

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
**Board of Trustees**  
OF THE  
**Public School Teachers' Pension and  
Retirement Fund of Chicago**

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**Return to Work Committee – Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

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**AGENDA ITEMS**

- Return to Work Hearing regarding Daphne Islam-Gordon
- Return to Work Hearing regarding Melvina Adams

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**DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m.

**Return to Work Committee Meeting Audio/Video Conferencing during COVID-19**

Chairperson Nelson stated that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to Public Act 101-0640, which amended the Open Meetings Act to allow for remote meetings when certain conditions are met, CTPF is holding this meeting by audio-video conference.

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**ROLL CALL**

**Committee Members present:** Ms. Lois Nelson, Ms. Mary Sharon Reilly, Ms. Maria J. Rodriguez – 3

**Committee Members absent:** None

**Other Trustees present:** Ms. Tammie F. Vinson, Mr. Jeffery Blackwell

Also in attendance were Mr. Carlton W. Lenoir Sr., (*Executive Director*), Mr. Daniel Hurtado, (*Chief Legal Officer*), Ms. Carolyn Clifford and Mr. Joseph Miller of Ottosen, DiNolfo, Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd. (*Board Counsel*), Retired Judge Russell Hartigan (*Hearing Officer*), Ms. Lydia Pinkawa (*Court Reporter*), and various observers and staff members.

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## RETURN TO WORK HEARING REGARDING DAPHNE ISLAM-GORDON

Ms. Daphne Islam-Gordon participated in a Return to Work Hearing. Participants and witnesses were sworn in by the hearing officer, Retired Judge Russell Hartigan, who presided over the hearing. Mr. William Ruffing, CTPF Legal Counsel, presented evidence supporting the pension cancellation based on the Pension Code and Rules. Ms. Jenn Pentangelo, Director of Benefits, gave testimony on behalf of CTPF.

Mr. Ruffing explained the procedural timeline for receipt of transcripts and submission of findings.

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## RECESS

The hearing recessed from 10:58 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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## RETURN TO WORK HEARING REGARDING MELVINA ADAMS

Ms. Melvina Adams participated in a Return to Work Hearing. Participants and witnesses were sworn in by the hearing officer, Retired Judge Russell Hartigan. Mr. William Ruffing, CTPF Legal Counsel, presented evidence supporting the pension cancellation based on the Illinois Pension Code and CTPF Rules. Ms. Rachel Wagner, Specialist, Pension and Refund, gave testimony on behalf of CTPF.

Mr. Ruffing explained the procedural timeline for receipt of transcripts and submission of findings.

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## ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Nelson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, to adjourn the meeting.

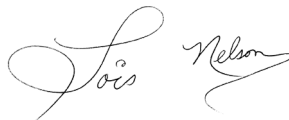
The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Ms. Nelson, Ms. Reilly, Ms. Rodriguez – 3

Nays: None

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lois Nelson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Lois Nelson  
Recording Secretary

*Minutes approved by the Claims and Service Credit Committee at a meeting held on April 24, 2024.  
Minutes prepared by Danielle Smith, Executive Assistant, CTPF.*