

Minutes of the Lehigh County Retirement Board Meeting
Lehigh County Government Center Public Hearing Room

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

9:30 AM

A meeting of the Lehigh County Retirement Board was held at 9:30 AM at the Lehigh County Government Center, in the Public Hearing Room. Board members present were Phillips Armstrong, Bob Elbich, Amy Zanelli, Tim Reeves, Ed Hozza, Ed Sweeney and Mark Pinsley. Chris Lakatos of Cornerstone Asset Management was also present.

Phillips Armstrong, Retirement Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:36 AM.

Executive Armstrong welcomed the new members of the Lehigh County Retirement Board, Controller Mark Pinsley, Commissioner Chair Amy Zanelli and Commissioner Bob Elbich.

The meeting was recorded for the public record.

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes approval from November 12, 2019.

Chairperson Armstrong requested a motion to approve old minutes.

Ed Hozza, made the motion. Tim Reeves, seconded.

Chairperson Armstrong asked about questions regarding old minutes. Commissioner Elbich had a question regarding the clarity of previous minutes.

Elbich directed board members towards page three of the old minutes, last paragraph, concerning Pennsylvania county pension law. Elbich expressed confusion over who made a motion.

Tim Reeves clarified that the individual who made the motion was Ed Sweeney.

Elbich, asked for further clarification about further uncertainty about whether Ed Hozza or Ed Sweeney had made a motion in another entry of the previous minutes.

Tim Reeves, suggested that in all future minutes, Ed Sweeney and Ed Hozza be clearly spelled out to avoid further confusion.

There were no further questions about the old minutes.

Minutes approved with 5 yes, and two abstentions, Phillips Armstrong and Mark Pinsley, who did not attend the November 12th meeting.

New Business

The Oath of Office was distributed for each board member and were returned to Joshua Siegel for Controller's Office records.

Election of Retirement Board Chairperson

Chairperson Armstrong opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson of the Board.

Ed Hozza, nominated Phillips Armstrong. Amy Zanelli seconded.

Motion to close nomination made by Amy Zanelli and seconded by Ed Hozza.

Phillips Armstrong re-elected as Chairperson of the Retirement Board, 6 yes votes, Chairperson Armstrong abstaining.

Election of the Secretary of the Retirement Board

Chairperson Armstrong opened the floor for nominations for Secretary.

Tim Reeves nominated Mark Pinsley; Bob Elbich seconded.

Motion to close nominations made by Tim Reeves; Amy Zanelli seconded.

Mark Pinsley, elected Secretary of the Retirement Board with 7 yes votes.

Set interest rate for 2020 on employees' contribution to the Lehigh County Pension fund.

Chairperson Armstrong explained this policy was set by previous board on August 4th, 2015.

Chris Lakatosh, offered to explain the policy further. Chris examined the handout to employees, explaining it provided twenty years of returns for the employee pension plan.

He explained the 20-year moving average was helped by strong years in both 2019 and 1999, which kept a steady rate of return.

Chairperson Armstrong requested questions from the Board and floor.

Chairperson Armstrong asked for a motion to set the interest rate at 5.3% for 2020. Ed Hozza made the motion, Mark Pinsley seconded.

Ed Sweeney commented that it was bothersome that the board was making decisions about interest rates based on the policy of a previous board.

Chairperson Armstrong called for a vote on the motion of approving the interest rate of 5.3%. The vote was 7-0.

Chairperson Armstrong requested any additional motions or citizen input. He announced that the next meeting will be on February 4th at 9:30 AM in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center.

Chairperson Armstrong made a motion to adjourn, Amy Zanelli seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 AM.

Mark Pinsley, Secretary

Historical Returns

Net of Fee Returns

Net of Fee Returns for Periods Ended December 31, 2019

	Last 10 Years	Last 15 Years	Last 20 Years
Lehigh County (CR report)	7.6%	6.2%	5.3%

Net of Fee Returns for Periods Ended December 31, 2018

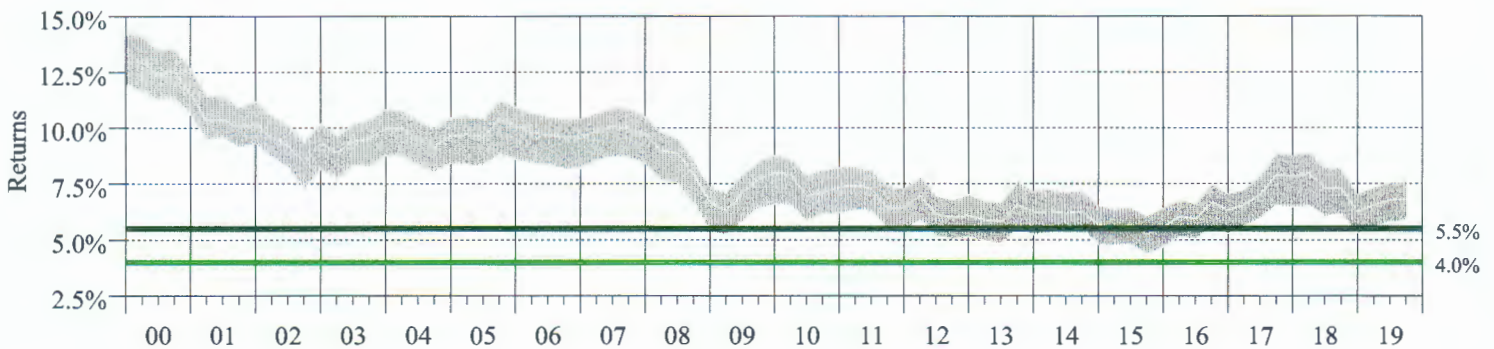
	10 Yrs. Ending 12/31/18	15 Yrs. Ending 12/31/18	20 Yrs. Ending 12/31/18
Lehigh County (CR report)	7.4%	5.6%	5.1%

Net of Fee Returns for Calendar Years



*Bold and italicized returns indicate years to be rolled off in current year for 10 year, 15 year and 20 year measurements.

Rolling 15 Year Returns for 20 Years



Rolling 20 Year Returns for 20 Years

