



Meeting Minutes | Retirement Policy Committee

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 11:30 a.m.

202 Arbor Lake Dr., Columbia, SC 29223 | First Floor Conference Room

Minutes Approved December 6, 2023

Board Members Present for All or a Portion of the Meeting: Mr. Calvin Elam and PEBA Board Chairman Joe “Rocky” Pearce.

Board Members Present for All or a Portion of the Meeting Via Virtual Means: Committee Chairman Paige Lewis and Sheriff Steve Mueller

Board Members Absent: Mr. Ed Walton

Others Present for All or a Portion of the Meeting: Peggy Boykin, Ashley Brindle, Amber Carter, Justin Ellis, James Manning, Heather Muller, Tammy Nichols, Sheila Pinckney, Travis Turner, Angie Warren, Justin Werner, and Heather Young from the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA); Shaun Eskamani and Sam Kirby from CapTrust; Nancy Ornduff from Empower; Robert McGuire, Austin Morris, and Tim O’Donnell from TIAA; and David Rowe and Elke Delacruz from Corebridge Financial.

Others Present for All or a Portion of the Meeting Via Virtual Means: Rhonda Rodriguez from TIAA; and Kipp Small from CapTrust.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Paige Lewis called the PEBA Retirement Policy Committee (Committee) meeting to order at 11:30 a.m., and stated that the public meeting notice was posted in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes- March 1, 2023

Mr. Calvin Elam made a motion, which was seconded by Sheriff Steve Mueller, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2023, Committee meeting.

III. Defined Contribution Plans Quarterly Investment Performance Report

Mr. Shawn Eskamani, Principal and Financial Advisor Financial from CapTrust, introduced Mr. Sam Kirby, Investment Strategist, who provided market commentary for the quarter, specifically noting positive quarterly results in most major asset classes, with international and emerging market stocks leading the returns at 8.6 percent, and U.S. large-cap stocks at 7.5 percent.

Mr. Eskamani reviewed the South Carolina Deferred Compensation Program (Deferred Comp) investment performance for the first quarter of 2023, and stated that CapTrust recommends keeping the T. Rowe Price Growth Stock fund on the watch list for further review. Mr. Sam Kirby, Investment Strategist, provided the rationale behind this investment watchlist recommendation.

Mr. Eskamani turned the discussion to the State Optional Retirement Program (State ORP) investment performance for the first quarter of 2023, and stated that CapTrust recommends keeping the Vanguard U.S. Growth Admiral fund in the Corebridge lineup on the watch list for further review. Mr. Kirby provided the rationale behind this investment watchlist recommendation.

Mr. Eskamani advised that CapTrust recommends keeping the MassMutual Select Blue Chip Growth I fund in the Empower Retirement investment lineup on the watch list for further review, and placing the Invesco Small Cap Growth fund, also in the Empower Retirement investment lineup on the watch list for further review. Mr. Kirby provided the rationale behind these investment watchlist recommendations.

Mr. Eskamani stated that CapTrust recommends keeping the TIAA-CREF Lifecycle fund in the TIAA platform on the watch list for further review. Mr. Kirby provided the rationale behind this investment watchlist recommendation.

IV. Deferred Compensation Program Quarterly Plan Summary

Ms. Nancy Ornduff, from Empower, presented the first quarter of 2023 Deferred Compensation Program quarterly plan summary to the Committee. Ms. Ornduff reviewed the plan statistics for the first quarter, including participant accounts; assets; contributions and distributions; rollovers; new enrollments; and participating employers.

Ms. Ornduff concluded her presentation by reviewing retirement plan advisory activity; outreach to participants and employers during the first quarter; and website and call center statistics.

V. State ORP Service Provider Review (TIAA)

Mr. Travis Turner, Deputy Director and Chief Financial Officer, introduced Mr. Austin Morris, Client Relationship Manager, with TIAA, to provide a service overview of their investments in the State ORP program. Mr. Morris stated that target date funds continue to gain the most contributions (60 percent) in the TIAA lineup. Mr. Morris pointed out that Plan participants are looking more than ever to receive education on how to invest their retirement savings.

Mr. Morris reported that TIAA assets for the first quarter of 2023 totaled \$1.9 billion, with 24,135 participants, and a median balance of \$27,712.

Ms. Rhonda Rodriguez, Communications Consultant, reviewed recent communication strategies and participant engagement campaigns.

VI. Old Business/Director's Report

Ms. Peggy Boykin, Executive Director, stated that meeting dates for the end of the year may be modified depending on when the actuarial valuations will be received from PEBA's external actuaries, and the date of PEBA's budget hearing with the Governor's office.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, and upon motion by Mr. Elam, which was seconded by Sheriff Mueller, and approved unanimously, the Committee meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.