

AGENDA
Municipal Pensions Oversight Board
Meeting of the Board Members

March 21, 2024 – 1:45 P.M.

301 Eagle Mountain Road, Second Floor, Suite 251, Charleston, WV 25311

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting on December 14, 2023
- III. Old Business
 - A. Legal
 - 1. Beckley Fire Department Pension Board v. The Municipal Pensions Oversight Board and Chairman Civil Action No. CC-41-2022-C-185
 - 2. Todd Lewis Taylor v. The City of Charleston, WV Policemen’s Pension and Relief Fund
 - 3. Paul Harrison v. the Charleston Firefighter’s Pension and Relief Fund and West Virginia Municipal Pensions Oversight Board, Civil Action No. 23-C-957.
 - 4. Terence F. Brown v. The Board of Trustees of the Policemen’s Pension or Relief Fund of Weirton), Civil Action No. CC-05-2021-C-14
 - B. Compliance Review Updates
 - 1. Recalculations
 - a. Charleston Fire
 - b. Dunbar Fire
 - c. Wheeling Fire - Pension Obligation Bond Overpayment/Underpayment Analysis
 - 2. Reviews started July 2023
 - a. Grafton Police and Fire, Welch Police and Westover Police
 - C. Actuarial Audit
- IV. New Business
 - A. P-Card Expenditures – December 2023, January, and February 2024
 - B. Vienna DROP Application
 - C. Plan Design Study
 - D. Personnel
 - E. Executive Director’s Report
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Adjournment

MUNICIPAL PENSIONS OVERSIGHT BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 21, 2024

The Municipal Pensions Oversight Board (MPOB) met on March 21, 2024, at 1:00 PM. The location of the meeting was held at 301 Eagle Mountain Rd. Suite 251, Charleston WV 25311. Mr. Steve Neddo welcomes everyone and calls the meeting to order. Janet Warren calls the Roll.

I. Roll Call - Attendees:

Board Members:

Travis Blosser — Virtual

Jeffrey Fleck — Present

David Lanham — Present

Sarah Long — Present

Jason Matthews, Vice Chairman — Virtual

Steve Neddo — Chairman — Present

Michael Payne — Virtual

Tom Percy — Present

Craig Slaughter— Present

General Counsel:

Anthony Eates, Deputy Attorney General – Present Virtual

Staff:

Janet Warren — Administrative Assistant – Present

Matthew Pauley, Chief Financial Officer – Present

Blair Taylor, Executive Director – Present

Guest:

Jim Ritchie, Senior Consulting Actuary, Bolton – Present

Jordan McClane, Consulting Actuary, Bolton – Present

Minute taker:

Janet Warren

Mr. Neddo states the MPOB does have a quorum.

Mr. Fleck notes the meeting on the agenda was written as 1:45 PM. Mr. Taylor states that was a typo and the posted Secretary of State posting of 1:00 PM is correct.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes' for the MPOB meeting on December 14, 2023, were presented for approval.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented; moved by Mr. Jeff Fleck ; Seconded by Mr. Craig Slaughter. Passed unanimously.

RESOLVED the minutes for the December 14, 2023, meeting, Municipal Oversight Board Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. Old Business:

A. Legal

Mr. Anthony Eates presenting

1. Beckley Fire Department Pension Board vs. MPOB Civil Action No. CC-41-2022- C – 185 – Mr. Eastes states that an agreement has been reached on the facts and will be presented to the court. Briefs for both sides will be due April 19, 2024, and a response brief will be due around 30 days after the April 19, 2024, date.

2. Todd Lewis Taylor v. The City of Charleston, WV Policemen's Pension and Relief Fund - Judge Webster – Mr. Blair Taylor, Mr. Eates, along with representatives of the Pension Fund, Attorney John Dascoli, and Pension Secretary James Duncan, attended a mediation meeting around a month ago and the case is moving along. There will be a hearing, Wednesday March 27, 2024, at 10:00 AM, with Judge Webster on the funds motion to dismiss. Mr. Eates reminds the Board that MPOB is not a named defendant, MPOB intervened in the case. Mr. Eates will be attending the hearing on March 27, 2024, and will speak on behalf of the Board, if necessary. Also to note, Mr. Todd Taylor has filed a motion adding the City of Charleston as a party to the case, noting the judge has already granted that motion. Mr. Eates will brief Mr. Blair Taylor after the hearing.

3. Paul Harrison v. The Charleston Firefighter's Pension and Relief Fund and West Virginia Municipal Pensions Oversight Board, civil Action No. 22-C-357 – Nothing new to report.

Mr. Blair Taylor Presenting

4. Terrence F Brown vs WV Municipal Pensions Oversight Board, Blair Taylor, City of Weirton & Harold E. Miller (amended to City of Weirton), Civil Action No. CC-05-2021-C-14 – MPOB is no longer a party to the case. The attorney's from AIG, representing the MPOB, have sent a letter to Mr. Taylor stating that they no longer need to monitor the case. If Mr. Brown or Mr. Brown's attorney brings MPOB back into the case, the attorney's representing the MPOB will notify Mr. Taylor.

B. Compliance Review Updates

Mr. Blair Taylor Presenting.

1. Recalculations

a. **Charleston Fire** – Charleston Fire contracted with Suttle and Stalnaker for recalculating pensions for Charleston Fire Department. Suttle and Stalnaker have not completed the calculation.

Mr. Taylor states that questions have arose and the staff will need direction from the Board and potentially an Attorney General’s opinion. Mr. Taylor states:

If the department has an employee to go out on a permanent disability prior to age 50, but has 20 or more years of service, this plan has allowed them to change to a regular retirement when the member hits 50 years old.

Mr. Taylor states that there is some language in an Attorney General’s Opinion printed in the WV Code Book, that allows the above statement to occur only if the member can return to work, meaning the disability no longer exists. Mr. John Dascoli, the attorney for the Charleston Firemen’s Pension Fund, believes the disability can be converted to a regular retirement once the member turns 50 years old. The questions are as follows:

Is there a legal opinion or legal guidance available for a pension plan board of trustees to follow when this issue arises? Is it mandatory or optional to convert such a pension? Does the disabilitant have any say in whether the pension is converted?

Mr. Taylor states that some instances show that it is more beneficial for the member to remain in the disability status, while others would benefit by converting to a retirement status, instead of a disability status. There is no formal request to act on a response. The Pension secretary has asked these questions through email conversations with Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Steve Neddo suggests waiting for a formal request from the Pension Board before continuing forward.

b. **Dunbar Fire** – The accounting firm for Dunbar Fire was acquired by Suttle and Stalnaker during the Dunbar Fire review. The firm has completed the 15 retirement recalculations. They did not add the final payouts as part of the retirement, although pensions were withheld from the final payout amounts. The MPOB staff is in the process of recalculating all 15 pensions. MPOB have discovered that some members have received sick leave payouts mid-career that were placed in Base Salary, instead of Overtime and Other Remuneration. Mr. Taylor states he is aware that the accounting firm has calculated the three disabilities incorrectly. The disabilities were calculated as of the last date of receiving vacation or sick pay, not the date the member became disabled. Mr. Taylor explains that when a member has an injury that occurred on a certain date, that is the date the member becomes disabled. When calculating the disability, you must go to the date of injury, not the date the pension board received both physician’s reports indicating a disability exists for the member or the date the member left the city’s payroll. The MPOB staff will need to go back and recalculate those disability pensions with the correct dates.

Jim Ritchie, Bolton presenting

c. **Wheeling Fire** – A letter to Mr. Taylor dated January 30, 2024, was provided by Bolton. As a reminder, there was a recalculation completed on Wheeling fire, resulting in overpayments and

underpayments to the pensioners. The city had voted that the overpayments prior to the correction date, would not be collected back from the member, they would be fixed going forward, with the correction date December 1, 2023. The law requires that if you excuse overpayments that the City has to fund that money back to the plan. Wheeling made the argument that the POB (pension obligation Bond) sale accounted for the overpayment amounts, and that they wouldn't need to make overpayments back to the plan. Bolton was asked by the MPOB to analyze that theory. Bolton went back to the date that the POB liability was calculated, then determined if the underpayments took care of the overpayments. Bolton looked at 3 aspects of that theory. Those 3 aspects are as follows:

- A) Reran the liability, looking at the corrected amounts.
- B) Bolton added to that liability, the accumulated underpayments as of that date that were not reflected in the liability that the City must make up.
- C) Overpayments are reflected in the liability only to July 1, 2022. There are overpayments that are continued to be paid that aren't calculated in the July 1, 2022- December 1, 2023. That liability had to be added back to the analysis.

Bolton findings are as follows:

The liability going forward, the overpayments were more than the underpayments. The liability decreased \$287,195 but the accumulated underpayments that need put back into the plan was \$361,884. Overpayments from the dates Bolton valued the evaluation to correction date was \$85,147. In conclusion, the POB sale does not cover the liability amount for the Wheeling Firemen's Pension. The amount that the City of Wheeling owes to the Wheeling Firemen's Pension and Relief Fund is \$159,836.

Mr. Neddo asked if the overpayments have been corrected.

Mr. Taylor states that he is of the understanding that the overpayments have been corrected. Mr. Taylor states that in November 2023, the City Council passed a resolution to set the members back to what they should have been receiving, and to move the underpaid members up to the amount they should be receiving starting December 1, 2023. The city was to absorb the cost of the overpayments, thinking that was completed through the bond sale.

Mr. Taylor asks for direction regarding informing Wheeling Fire of the findings from Bolton.

Mr. Taylor states that when the Bonds were sold there was a 10% contingency that was left and set aside for the scenario's where unfunded liability may appear in the periods of time that the bonds would have to be paid back.

Mr. Slaughter asks if Mr. Taylor knows the amount.

Mr. Taylor states the bond sale was 49 million dollars, the contingency fund should be around 4.9 million dollars. The City could decide to make the payment itself or to use the contingency fund.

Mr. Tom Percy states that MPOB essentially needs to provide the City of Wheeling and the Wheeling Firemen's Pension Fund with the letter, so they are aware of the outcome of the analysis. Mr. Taylor will asks the City to notify the MPOB once they have paid the \$159,836 to the plan. The FY24 annual report filed in July will also reflect whether the payment was made in addition to the Normal Cost which is required by Code.

Mr. Neddo asks if there is a timeline for the payment to be made.

Mr. Taylor states that if it is not completed by the next actuarial study, Bolton will show an unfunded liability in the actuarial valuation report. Mr. Taylor also noted when the City of Wheeling sold the Pension Obligation Bonds, they were to fully fund the plan. Mr. Ritchie stated state laws were passed that if the city elected to excuse the member for overpayment, the city would need to make up the

overpayment amount to the plan, but he isn't sure if there was a timeline on that law. Mr. McClane adds that there should be no interest added to that unfunded amount. Mr. Taylor agrees that there are no interest payment amounts added to the amount but also states that the law requires that the overpayments to be made by the pensioners. The city of Wheeling decided to make the overpayments and the board agreed, in the December 2023 meeting, that if the overpayments were made to the plan, it did not matter if the payment came from the pensioner or the city.

The Board directs Mr. Taylor to send the letter to the city of Wheeling and to notify the MPOB once the payment has been made to the plan, giving a reasonable timeline and preferably before the next actuarial study is produced or by the end of FY24.

2. Reviews started July 2023

Mr. Matthew Pauley presenting:

a) Welch Police – The Welch review has been completed. It is a relatively clean review. The Welch Police Pension board are holding meetings, inviting the chairman, documenting minutes, as required by code. They aren't required to make (normal cost) contributions because Bolton actuaries have determined the plan is funded at or above the 125% requirement. There were no other revenue sources found. There were no disabilities, deaths, or retirements in the last year. There were no extra's disbursed from the fund. There were two small issues discovered. Those issues are as follows:

- According to code §8-22-19c Welch Pension board is required to deposit the employee contributions into the account within 5 days from collecting the contributions. It 2 cases that didn't occur, although they were deposited, they were late in depositing the contributions by a few days. MPOB will recommend that they correct that issue.

- During the review MPOB regularly recalculate COLAs for a minimum of 10% of their active retirees and beneficiaries or all of them. Having only 4 retirees, MPOB recalculated all members in the plans to make sure COLAs are applied correctly. Having done so, errors were found and will need further studies by staff and corrections by the pension board. Results are as follows:

- **Pensioner #1** – Granted COLAs a year too early.

- **Pensioner # 2** – Inconsistencies with the starting benefit amount that was reported to the MPOB, used to calculate their current COLA, does not match reported in the 2016 or 2018 data request response, making it difficult to calculate if COLAs are granted properly. Also, COLA for the member was given a year too soon. The wrong percentage was applied one year to the member. An unexplained increase to the benefits occurred for this member in 2015.

- **Pensioner #3** - The beginning amount doesn't match what they reported to the MPOB in the review documents compared to what they reported in the data request documents from 2016 and 2018. COLA wasn't granted in the year that the member should have received COLA. An unexplained increase to the benefits occurred for this member in 2015.

MPOB will continue to discuss the issues with the Welch Police Pension board and how corrections should be made.

b) Grafton Police and Fire – Mr. Pauley is having problems getting information from the pension secretaries for both Grafton Police and Grafton Fire. Efforts are continuing.

c) **Westover Police** - Mr. Pauley has all the information needed to complete the Compliance review.

C. Actuarial Audit

Mr. Blair Taylor presenting

The actuarial audit was awarded to Buck Consulting (Buck). Buck has requested information from Bolon and that information has been provided to Buck. Buck asked the MPOB for additional information, which the MPOB does not collect. Mr. Taylor informed Buck that they would have to go to the Pension board or Bolton for that information. Bolton states they have provided the information that was asked of them, and Buck has not asked them for any additional information. Deadline for Buck is in the June 2024 meeting, which will occur June 13, 2024. Mr. Taylor states that Buck should have the audit complete sometime in May 2024 to be sent to Bolton for responses before the June 2024 meeting.

IV. New Business

A. P-Card Expenditures –December 2023, January, and February 2024

Mr. Tom Percy abstains from the vote to accept citing a payment was made to Bowles Rice on the PCard expenditure.

Mr. Matthew Pauley presenting

Mr. Pauley Presents the Board with the P-Card Expenditure for December 2023, January, and February 2024.

MOTION: Motion to approve the PCard expenditures as presented. Moved by Mr. Jeff Fleck; Seconded by Mr. Craig Slaughter – noting that Mr. Tom Percy abstained from the approval.

RESOLVED, the PCard expenditures for December 2023, January, and February 2024, are approved as presented.

B. Vienna DROP Application

Mr. Jordan McClane presenting

Bolton presents the Vienna Drop Application Study to the Board. As a reminder when Bolton was tasked to complete these studies for the MPOB, Bolton worked with the MPOB board on how the study was to be completed. Mr. McClane notes that the drop is anticipated to have a savings to the plan based on one set of assumptions. Mr. McClane states that there are 5 categories that are looked at with a DROP Application Study.

- **Payment trade-off** – This is the change in the liability. For a lot of DROPs it could result in an increase in liability. However, in these plans a lot of police officers and firefighters go out at first eligibility (high retirement rates). Instead, it ends up being a savings to some of these plans that implement a DROP, on a liability basis. The savings for this plan regarding payment trade-off is \$31,501 in savings on liability.
- **Delay in New Hire Total Normal Cost** – N/A.
- **Member Contributions Lost Due to DROP** - Unlike other DROPs that Bolton has seen before where member contributions stop at DROP entry. All other member DROP applications

seen before state the members still pay their contributions, which doesn't go into the DROP account, it goes into the pension fund. In this case the plan is missing out on the member contributions coming into the plan, which is a cost to the plan at \$33,186.

- **Premium Tax Allocation** – Premium Allocation is based on member count and if DROP allows the person to work longer than they would have otherwise. What is assumed for these studies is that the plan has a certain number of positions that need to be filled. So, if one member stays longer than he would have, had they retired earlier, a new member would have been hired, essentially having a new hire and a retiree, but now you only have that the one active member that has continued pass when they would have retired. That results in a premium tax allocation cost to the plan at \$57,816.
- **City's Normal Cost Contribution** – City of Vienna uses the Optional Methodology, which is an actuarial sound method. WV Codes states that the City's normal cost contribution needs to continue while members are in DROP. That results in savings to the plan at \$257,588.

Total DROP impact for the City of Vienna results in savings of \$198,087 to the plan. Bolton notes in the DROP study that it is hard to value what is really going to happen with a DROP so Bolton gives some sensitivity to the Study if some of the assumptions are different than what is assumed in the baseline case. Looking at some of the sensitivity to the Study, Bolton notes different impacts to the study.

- 1) Liability Impact to Fund – (\$31,501)
- 2) Contribution Impact to the City - \$59,501
- 3) Net "Plan" Impact Reflecting City NC Contributions for DROP Participants – (\$198,087)

In the Vienna DROP study Mr. McClane notes (pg. 6) that if Bolton uses a different set of assumptions, it could result in a cost to the plan instead of a savings. Pointing out that it is very sensitive to the assumptions used, but Bolton uses the assumptions from the valuation to form the analysis.

Motion to approve the City of Vienna Drop Application; moved by Mr. Craig Slaughter; Seconded by Mr. Tom Pearcy. Passed unanimously.

RESOLVED the City of Vienna Drop Application were approved as presented.

Blair Presenting

- C. **Plan Design Study** – When the RFP was issued and Bolton won the contract, one of the things the MPOB listed in the RFP was if calculations for retirements could be simplified. It would take Code changes, among other things, to make changes happen. Mr. Ritchie came to Mr. Taylor over the past couple of months asking if MPOB wants Bolton to complete that study. Mr. Taylor has spoken with the Board Chair, Mr. Neddo, regarding this topic and both agree that Legislator involvement is required. The Legislative would have to agree that they would entertain a more simplified way to calculate Police and Fire retirements. The way the RFP was written, it would make sure the plan design would make sure that the existing benefits would still occur, but not in a way that would be so difficult to calculate. Meaning any new plan design could not take away benefits but would also not give more benefit if trying to simplify the way retirements are calculated. Mr. Taylor states that the Board needs to determine if they want Bolton to proceed with a plan design.

Mr. Ritchie presenting

Mr. Ritchie introduces a 2024 Plan Design Timeline stating that it would be a 3–4-month process to introduce a more simplified way to calculate retirement pensions. Bolton would propose different formulas for the final average earnings. Currently, when looking at the way police and fire retirements are calculated, the calculations are complex, using base totals, other and remuneration totals, also looking at ratio to base. This makes calculating retirement complicated. Bolton would be looking at ways to limit total Comp to 150% or 175% sum of the base. The way the formula is set up now, a member can maximize their pension if they can work a lot of overtime over a 5-year continuous period. With a simplified formula, it may change some pension calculations while others it would not change, depending on the amount of overtime the member works prior to retirement. Bolton would try to simplify it, making it a straight 3-year average or 5-year average and limiting total pensionable comp to a percentage of base. Also, Bolton is proposing to look at the formula for survivor calculations, regarding how beneficiaries receive the COLAs and how the COLA is remunerated for a survivor. The current method is a complicated way to calculate a survivor benefit. Bolton would look at ways to simplify the calculation of a survivor benefit.

Mr. McClane asks Mr. Taylor and Mr. Pauley if that is the MPOB finds the most issues on calculations if the final annual salaries and the COLA calculations?

Mr. Taylor states that COLA calculations have been something that the MPOB have been focusing on just in the last couple of years. MPOB have found that some boards weren't granting COLAs, when they should have been granting COLAs.

Mr. Lanham is attending the meeting.

Regarding the calculations, calculations have been all over the board in correct calculations. Some calculations have been correct, and some have not been correct from the beginning of the calculation of retirement. Some plans have used the formula and some plans have completely disregarded the formula, by taking the highest 3 years and taking a straight 60%. The Board asked asks GRS to put the calculator together because the formula, based on code, is difficult to calculate pensions. Mostly Mr. Taylor is seeing a lot of plans using the calculator tool now. But, at the same time, if we can make it easier for plans to use as well as how it is calculated, it may be easier for pension boards to use. Mr. Taylor states that he hasn't spoken to legislative leadership, that is an important part of the process. Mr. Taylor questions if you speak to legislation first, then do the study, or ask Bolton to complete the study then go to the legislature for support on changing code.

Mr. Slaughter asks if there is a cost.

Mr. Taylor states the way it was built into the RFP, the cost would be an hourly cost, based on the current hourly cost that Bolton charges. Bolton states based on the work; it would amount to around \$45,000 to \$50,000 for the study.

Mr. Slaughter states the question would be is the perceived benefit to the creating a simpler methodology, justified by spending that amount of money for a study and if so, Mr. Slaughter would recommend that Mr. Taylor go to leadership and ask pension chairs if they would be interested in entertaining Code changes. If the legislature is interested in simplifying the way the calculation could be done, then the board would ask Bolton to complete the study.

Mr. Neddo states that nearly 50% of our lawsuits involve how pensions are calculated. Mr. Neddo

agrees with Mr. Slaughter, we should go to the legislative pension chairs to see if we can come up with a simpler way to calculate pensions, something such as the CPRB uses.

MPOB recommends Mr. Taylor speak to the Legislative Pension Chairs to see if they would entertain simplifying the way pension calculations are calculated. If Legislators are on board, then we ask Bolton to complete the study to be presented before next legislative session. Mr. Taylor states that he will speak with pension chairs and ask them to speak to their respective leadership. If they return a positive response, Mr. Taylor will direct Bolton to complete the plan design study at that time.

Bolton leaves the meeting

D. Personnel

Mr. Jeff Fleck presenting

Mr. Fleck states that the personnel committee met on March 20, 2024, and on the agenda was the annual evaluation of the Executive Director. The committee completed and signed off on the evaluation of Mr. Taylor. Mr. Fleck and Mr. Neddo met with Mr. Taylor this morning to go over his evaluation. As a remember, the committee asked Mr. Taylor to attend certain training sessions, which have been completed. It was a remarkable evaluation.

Another item on the personnel agenda was staff increases. Due to the budget bill passing, which included pay increases for state employees and for the MPOB staff to get an increase, it must be approved by the MPOB Board. Per the Budget bill that will become effective July 1, 2024, the personnel committee also recommends that the MPOB staff also receive the \$2900 increase per the budget bill that was passed.

MOTION: Motion to give the budget bill salary increase of \$2900 to all MPOB staff. Moved by Mr. Tom Pearcy; Seconded by Mr. Sarah Long. Passed unanimously.

E. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Taylor Presenting

- **19 total requests CY2023 and 10 requests for CY2024**

10 Active

- 6 active Temporary – (5 completed up to 26-week periods)
- 1 active Request in Process

19 Inactive

- 6 inactive – return to work
- 4 inactive – withdrawn
- 9 inactive – permanently claims completed
- 0 Disability request returned to local pension board

4 Permanent Disability Request

- 2 Permanent – completed
- 2 Permanent – Pending

- 0 Disability request withdraws

0 Active Military request completed successfully

The process for disability exams has improved. The MPOB will work on finding a provider that will do psychiatrist exams.

Although slow because of the legislative session, visits with Pension Boards continue. Mr. Taylor states that although MPOB was not a part of any bills this session, MPOB was watching SB670. That bill would have added some dollars to the MPOB funding. The bill would have moved monies that were moved from the MPOB back in 1990 back to the police and fire pension. That bill did not pass, making it out of pensions but did not make it out of Senate Finance.

The MPOB staff have worked with Dunbar Police and Dunbar Fire, and both boards have agreed and are in the process of transitioning their funds from their existing investment advisors to the investment management board (IMB). Mr. Taylor has had discussions with the City of Martinsburg and have positive feedback from Martinsburg in changing from the Alternative Funding plan to the Optional funding plan, but for that to work, they will need to change to the IMB for the 7% discount rate. Mr. Taylor states that he will be traveling to Martinsburg to speak with the trustees and the talks about changing plans are ongoing.

The Vienna DROP Application has been approved for Vienna PD.

The Net income for the CY23 Insurance Premium Tax after expenses was over \$23 million. The Investment income was over \$16 million, running between 5.2 – 5.3% every month. Total income was over \$25.5 million. The salary and benefits were about \$300,000 and current and other expenses were around \$405,000. The total expense was approximately \$707,000, making the Net Income \$24,826,969.90, which is the amount that will be added to the pension plans in September 2024.

Mr. Fleck asks how that amount will be allocated for each plan.

Mr. Taylor states the amounts are based on the number of active and the number of retired members in each plan as well as the number of active and retired members that participate in the Municipal Police officers and Firefighters system. Those members are added together, it averages around 1,500 to 1,600 active members and around another 1,800 to 1,900 retired members. It's a ratio of active members that accounts for the first \$8.7 million. Then a ratio in the remaining by active and retired members. 1st Quarter premium tax deposit for the insurance commissioner is \$7.28 million dollars, making it about \$692,000 more than the 1st Quarter premium tax dollars last year. That is because of inflation and higher interest rates. Those dollars are what ultimately fund the Police and Fire pension funds. Noting that if interest rates are at the 2% to 2.5% interest rate, that covers the MPOB cost to run staff operations. Currently MPOB can cover their operating costs and all the excess goes back into the Police and Fire allocation funds.

Mr. Taylor finishes the Directors report.

Mr. Fleck recommends that the MPOB Committee look at hiring a 4th staff member to the MPOB in the June 2024 meeting. Mr. Fleck would like to see that topic on the Agenda for the June 2024 meeting.

Mr. Blosser states that the WV Municipal League Board of Directors passed a resolution at its recent board meeting, to be forwarded to the MPOB board, to encourage the Pension Oversight

Board to take up legislation requiring local police and fire plans that their investment funds be invested with the Investment Management Board (IMB) as a requirement. Mr. Blosser will forward that to the MPOB board chair, Mr. Neddo, once the signing of the resolution has been completed.

Mr. Taylor notes that we have 9 plans that invest with the IMB out of 53 plans. Progress is continuing to be made with other plans as well. Four of our six larger plans do invest with the IMB.

V. Public Comment

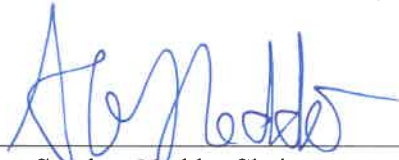
none

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Neddo called for a motion to adjourn:

MOTION: Motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Tom Percy; Seconded by Mr. Craig Slaughter. Passed unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the March 21, 2024, meeting of the MPOB is adjourned.



Stephen Neddo, Chairman

Minutes approved June 13, 2024

(Date)

Referenced documents can be found in the Board Meeting Packet.