

**Fulton County Schools Employees' Pension Fund  
Pension Board  
Minutes  
January 08, 2021**

The Fulton County Schools Employees' Pension Fund Pension Board ("Pension Board") met in a special called meeting on January 08, 2021 at 2:01pm at North Learning Center, 450 Northridge Pkwy., Sandy Springs, GA 30350.

Present Pension Board members: Dr. Mike Looney, Mr. Ronnie Wade, Mr. Marvin L. Dereef Jr., Mr. Stuart Berry, and Mr. John Anderson, Ms. Lisa Sutton, & Mr. Ferman Estrada.

Absent Pension Board members: Mr. Robert (Sam) Ham

Dr. Mike Looney served as Chair of the meeting. Mr. Marvin L. Dereef, Chief Financial Officer served as secretary of the meeting.

Present ex officio: Ms. Greta Tinaglia, Executive Director of Enterprise Risk Management.

Also present were: Ms. Kathy Solley, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP; Mr. Rierre Robinson, Retirement Coordinator; Ms. Fredrica Jones, Retirement Services Specialist; Ms. Rachel Hardy, Communications Specialist; & Suzanne Hatfield, Executive Director of Accounting & Retirement Services & virtually via Microsoft teams, Will Giberson; EPI-USE America inc.; & Ms. Jill Hatton, EPI USE America Inc.

### **Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order and, at his request, Mr. Stuart Berry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Action Items**

#### **a. Approval of Agenda**

The Chair noted that a copy of the Agenda had been provided to Pension Board members in advance of the meeting and was posted on the website.

*A motion to approve the Pension Board Agenda for the January 08, 2021 special called meeting was made by Mr. Ferman Estrada, seconded by Mr. Ron Wade, and was unanimously approved.*

### **Reports**

#### **a. Atlas Project for Pension Payroll**

At the request of the Chair, Ms. Greta Tinaglia, Executive Director of Enterprise Risk Management introduced the project for presentation. Following the introduction Mr. Will

Giberson provided terms and definitions related to current processes and systems as well as future processes and systems. Mr. Giberson identified that there are approximately 3,300 pensioners that will be affected by the transition of the pension payroll to an in-house process. Mr. Giberson expressed that the proposed solution will bring the active and retiree populations payroll processes under one system solution as a part of the larger Atlas project for the District. He stated that the pension group will be set up in the system as a separate legal entity with a different EIN to accurately capture and reflect the pension financials. In addition, the pensioners would gain access to the same self-service options that the active employee population will have in the proposed solution. He concluded the proposed solution section of the presentation be identifying that the benefits administration would take place in the new Benefitfocus solution to streamline the management of benefits data. He then turned the presentation over to Mr. Rierre Robinson who presented the current processes and systems used to administer the payroll. Mr. Robinson drew attention to the various systems used including IPASmaster, SEI Retiree Benefits Payment Service, and SAP that are currently used together to process the pension Payroll. Mr. Robinson identified the resources needed to manually transfer data and information from one system to another, and the cost to maintain and operate both systems, and disburse the payment to the pensioners at a cost of about \$48,000 annually for each individual vendor. He noted that a major benefit of the new solution would be the control of the payroll dates, deadlines, and payment distribution schedule. Mr. Robinson turned the presentation over to Jill Hatton who identified the various costs to implement and maintain the new solution which included \$315,000 for implementation, an \$18,000 one-time cost for Benefitfocus, and a \$152,000 annual subscription cost. The presentation was turned back over to Mr. Robinson who identified intangible cost savings including the reduction in time it takes to duplicate the data entry from into the various systems for both the Retirement Services and Benefits Departments. The presenters responded any questions from the members of the Pension Board.

*A motion to approve personnel to begin the process of moving the Plan's Pension payroll processing to an in-house solution at an estimated Plan cost of \$315,000 and \$18,000 for Benefitfocus conditioned on and subject to the approval of the Fulton County Board of Education was made by Mr. Ferman Estrada and seconded by Mr. Ronnie Wade.*

## **Adjournment**

*With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.*



Rierre Robinson for Marvin L. Dereef Jr., Pension Board Secretary

Exhibits to Minutes:  
Atlas Pension Payroll Project Presentation

