

**WAYNE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**July 28, 2025  
10:00 am**

**28 WEST ADAMS, 18<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
GRAND PARK CENTRE  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226**

**Commissioners Present:**

Henry Wilson, Chair  
Frank Simone, Vice-Chair  
Tom Yee  
Denis Martin  
Ron Yee  
Elizabeth Misuraca

ELECTED MEMBERS TO THE BOARD

Alisha Bell, Chair  
Wayne County Commission

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

Assad Turfe,  
Office of the Wayne County Executive

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

**Absent:**

**Others Present:**

Robert Grden, Gerard Grysko, Taylor Kosikowski, Emily Cottick, Felicia Hollis, Robert Abb, Kevin VandenHaute, Mark Mueller, Bruce Campbell, Brady Drake, Derek Batts, Nia Batts, Dawn Batts, Ally Siciliano, Ashley Reid, Joshua Tooker, Chris Carmody, Laurence Russian, Allen A. Cox, Kathleen Colin, James Berry, Angela Weeks

1. Call to Order at 10:13 am.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Henry Wilson, Chair; Frank Simone, Vice-Chair; Ron Yee; Denis Martin; Tom Yee; Elizabeth Misuraca; Alisha Bell; Assad Turfe

Absent:

3a. Approval of minutes of the meeting of June 30, 2025.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Waive the reading of the minutes and Approve the minutes of June 30, 2025.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

3b. Applications for retirement.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Approve the applications for retirement.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

APPLICATIONS				
Emp. ID	Name	Dept.	Application Date	Retirement Date
**	George Garbaldi - Auto II Vested Deferred (Dec'd Member Debra Garbaldi)	WCAA	05/22/2025	06/01/2025
27939	Robert K. Smith, Jr.	***FM&P	06/18/2025	08/01/2025
29936	Phyllis Ficzyz	HHVS	07/01/2025	08/01/2025
22621	Glenn Fecteau (Deferred)	DPS	07/08/2025	09/01/2025

\*\* Oracle sets ID# after hired on payroll

\*\*\* Facilities Mgmt Operation Dept

DISABILITY APPLICATIONS		
Name	Dept.	Application Date
(None)		

3c. Removals from pension payroll because of death.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, that the listed retirees be Removed from the pension payroll because of their deaths on the indicated dates, and further

RESOLVED, that any monies due to the deceased be paid to the named beneficiaries, subject to the receipt of a death certificate in each case.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

DEATHS	
Name	
Earl Moore Sr.	Beverly Hanus
Robert Sommariva	Jdg Daniel Van Antwerp
Jdg Virgil Clark Smith	Mabel Finley
Gerald Rigg	Mary Ware
Howard Murray	Mary Joseph
Naomie Williams	Mary McClendon
Hazell Essex	Francis Agnello
Betty McBride	Willbey Pistor
Ernestine Cox	Frances Baker
Geraldine Hill	George Brozack
Charles Lindenmuth	Ryszarda Schafer
Sylvia Bean	Cecilia Friedenzohn
Rosemary Steele	Katherine Murray
Elaine Callsen	Robert Magnuson

3d. Retirement Allowances.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Approve the final retirement allowances.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

NEW RETIREES			
Name	Dept.	Name	Dept.
George Garibaldi – Auto II – (Dec'd vested Deferred Member Debra Garibaldi)	WCAA	Robert K. Smith. Jr.	Facilities Mgmt
Shannon Mapp – DDR (Bd approved 6/20/25)	WCS	Erica Stewart-Hardwick	WCS

## NEW RETIREES

Name	Dept.	Name	Dept.
Phyllis Ficzyycz	HHVS	Michael Turner – (Amann Benefit Only)	WCS

- 3e. Adjustment of pensions for retirees because of additional earnings, annual leave payments, overpayments, etc.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Approve the adjustment of pensions for retirees because of additional earnings, annual leave payments, overpayments, etc.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

## UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS AGENDA (NEW RETIREES)

Name	Effective Date
(None)	

## ADJUSTMENTS

Name	Adjustment Date
Ronald J. Roberts	07/01/2025
William Jackson	07/01/2025
James Kopy	07/01/2025
Rhonda Mitchell	08/01/2025
David Praedel	09/01/2025
Simone Smith	09/01/2025
Zenola Stingley-Seegars	09/01/2025

## ADJUSTMENTS TO CONTRIBUTIONS ONLY

Name	Adjustment Date
James Edwards	07/01/2025
Duane Provonche	07/01/2025

- 3f. Re-calculations and/or Pop-ups due to death of spouse, and attainment of age 60 under Disability Retirement as well as additional contributions.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Approve the Re-calculations and/or Pop-ups due to death of spouse, and attainment of age 60 under Disability Retirement as well as additional contributions.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

RE-CALCULATIONS	
Name	Conversion Date
(None)	

POP-UPS	
Name	Pop-Up Date
Howard A. Murray	12/01/2024

- 3g. June stipends (pay date 07/01/25) of \$124,394.36 for pre-Medicare eligible members pursuant to Wayne County Ordinance 2015-610.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Approve the June stipends (pay date 07/01/25) of \$124,394.36 for pre-Medicare eligible members pursuant to Wayne County Ordinance 2015-610.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

- 3h. Correspondence.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Accept the correspondence.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 8-0.

- 4. Recommendation from Dr. Chad Stennett, Medical Director and Corporation Counsel regarding the disability retirement of the following members:

Non-Duty Disability

(None)

Duty Disability

(None)

M.C.L.A. 15.243(1)(h), which permits a Public Body to discuss matters in closed session that are subject to Physician-Patient Privilege, noting that a roll call is required for this motion.

No action necessary on this item.

5. Recommendation from Dr. Stennett, Medical Director and Corporation Counsel regarding re-examination(s) for disability retiree members:

(None)

No action necessary on this item.

6. Consideration of the June flash report on the Defined Benefit Plan from Titan Wealth Advisors.

Mr. Tom Yee moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Accept the June flash report on the Defined Benefit Plan from Titan Wealth Advisors.

The motion was supported by Ms. Misuraca and carried unanimously 8-0.

7. Consideration of a presentation on Venture Capital from Derek Batts and Ally Siciliano of Union Heritage (10:30 AM).

Derek Batts, Dawn Batts, Nia Batts, Ally Siciliano, Ashley Reid, and Joshua Tooker move to the table at 10:58 AM.

Alisha Bell exited the meeting for the day at 11:15 AM.

Ms. Misuraca moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Receive and File the presentation on Venture Capital from Derek Batts and Ally Siciliano of Union Heritage.

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 7-0.

Derek Batts, Dawn Batts, Nia Batts, Ally Siciliano, Ashley Reid, and Joshua Tooker exited the meeting for the day at 11:49 AM.

Chair Wilson called for a recess at 11:50 AM.

The Retirement Commission returned to session at 11:56 AM with the following Commissioners present: Henry Wilson, Frank Simone, Denis Martin, Tom Yee, Elizabeth Misuraca, Ron Yee, Assad Turfe.

8. Consideration of a presentation on Late Stage Venture from Chris Carmody and Laurence Russian of ABS Global Investments (11:30 AM).

Chris Carmody and Laurence Russian moved to the table at 11:56 AM.

Mr. Tom Yee moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Receive and File the presentation on Late Stage Venture from Chris Carmody and Laurence Russian of ABS Global Investments.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 7-0.

Chris Carmody and Laurence Russian exited the meeting for the day at 12:29 PM.

9. Consideration of a report on investment manager reports from Titan Wealth Advisors on the real estate and alternative asset portfolios (Pass for the Day on June 30, 2025).

Mr. Simone moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Receive and File the report on investment manager reports from Titan Wealth Advisors on the real estate and alternative asset portfolios (Pass for the Day on June 30, 2025).

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 7-0.

10. Consideration of a status update from Titan Wealth Advisors.

Mr. Simone moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Receive and File the verbal status update from Titan Wealth Advisors.

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 7-0.

11. Consideration of an update on the WCERS Opportunity Fund (Pass for the Day on June 30, 2025).

M.C.L. 15.243(1)(h) permits a Public Body to discuss matters in closed session that are exempt by other statutes. Information subject to Attorney-Client Privilege is not subject to disclosure, noting that a roll call is required for this motion. M.C.L. 15.243(1)(g).

Mr. Simone made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss agenda items #11, #12, #13, and #14 pursuant to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, M.C.L. 15.268(1)(h), which permits a Public Body to discuss matters in closed session that are exempt by other statutes.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, M.C.L. 15.243(1)(h), which permits a Public Body to discuss matters in closed session that are exempt by other statutes. Information subject to Attorney-Client Privilege is not subject to disclosure, noting that a roll call is required for this motion. M.C.L. 15.243(1)(g). This is not subject to disclosure under The Freedom of Information Act, M.C.L. 15.231 *et seq.* The agenda items to be discussed are #11, #12, and #13; and further

Pursuant to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, M.C.L.A. 15.267(2), which permits a Public Body to discuss closed session minutes that are not available to the public, noting that a roll call is required for this motion. This is not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, M.C.L. 15.231 *et seq.* The agenda item to be discussed is #14.

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 7-0 with a roll call vote, Henry Wilson – yes, Frank Simone – yes, Denis Martin – yes, Tom Yee – yes, Elizabeth Misuraca – yes, Ron Yee – yes, Assad Turfe – yes.

The Retirement Commission went into closed session at 12:35 PM.

Kevin VandenHaute, Mark Mueller, and Brady Drake moved to the table at 12:35 PM.

Kevin VandenHaute, Mark Mueller, and Brady Drake exited the meeting at 12:38 PM.

Bruce Campbell moved to the table at 12:38 PM.

The Retirement Commission returned to open session at 1:06 PM with the following Commissioners present: Henry Wilson, Frank Simone, Denis Martin, Tom Yee, Elizabeth Misuraca, Ron Yee, and Assad Turfe.

Assad Turfe exited the meeting for the day at 1:06 PM.

Mr. Ron Yee moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Receive and File the confidential attorney client memorandum from VMT Law, P.C., concerning the WCERS Opportunity Fund.

The motion was supported by Ms. Misuraca and carried unanimously 6-0.

12. Consideration of a written opinion from Corporation Counsel regarding David Szymanski's eligibility for pension benefits in connection with his lawsuit against the County of Wayne concerning coverage for medical benefits (Pass for the Day on June 30, 2025).

M.C.L. 15.243(1)(h) permits a Public Body to discuss matters in closed session that are exempt by other statutes. Information subject to Attorney-Client Privilege is not subject to disclosure, noting that a roll call is required for this motion. M.C.L. 15.243(1)(g).

Mr. Simone moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Pass for the Day a legal report from Corporation Counsel regarding David Szymanski's eligibility for pension benefits in connection with his lawsuit against the County of Wayne concerning coverage for medical benefits (Pass for the Day on June 30, 2025).

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 6-0.

13. Consideration of a written opinion from Corporation Counsel regarding James Berry (Pass for the Day on June 30, 2025).

M.C.L. 15.243(1)(h) permits a Public Body to discuss matters in closed session that are exempt by other statutes. Information subject to Attorney-Client Privilege is not subject to disclosure, noting that a roll call is required for this motion. M.C.L. 15.243(1)(g).

Mr. Simone moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Pass for the Day a written opinion from Corporation Counsel regarding James Berry (Pass for the Day on June 30, 2025).

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 6-0.

14. Consideration of meeting minutes for the closed session(s) of June 30, 2025.

M.C.L. 15.267(2) permits a Public Body to discuss closed session minutes that are not available to the public, noting that a roll call, is required for this motion.

Mr. Simone moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Waive the reading of the minutes and Approve the closed session of June 30, 2025.

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 6-0.

15. Consideration of a verbal report from Committee Chair, Denis Martin regarding the Audit Committee meeting of July 28, 2025.

Mr. Martin moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Accept the verbal report from Committee Chair, Denis Martin, regarding the Audit Committee meeting of July 28, 2025.

The motion was supported by Mr. Simone and carried unanimously 6-0.

16. Consideration of changing the implementation date from September 1, 2025 to August 1, 2025 for the Annuity Conversion Factors from the Defined Contribution Plan.

Mr. Simone moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Retirement Commission of the Wayne County Employees' Retirement System (the "Retirement Commission") is vested with the fiduciary responsibility

administration, management, and operation of the Retirement System, and for making effective the Retirement System provisions, and

WHEREAS, the Retirement Commission has the legal and fiduciary obligation to assure that employer contributions are made in accordance with Article 9, Section 24 of the State of Michigan Constitution, and other applicable law, and

WHEREAS, employer contribution rates are based upon the actuarial liabilities of the Retirement System as determined by the Retirement Commission's actuary based upon demographic and economic actuarial assumptions approved by the Retirement Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Retirement Commission has retained an actuary, Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS), for the purpose of advising on the actuarial operation of the Retirement System and providing an annual actuarial valuation from which the Retirement Commission shall certify the amount required to be contributed to the Retirement System by the County of Wayne in accordance with Section 20m of Michigan Public Act 314 of 1965, [MCL 38.1140m(1)], as amended ("PA 314"), and

WHEREAS, the Retirement Commission, on May 23, 2025, took action to implement on September 1, 2025 and the actuary, GRS, was able to complete the calculations and testing a month earlier; therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission to Approve the annuity conversion factor-interest rate of 4.5% for members in the Defined Contribution Plan purchasing an annuity from the Defined Benefit Plan effective August 1, 2025.

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 6-0.

17. Consideration of a report from Executive Director, Robert Grden, regarding the Wayne County Employees' Retirement System Summary Annual Report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.

Mr. Simone moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Wayne County Employees' Retirement System Audit Committee on July 28, 2025, reviewed the Wayne County Employees' Retirement System Summary Annual Report for fiscal year ending September 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, legal counsel, VMT Law, P.C., reviewed the Wayne County Employees' Retirement System Summary Annual Report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, for compliance with state and Retirement Ordinance reporting requirements; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission to Approve the Wayne County Employees' Retirement System Summary Annual Report for fiscal year ending September 30, 2024; and further

RESOLVED, to Authorize the distribution of the Wayne County Employees' Retirement System Summary Annual Report for fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.

The motion was supported by Mr. Ron Yee and carried unanimously 6-0.

18. Consideration of a report from Executive Director, Robert Grden, regarding a 10-year historical review of the Defined Benefit Plan for fiscal year ending 2024.

Mr. Tom Yee moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Wayne County Employees' Retirement Commission, to Receive and File a 10-year historical review of the Defined Benefit Plan for fiscal year ending 2024.

The motion was supported by Mr. Ron Yee and carried unanimously 6-0.

19. Consideration of a confidential legal report from VMT Law, P.C.

M.C.L.A. 15.243(1)(g), which permits a Public Body to discuss matters in closed session that are subject to Attorney-Client Privilege, noting that a roll call, is required for this motion.

No action necessary on this item.

20. Public Comment.

Kathleen Colin addressed the Retirement Commission.

James Berry addressed the Retirement Commission.

Allen A. Cox addressed the Retirement Commission.

21. Reconsiderations.

None.

22. Such Other Matters.

None.

23. Adjournment.

Mr. Simone moved to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was supported by Mr. Tom Yee and carried unanimously 6-0.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:26 PM subject to the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Grden, Executive Director  
Wayne County Employees' Retirement System