

**BOARD OF INVESTMENT TRUSTEES  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

**MINUTES – OPEN SESSION**

Thursday, October 17, 2024

William Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Osgood Building (Room 111), Potomac, MD 20854

**Board Members Present:**

Joseph Beach  
Jennifer Bryant  
Michael Coveyou  
James Donaldson  
Jennifer Harling  
Lee Holland  
Barry Kaplan  
Christine Kelleher  
Caven West

**Staff:**

Eli Martinez  
Kevin Killeavy  
Marc Esen  
John Feketekuty  
Darrin Arbaugh  
Benjamin Merrill  
Benjamin Holthus  
Min Tang  
Denise Kropp  
Inna Halay

**Others Present:**

Brad Atkins, Franklin Park  
Melanie Fraind, Franklin Park  
Margaret Belmondo, NEPC  
Kevin Leonard, NEPC  
Samual Blouin, Albourne  
Mark White, Albourne  
Linda Herman, Public Member  
Edward Lattner, Deputy County Attorney  
Megan Greene, Office of the County Attorney  
Silvia Kinch, Office of the County Attorney  
Brad Kelley, Global Governance Advisors  
Peter Landers, Global Governance Advisors

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Holland called the open session of the Board meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Mr. Beach moved, Ms. Kelleher seconded, and the Board approved the items listed on the Consent Agenda.

## **DETERMINATION OF MEETING**

The Board unanimously approved a motion to move into closed session at 12:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the investment of public funds, pursuant to Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, 3-305(b)(5).

The Board moved back into open session at 12:03 p.m.

**Executive Director Updates:** Mr. Martinez gave an overview of sustainability, best practices, and fiduciary responsibilities and provided an update on the governance review.

**Governance Review and Updates:** Mr. Martinez gave an overview of sustainability, best practices, and fiduciary responsibilities and provided an update on the governance review. Mr. Beach gave a summary of the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Investment Trustees and the County Attorney. Mr. Beach gave a summary of the draft of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Investment Trustees and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Following discussion by the Board, Mr. Beach moved, Ms. Bryant seconded, and Mr. Holland opposed, and the Board approved the following resolution:

**2410-01**                      *Resolved that the Board approves that the committee to make changes to the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Investment Trustees and the County Attorney: 1) remove language that discussion with the country attorney would be at the beginning of an engagement 2) authorization to a negotiate service level agreement(s) to ensure timely response on reviews.*

*that the Board approves that the committee make changes to the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Investment Trustees and the Chief Administrative Officer 1) Inserting subparagraph that would require any variance from the recommendation of the actuary would require a documented explanation of the factual and analytical basis 2) Executive Director compensation would be based on the NCPERS survey and would require a third-party consultant selected by the Boards with experience in public pension compensation and not solely on local plan comparison 3) under the compensation section, adding language to including but, not limited to 4) include language that stipulates the use of an independent pension industry specialized third-party compensation study 5) seek confirmation on whether the terms of the MOU are binding to the parties 7) change compensation language to specify all investment staff, clarify deputy CIO*

*that the Board approves adding 15-minute Board-only executive sessions to Board meeting agendas.*

Following discussion by the Board, Mr. Beach moved, Mr. Donaldson seconded, and Mr. Holland opposed, and the Board approved the following resolution:

**2410-02**                      *Resolved that the Board approves the committee to return to the Board with revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Investment Trustees*

*and the County Attorney and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Investment Trustees and the Chief Administration Office for Board approval and transmittal of the Memorandum of Understanding to the CAO and the County Attorney.*

**Approval of 2025 Meeting Calendar:** Mr. Killeavy presented the proposed annual meeting calendar for 2025. Mr. Beach moved, and Ms. Kelleher seconded, and the Board approved the following resolution.

**2410- 03**                    *Resolved that the Board approve the meeting calendar schedule for May, July, and October 2025.*

*that the Board approves the moving of the January 31, 2025, meeting to February 7, 2025.*

**Approval of transmittal of Annual ESG Report to Council:** Mr. Killeavy presented the annual ESG report. Mr. Kaplan moved, and Mr. Coveyou seconded, and the Board unanimously approved transmitting the report to the County Council.

There being no further business of the Board, the open meeting session adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michael Coveyou, Secretary