



CITY OF AUSTIN
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Audit and Risk Committee meeting
MINUTES

Public Meeting held in-person and videoconference
Pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.127
4700 Mueller Blvd., Suite 100, Austin, TX
Thursday, June 13, 2024

Committee Members
Present/(Absent)

Michael Benson, Committee
Chair †
Michael Granof
Dick Lavine†
Chris Noak
Anthony Ross

Guests:

Paige Saenz, General Counsel
Bhakti Patel, CLA

Other Board Trustees
Present/(Absent)

Kelly Crook
(Yuejiao Liu)
(Leslie Pool)
(Brad Sinclair)
Diana Thomas
(Ed Van Eenoo)

Others Present

Staff:

Christopher Hanson
Sarah McCleary
Russell Nash
Jenni Bonds
Yun Quintanilla
Mehrin Rahman
David Kushner*
Amy Kelley
Cathy Edwards*
Deverett Morrow*

* Present telephonically

† Present via videoconference

1 Call roll of Committee members

Committee Vice Chair Chris Noak called the meeting to order at 10:46 a.m. The following Committee members were present in person: Noak, Granof, and Ross. The following Committee members were present via videoconference: Lavine and Benson.

2 Review order of business and meeting objectives

Committee Vice Chair Noak reviewed the order of business and meeting objectives with the Committee. There were no changes to the order of business for the meeting.

3 Receive public comments

Committee Vice Chair Noak asked if there were any members of the public who wished to speak, either now or during an agenda item. There were no comments.

4 Consider approval of the March 6, 2024 Audit and Risk Committee minutes

Committee Vice Chair Noak asked the Committee to review the Audit and Risk Committee minutes. Mr. Michael Granof moved approval of the March 6, 2024 minutes as presented. Mr. Anthony Ross noted one correction needed regarding attendance. Mr. Granof amended his motion to read “as revised”, Mr. Ross seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5 Discuss and consider acceptance of financial statement audit report as of December 31, 2023

Ms. Bhakti Patel from CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) presented the results of the December 31, 2023 financial statement audit. Ms. Patel reported to the Committee that CLA issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and the schedule of pension amounts. She further stated that CLA found no material weaknesses and no significant deficiencies during the 2023 audit. Ms. Patel reviewed significant accounting policies used by COAERS and reported that there were no unusual transactions.

Mr. Granof moved to refer to the Board acceptance of the December 31, 2023 financial statements and auditor’s report from CLA and to direct Staff to place this item on the consent agenda. Mr. Ross seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

6 Discuss and consider Travel Reimbursement Policy

Mr. Russell Nash presented two proposed changes to the Travel Reimbursement policy: one was to codify that the policy would be reviewed at least every three years; one was to allow COAERS to pay for some main cabin upgrades when business class travel is not authorized.

Mr. Ross moved to refer to the Board for approval the Travel Reimbursement Policy, with direction to Staff to place this item on the consent agenda. Mr. Granof seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

7 Receive report on COAERS Enterprise Risk Management program including the following:

7A: Risk categories of personnel, physical, and legislative

Mr. Christopher Hanson presented a report on the Enterprise Risk Management program and highlighted the three categories of the Enterprise Risk Management program within the report which were under review at this Committee meeting including personnel, physical, and legislative.

**7B: Cybersecurity risk category and information security program
Convene into Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas
Government Code, Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional
Conduct, and Section 551.089, Texas Government Code, to consult with legal
counsel and deliberate security assessments or deployments relating to
information resources technology, network security information described in
Section 2059.055, Texas Government Code, and deployment and
implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, and security
devices**

Trustees convened into Executive Session at 11:17 a.m.

**Reconvene into open session to take action as determined appropriate
regarding security assessments or deployments relating to information
resources technology, network security information described in Section
2059.055, Texas Government Code, and deployment and implementation of
security personnel, critical infrastructure, and security devices**

The Board reconvened into open session at 11:29 a.m.

8 Receive report on the first quarter 2024 unaudited financial statements

Ms. Yun Quintanilla presented the March 31, 2024 unaudited financial statements.

9 Review key meeting takeaways and call for future agenda items

Committee Vice Chair Noak summarized the actions taken and the information discussed during the meeting and asked for any future agenda items.

As there were no further items to address, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

These minutes were approved at the August 30, 2024 Audit and Risk Committee meeting