



**THE RETIREMENT BOARD  
OF THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' AND OFFICERS' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND  
OF COOK COUNTY AND EX OFFICIO FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND OF COOK COUNTY  
70 W. Madison, Suite 1925  
Chicago, IL 60602**

**Minutes for the October 25, 2018 Meeting of the Legislative Committee**

The County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County and the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County are herein collectively referred to as the "Fund."

Call to Order and Roll Call at 9:30 am.

**Trustees Present:** Diahann Goode (Chair), Robert DeGraff, John E. Fitzgerald, Lawrence Wilson\*(participated by telephone during Item 2), Joseph Nevius\*

**Staff Present:** Brent Lewandowski, Interim Executive Director; Gary LeDonne, Director, Benefits Administration; Michael Maratea, Director of Finance and Administration; Margaret Fahrenbach, Legal Advisor (Arrived after Item 1);

**Others Present:** Mary Pat Burns, Burke Burns & Pinelli; Trustee Patrick J. McFadden (arrived during Item 2)

\*Present as Trustees of the Board and not as Members of the Legislative Committee

Public Comment (None)

1. Approval of September 28, 2018 Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Trustee Fitzgerald and seconded by Trustee DeGraff that the minutes of the September 28, 2018 Legislative Committee be approved and adopted.

**Vote Result:** **MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**

2. Possible Consideration and Recommendation Regarding Legislative Consultant Presentation

Mr. Steve Zahn on behalf of Zahn Governmental Solutions, LLC ("ZGS") appeared before the Board and began his presentation of ZGS's qualifications to represent the Fund as its legislative

representative before the Illinois General Assembly. Mr. Zahn said that his proposed fees would cover the services performed in the initial term and that he would not charge hourly rates for such services.

The Interim Executive Director Brent Lewandowski stated that Trustee Lawrence Wilson had requested that he be allowed to participate in the meeting by telephone and was ready to do so. It was moved by Trustee Fitzgerald and seconded by Trustee DeGraff pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Meetings Act that Trustee Wilson be allowed to participate in the meeting through a telephone conference call connection.

Vote Result:      MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

Mr. Zahn then continued his presentation by explaining his experience as a legislative liaison and his relationship with the leadership in the General Assembly, including their respective staff members. Mr. Zahn described some of the legislation for which ZGS has represented public pension funds. He also described the legislative process for new legislation and for technical amendments to existing legislation. The Board asked Mr. Zahn about who he would approach for sponsorship of legislation that might be proposed by the Fund and about his ability to work with the Fund staff to develop and introduce proposed legislation. They inquired about his availability to report to the Board as might be needed. They also asked about the status of various legislation that he had help introduced and which was passed or was pending before the General Assembly.

At the conclusion of Mr. Zahn's presentation, the trustees discussed his qualifications and response to the RFP. The trustees discussed that they would also like the incumbent legislative liaison to appear before the Legislative Committee to present their qualifications.

It was then moved by Trustee Fitzgerald and seconded by Trustee DeGraff that the Fund staff invite the incumbent legislative liaison to make a presentation to the Legislative Committee at their meeting on November 1, 2018 at 8:30 am.

Vote Result:      MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

3. Old Business/New Business

There was no old business or new business discussed

4. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, it was moved by Trustee Fitzgerald and seconded by Trustee DeGraff that the meeting be adjourned.

Vote Result:      MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE