

# Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Retirement Fund

## Minutes Regular Meeting Board of Trustees September 25, 2024

Meeting#: 1220

Call to order: 10:01 a.m.

Place: MWRD Board Room, 100 E. Erie St. Chicago, IL

Presiding: Bonnie T. Kennedy, President

### **Roll Call:**

<b>Trustees:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Bonnie T. Kennedy, President	X	
John R. Markovich, Vice President	X	
Hon. Mariyana T. Spyropoulos, Secretary	X	
John P. Dalton	X	
Robert Quezada	X	
Hon. Kari K. Steele	X	
Bruce Sullivan, Jr.	X	

Staff present: Jim Mohler, Executive Director  
Mary Murphy, Operations Manager  
Brian Gillespie, Investment Officer

Also present: Kweku Obed, Marquette Associates  
Alberto Rivera, Marquette Associates  
Steve Lux, MWRD Treasurer  
Christopher Rooney, MFS  
Jeffrey Morrison, MFS  
Brendan McMahon, TNT  
Sri Kancharla, TNT

### **Public Comment**

President Kennedy solicited public comments; there were none.

## **Regular Business**

Approval of the telephone poll on 8/26/24 (to approve the Special Meeting minutes of 7/24/24, Regular Meeting minutes of 7/31/24 and the Consent Agenda of 8/28/24)

*Motion to approve: Trustee Dalton*

*Second: Vice President Markovich*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Approval of Meeting Agenda – 09/25/24

*Motion to approve: Trustee Dalton*

*Second: Trustee Quezada*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Trustee Sullivan enters the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

## **Consent Agenda**

Administrative Expenses – 15 items, \$150,548.86

*Motion to approve: Trustee Dalton*

*Second: Trustee Quezada*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Investment Expenses – N/A

Employee Annuitants - 3 annuitants, \$34,544.82

*Motion to approve: Commissioner Spyropoulos*

*Second: Vice President Markovich*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Surviving Spouse Annuitants – 4 annuitants, \$18,685.30

*Motion to approve: Trustee Dalton*

*Second: Vice President Markovich*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Child Annuitants – N/A

Refunds – 1 refund, \$26,680.93

*Motion to approve: Trustee Quezada*

*Second: Trustee Dalton*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Duty Disability Benefits – 14 members, \$511.92 combined daily rate

*Motion to approve: Trustee Quezada*

*Second: Commissioner Spyropoulos*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Ordinary Disability Benefits - 5 members, \$1,010.07 combined daily rate and 1 thirty-day waiver

*Motion to approve: Trustee Quezada*

*Second: Trustee Dalton*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

## **Administrative**

### **Cash Allocation**

Liquidity needs for projected disbursements:

Month: November 2024

Projected Disbursements: (\$17.8M)

Requested Liquidity Needs: \$16.0M

Proposed Liquidity Sources:

<u>Manager</u>	<u>Mandate</u>	<u>Liquidation Amount (\$)</u>
DFA EM	International Equity EM	6.5M
Ariel Financial	Domestic Equity Smid	6.0M
Mesirow Financial	Domestic Equity SCV	3.5M

*Motion to approve: Trustee Dalton*

*Second: Commissioner Steele*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

### **Project Ascent & Ancillary IT Projects**

Subject Matter: Fund staff and Consultant updated the Board on Project Ascent and ancillary IT projects.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **2024 Trustee Election**

Subject Matter: Fund staff updated the Board on the next steps regarding the Trustee election which shall begin on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **RFP Auditing Services**

Subject Matter: Fund staff informed the Board on the status of the RFP for Auditing Services.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **State of Illinois Exposure Report**

Subject Matter: Fund staff informed the Board on the Fund's Illinois Exposure Report submitted to the State annually.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Semi-Annual FOIA Report**

Subject Matter: Fund staff informed the Board on the FOIA requests for the first half of the year.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Staff Office Access Report**

Subject Matter: Fund staff informed the Board on the staff's work locations during this time as the MOBA has not been available for the Fund staff to work. The ability for staff to return to the MOBA to work is still unknown.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Educational Opportunities 2024 Discussion**

Subject Matter: Fund staff updated the Board on upcoming opportunities for Trustee and Staff education.

Board Action: None. Update only.

## **Legal & Legislative**

### **Matter of Personnel** *(this agenda item was moved to the end of the meeting)*

Subject Matter: The Board voted to enter into Executive Session at 12:36 p.m. in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

*Motion to approve: Trustee Dalton*

*Second: Trustee Quezada*

*Approved by roll call vote.*

Board Action: No action by the Board when returning to regular session at 12:46 p.m.

**Legal Matters** N/A

**Legislative Update** N/A

## **Staff Investment Update(s)**

### **Manager Presentations –**

Subject Matter: Annual presentations from global low-volatility managers MFS and The Northern Trust. Questions ensued.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Current vs. Target Asset Allocation**

Subject Matter: Staff presentation of the Fund's investment portfolio allocation in comparison to targets.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Watchlist Update**

Subject Matter: Staff presentation of the status of investment managers currently on watch.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **MWDBE Utilization Quarterly Report**

Subject Matter: Staff presented the Fund's MWDBE utilization as of 6/30/24.

Board Action: None. Update only.

## **Investment Consultant Report(s)**

### **Market Environment**

Subject Matter: Investment Consultant update on the investment markets.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Second Quarter 2024 Investment Report**

Subject Matter: Investment Consultant presented the Fund's investment returns as of 6/30/2024.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Monthly Flash Report**

Subject Matter: Monthly presentation of investment performance by Investment Consultant.

Board Action: None. Update only.

### **Infrastructure Asset Class Discussion**

Subject Matter: Investment Consultant and Fund staff discussed with the Board adding Infrastructure to the Fund's asset allocation. More discussion will occur at the next Board meeting.

Board Action: None. Update only.

**Miscellaneous** N/A

**Adjournment 09/25/24 Meeting**

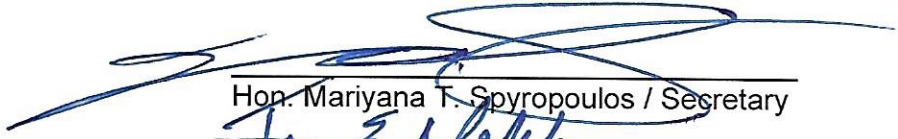
*Motion to approve: Commissioner Spyropoulos*

*Second: Trustee Quezada*

*Unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

Meeting adjourned. 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

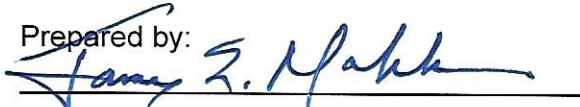


Hon. Mariyana T. Spyropoulos / Secretary



Jim Mohler / Executive Director

Prepared by:



Jim Mohler / Executive Director