

**EL PASO COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

EL PASO COUNTY RETIREMENT  
PLAN  
2880 INTERNATIONAL CIR.,  
SUITE N030  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80910  
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MARK LOWDERMAN, CHAIR  
BRIAN PAYNE, VICE CHAIR  
NICOLA SAPP  
RAY BERNIER  
CHRIS LONG  
DAVID GUEST  
MICHAEL VARNET

**MINUTES**

**Retirement Board Meeting**  
**February 26, 2018 - 9:00 a.m.**  
**RDC Hearing Room**  
**2880 International Circle**  
**Colorado Springs, Colorado 80910**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Lowderman, Brian Payne; Ray Bernier, Nicola Sapp.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Long

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT: David Guest

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Varnet

Call to Order 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment –

**Dan May, District Attorney approached the Board requesting clarification on the decision process regarding the Special Meeting on December 11, 2017 that awarded a 13<sup>th</sup> check to all current retirees through December 31, 2017. It was his understanding that this would be studied and then discussed in March 2018, and asked the reason why we approved the 13<sup>th</sup> check without studying it further for January 2018. Mark Lowderman stated that there were two different components. The component that we agreed to look at further was the COLA (Cost-of-living Allowance). The retirees have not received any supplemental pay since 2007. The 13<sup>th</sup> check did not affect where we are and where we are going with regard to the funding of the Plan.**

**Christine Schmidt, retiree of 11 years, thanked the Board for doing an analysis over time that resulted in putting this Plan in a much better position than when she retired. Christine thanked the Board for the 13<sup>th</sup> check, and hopes that we find a way in the to give COLA's either once a year or every two years.**

**Mark Lowderman welcomed and introduced our newly appointed Board Member, Brian Payne.**

***“Financial Security for the Golden Years”***

1. Investment Performance Evaluation Report for 4Q 2017 & January 2018  
Dale Connors, CFA, Senior Consultant – Ellwood Associates

**DALE WILL WORK WITH TOM TO MOVE 13 MILLION DOLLARS IN MARCH FROM THE S&P 500 TO BAIN INVESTMENTS TO BETTER ALIGN PORTFOLIO WITH INVESTMENT POLICY.**

2. Chairman's Report

**MARK LOWDERMAN INTRODUCED AND WELCOMED COMMISSIONER STAN VANDERWERF**

3. Executive Director's Report

**DISCUSSION REGARDING LOWERING THE PLANS CURRENT ASSUMED RATE OF RETURN OF 8%, TO 7.5% IN THE FUTURE BASED OFF THE 2016 MODEL. ADDITIONAL STUDIES WILL BE DONE BEFORE ANY CHANGES TAKE PLACE.**

4. Action for Annual Compliance with Sunshine Act provisions

**MARK LOWDERMAN READ THE 2018 RESOLUTION SUNSHINE ACT. NICOLA SAPP MOVED TO APPROVE THE SUNSHINE ACT. RAY BERNIER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

5. Re-appointment of Associate Members Guest and Varnet for one-year terms.

**MARK LOWDERMAN READ THE RESOLUTION FOR THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT TO RE-APPOINTMENT ASSOCIATE MEMBERS FOR 2018. NICOLA SAPP MOVED TO APPROVE THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS GUEST AND VARNET. RAY BERNIER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

6. Executive Session for purposes of receiving legal advice from Plan attorney relating to changing death benefits under the Plan as authorized by C.R.S. 24-54-402(4)(b).

**NICOLA SAPP MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:15 AM. RAY BERNIER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0. NICOLA SAPP MOVED TO APPROVE RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION. RAY BERNIER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0. THE REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:00 AM.**

7. Discussion on changing Death Benefit policy for vested employees that pass away prior to immediate eligibility Mark Lowderman, Board Chair

**THE LEGAL COUNCIL WILL LOOK AT THE IRS GUIDELINES AND THE COLORADO STATE STATUS FOR THE DEFINE BENEFIT PLAN TO SEE WHAT OPTIONS WE CAN PROVIDE TO DEPENDANTS IN THE EVENT OF THE EMPLOYEES SUDDEN DEATH. THE PROPOSALS WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE MARCH 19, 2018 BOARD MEETING. THE BOARD WILL HAVE LOOK AT A POSSIBLE PLAN AMENDMENT AT THAT MEETING.**

8. Agenda Packet

Approval of Minutes of November 27, 2017 & December 11, 2017 meeting minutes.

**NICOLA SAPP MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 27, 2017 & DECEMBER 11, 2017 MEETING MINUTES. RAY BERNIER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

Ratification of Termination Refunds, New Retirees, and Purchases of Service.

**NICOLA SAPP MOVED TO RATIFY THE TERMINATION REFUNDS, NEW RETIREES AND PURCHASES OF SERVICE. RAY BERNIER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

Ratification of Cash Disbursements for November, December and January.

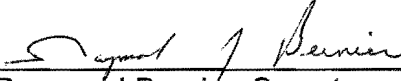
**BRIAN PAYNE MOVED TO RATIFY THE CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER AND JANUARY AS PRESENTED. NICOLA SAPP SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

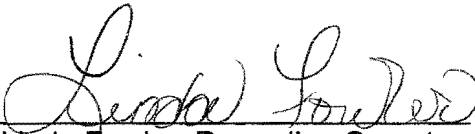
Financial Statements for month ending November 30, 2017; December 31, 2017 (prim) and January 31, 2018

**NICOLA SAPP MOVED TO RATIFY THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. RAY BERNIER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

9. The next meeting will be March 19, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

10. Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

  
Raymond Bernier, Secretary

  
Linda Fowler, Recording Secretary