

COBB COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

February 21, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Cobb County Retired Employees Association was held on Monday, February 21, 2011 at the West Cobb Senior Center. There were 82 members present. Co-President Roswell Story called the meeting to order at 10:37 A.M.

Invocation was given by Melvin Holton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

New members Terrie Bryant, Andrea Giles, Donnie Griffin, Manuel T. Matthews, Shirley Morrison, Kathy Satterfield, John W. Thompson, Michael Yancy and Frankie Blessitt were welcomed.

President Story asked that we remember Harry Ingram and John Kelly who are in poor health.

President Story welcomed special guest former Commission Chairman Bill Byrne.

PROGRAM: Virgil Moon, Chairman of the Cobb County Pension Board was guest speaker. Mr. Moon reported that we have 1700 retirees receiving pensions and in 10 years that number will be approximately 2500 and in 20 years 3500.

Members of the Pension Board are Virgil Moon, Jim Pearson, Tony Hagler, Bill Hutson and Gary Bottoms. The Board holds public meetings bi-monthly in the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room, 3rd floor, Cobb County Building, Cherokee Street. Meeting dates are posted on the county website www.cobbcounty.org. Click on the link to the Pension Board. Minutes and other important information are posted on the site.

Mr. Moon reported that the first year of the new hybrid plan is now in place. The traditional plan has been closed and new hires are placed under the new plan. The traditional plan was not sustainable over time. The Board oversees the traditional plan, hybrid plan and healthcare benefits plan. He stated that our plan is off to a good start when compared to other government plans. The Board monitors the 457 plan also and advises on investments.

The Board meeting agenda includes Minutes, Managers reports (there are currently approximately 12 money managers who manage our funds), Trustee report which covers money transactions handled by SunTrust Bank, Advisor report by UBS – the international advisory firm that monitors the money managers to see how they are doing with the funds. A watch list is maintained on those managers who may not be performing well so they can be replaced in a timely manner. The Actuarial Firm report tells what our liabilities are over assets and helps the Board make decisions on what the best course of action is to maintain the best fund balance.

The fund was 55% funded last year. Assets were up as of 12/31/10 to \$378 million. The long term rate of return needs to be 8% in order to pay dividends. Since 1992 the rate of return is a little over 8%.

Goals for the Board for 2010 were:

Communication: Mr. Moon stated the Board is doing better and will do more in the future to communicate with the retirees and employees;

Manager Accountability: Through UBS closely monitoring the investment risk the money managers are held more accountable;

Cost Containment: Fee reductions were agreed to by the money managers and almost all contractors;

Government Policy for Board: The Board strives to make sure there is no perception that they get paid or that they take trips paid for out of the fund.

Long term the goal is to make sure the asset mix is the best possible.

Goals for 2011:

Monitoring: Monitor GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) to make sure the Board is working with sound standards;

Activity Report: To keep up with financial funds reports in order to act quickly;

Cash Flow Analysis: Monitor earnings and contributions in existence since 1971;

Fee Comparisons: Stay on top of fees charged by all contractors

The Actuarial Report should be available in April or May. The report will show our funding status (assets divided by liabilities) and we will know how we are doing.

Mr. Moon stated that we are moving in the right direction. He stated there is no money in the budget for an increase to retirees.

He stated that the fund projection is for a 93% funding in 30 years.

The Board monitors our healthcare benefits. The premiums paid by retirees are the same as those for current county employees. Medicare factors into the premium costs.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report was given by Judy Clark. As of 01/31/11 we have \$2880.65 in the treasury. Motion was made by Stuart Witham with a second to accept the report. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion was made by Lynda Edwards with a second to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2010 meeting as printed. Motion carried.

NAME BADGES: If you have not ordered a name badge or have not received your badge, please see Beth Williams.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS: President Story reported that members contributed \$500 to 10 Women of Hope and \$500 to Cops for Kids. Toys were given to Calvary Children's Home.

CALLING COMMITTEE: President Story reported that the Executive Committee voted to notify members of meetings by e-mail except for the meetings where lunch is served. On those dates a call will be made to get a count of those attending. A hand-out was given to everyone showing the meeting dates and phone numbers of those on the Executive Committee. The dates will also be posted on the website www.ccrea.us.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS: Attached to these minutes and made a part hereof is a copy of the handout given at the meeting showing the proposed by-laws amendments. The vote on the amendments will taken at the April, 2011 meeting. President Story reviewed the amendments and will review them again at the March meeting. He requested anyone having questions or suggestions to let him know.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: President Story made appointments to the following committees:

Nominating Committee: Lew Alder, Chairman; Marti Thrasher; Teresa Nolen; Mike Brice and Martha Watson.

Speaker Committee: David Stone, Chairman; Stan Melton; Mike Ball; Babe Byrne and Wanda Callahan.

Recognition Committee: Carl Cannington, Chairman; Stuart Witham; Ernie Carlson; Rolla Green. Carl Cannington will get the 5th member.

Social Committee: Ruth Walker, Chairwoman. Ruth will ask volunteers to assist with this committee. It was agreed by the Executive Committee that the three meetings having food will be May (hamburgers/hot dogs), August (ice cream/cookies social) and December our regular Christmas lunch.

DUES: The annual dues of \$24 are now due. President Story said to keep in mind that dues are not pro-rated and the total amount of \$24 is due regardless of when a retiree joins.

NEXT MEETING: March 21, 2011 is the next meeting to be held at 10:30 A.M. at the West Cobb Senior Services Center, Dallas Highway.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

Martha Watson, Secretary