

***LAKE WORTH FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION TRUST FUND***  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD**  
**May 8, 2024**

An electronic meeting was held beginning at 9:07 A.M. Those persons present were:

**TRUSTEES**

Rich Seamon  
Valerie Hurley  
Barry Ruf  
Kevin Carson (9:46 A.M.)

**OTHERS**

Margie Adcock, Administrator  
Adam Levinson, Attorney  
Brad Hess, Investment Monitor

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

There were no additions or deletions.

**MINUTES**

The Trustees reviewed the minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2024. A motion was made, seconded, and carried 3-0 to accept the minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2024.

**INVESTMENT MONITOR REPORT**

Brad Hess appeared before the Board. He stated that the acquisition he discussed at the last meeting with Mariner became official on April 2, 2024. He stated that everything is going smoothly. There is no real change except for their name. It is business as usual.

Mr. Hess discussed the market environment for the quarter ending March 31, 2024. He stated that it was a strong quarter. It was another double digit return for the S&P 500 at 10.6%. International was strong, being up about 5%, but it was not as good as domestic equities. Fixed income was negative for the quarter. There is decent economic growth in the market, but it is slowing. The employment numbers have been strong for 28 months in a row at 4% or better. Inflation continues to trend down but not as fast as the Fed would like. All in all, things seem solid. Corporate earnings are strong. There is medium growth and no signs of weakness. The wild cards are the unrest in the Middle East/Ukraine although the markets have absorbed this, and the upcoming election in November. He stated that he did not think the Fed would make any changes to the interest rates before the election. For the quarter both growth and value did well with growth doing better. For the one year, growth had a tremendous recovery.

Mr. Hess reviewed the performance as of March 31, 2024. He reviewed the asset allocation. He stated that the Fund is in compliance with the targets. The Fund is a little overweight in domestic equities but not at a point where it is necessary to rebalance. The total market value of the Fund as of March 31, 2024 was \$58,875,805. The Fund was up 5.41% net for the quarter while the benchmark was up 4.48%. He stated that Alger has bounced back nicely. He stated that Garcia Hamilton, after being one of the best managers last quarter, to underperforming this quarter and being in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile, down 1.26% while the benchmark was up .78%. He stated that they underperformed because they positioned themselves too early thinking interest rates would go down, which they did not. Mr. Hess noted that real estate was still negative. The market is starting to reach the bottom. The returns have less negative tumbles with the portfolio being down 2.22% versus the benchmark which was down 2.20%. He thinks it is too early to get more back into real estate. He would like to see more data first. He stated that he thinks the Fund's portfolio is structured well.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

The Board was presented with a list of benefit approvals which included a DROP exit and DROP distributions. A motion was made, seconded and carried 3-0 to approve the benefit approvals.

The Board reviewed the financial statements for the period ending March 31, 2024.

The Board was presented with disbursements, including the investment manager disbursements. A motion was made, seconded and carried 3-0 to pay the listed disbursements.

It was noted that Ted McMorrough resigned from the Board effective April 22, 2024. His position was that of a City Trustee so the City has been notified of the vacancy.

Kevin Carson entered the meeting.

### **ATTORNEY REPORT**

Mr. Levinson addressed the status of possibility of extending the maximum DROP period from 7 to 8 years that was discussed at previous meetings. It was noted that the County has not yet agreed to the to extend the maximum DROP period. Mr. Levinsons suggested setting up a conference call with the Union Attorney, the Chair and himself to discuss this further.

There was discussion on the Ordinance amendment for the cancer presumption and the City's name change to include "Beach". Mr. Levinson shared the draft Ordinance amendment with the Board that he would be sending to the City. He reviewed the draft Ordinance amendment. He stated that he would now forward the draft Ordinance amendment to the City.

Mr. Levinson reminded the Board that the Form 1 Financial Disclosure was due to be filed by July 1<sup>st</sup>. He discussed the new process which requires the Form 1 to be filed online. He stated that he would forward the Board a PowerPoint presentation that was given at the FPPTA to provide the Board with further information.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business, the Trustees adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Seamon, Secretary