with Harris regarding the Annual Disability Review and that he could verify that Harris is still alive and well.

Echols reported that he has been in recent contact via text messaging with Sytsma's wife, but not with Sytsma himself. Williams volunteered to contact Sytsma and to obtain the completed affidavit. The Board agreed to revisit this at next month's meeting before proceeding further.

C. Status of filing of Statements of Economic Interest with County Clerk

Davis reported that he has provided the City Clerk with all pertinent information for the Board members but the County Clerk has not yet sent the forms that need to be completed.

D. Status of filing Illinois Finance Entity forms

Davis advised that these forms were filed last month.

E. Status of Chase Rednour portability from Murphysboro

Davis reported that a portability worksheet and check for \$26,683.86 has been received from the Murphysboro Police Pension Fund regarding Rednour's portability. Davis said that this information has been sent to an actuary for a true cost determination and that this issue will be further discussed next month.

10. Application for Membership

No new members.

11. Application for Benefits

No new applications for benefits.

12. Next Meeting Date / Adjournment

The next meeting of the Carbondale Police Pension Fund Board will be Tuesday, March 15, 2022. Williams moved, and the Board voted unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at about 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Geissler
Assistant Secretary



