Connecticut Retirement Security Board
Special Meeting Minutes
Friday, September 25, 2015
10:30 A.M.
55 Elm Street, Hartford, 3rd Floor Conference Room F

Members Present:

Hon. Kevin Lembo, State Comptroller, Co-Chair
Deputy Treasurer Richard Gray (on behalf of Hon. Denise Nappier, State Treasurer, Co-Chair)
Deputy Commissioner Dennis Murphy (on behalf of Commissioner Sharon Palmer) (via phone)
Thomas Barnes (via phone)
Ken Floryan (via phone)
William Kosturko (via phone)
Jamie Mills (via phone)
James Russell (via phone)
John Sayour (via phone)
Michael Callahan (via phone)

Members Absent:

George Kasper Sal Luciano Brendan Maher

Other Participants:

Genevieve N. Ballinger, Research Analyst, Office of the State Comptroller Natalie Braswell, General Counsel, Office of the State Comptroller

A. Call to Order

Comptroller Lembo called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

B. Recommendation by RFP Selection Committee

The RFP Selection Committee included Ken Floryan, Jamie Mills, Brendan Maher, and Natalie Braswell. Genevieve N. Ballinger explained the process the Committee took to come to the recommendation. The RFP for Legal Services was released with a three to four week deadline for proposals. Although it was a tight timeline, the Committee received eight well qualified written proposals. First, the Committee members individually scored the written proposals in order to choose the top three firms to interview, since eight firms would be too many to interview. Then the Committee invited the top three firms for interviews that lasted approximately an hour each. The Committee members also called the top three firms' references. Then the Committee members individually scored each of the top three firms again, this time based on their written proposals, interviews, and reference checks. The top three firms and their final scores were Groom Law Group and Finn, Dixon, & Herling as a joint proposal with 95.63 points, Wagner Law Group with 95.38 points, and K&L Gates with 88.5 points.

C. Board Vote on Recommendation

A motion was made by Ken Floryan for the Board to accept the recommendation by the Committee to enter into contract negotiations with Groom Law Group and Finn, Dixon, & Herling and if the negotiations fall through, then to enter into contract negotiations with Wagner Law Group. Jamie Mills seconded the motion. Comptroller Lembo asked the Board members if there were any questions. Deputy Commissioner Dennis Murphy asked if none of the qualified firms were Connecticut firms. Comptroller Lembo clarified that the number one proposal was a joint proposal from D.C. based law firm Groom Law Group and Stamford, CT based law firm Finn, Dixon, & Herling. Comptroller Lembo asked if there were any further questions and there were none. The motion passed unanimously at 10:42AM.

D. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

E. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Mills to adjourn. John Sayour seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.