

GINA A. JENNINGS, MBA, MPA
FINANCE DIRECTOR

(302) 855-7741 T
(302) 855-7749 F

gjennings@sussexcountyde.gov



Sussex County

DELAWARE
sussexcountyde.gov

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

August 21, 2025

The Sussex County Pension Fund Committee met on August 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. by teleconference. Those in attendance included members: Gina Jennings, Todd Lawson, Karen Brewington, Kathy Roth, Lance Rogers, and George Spindell. Also, Pat Wing of Marquette Associates, the County's Pension Investment Consultant

Ms. Jennings called the meeting to order.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the August 21, 2025, meeting were approved by consent.

2. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

3. **Performance Reports of the Pension and OPEB Funds**

Mr. Pat Wing of Marquette Associates presented the quarterly performance reports for both the Pension and OPEB funds. Mr. Wing began with an overview of the U.S. economy, noting that the second quarter reflected a rebound following a weak first quarter. Consumer spending and net exports were the main drivers of the improvement. He also reviewed the potential lagging effects of tariffs on inflation and economic growth. Inflation remains above three percent while recent labor reports suggest some softening, creating challenges for the Federal Reserve as it considers future rate cuts

Mr. Wing then directed members to the Pension Fund Performance Report.

Observations as of June 30, 2025, included:

- The Pension Plan market value was \$181.2 million. Q2-25 net investment change of \$11.4 million, returning 6.7% (net), vs. policy index of 7.5%.
- FY25 net investment change of \$18.7 million, returning 11.4% (net) vs. policy index of 12.3%.
- Positive attribution: Outperformance by most active equity managers, and Outperformance by Clarion and JP Morgan



- Negative attribution: Asset allocation and equity structure
- Looking Ahead: Real Estate winding down

Mr. Wing directed members to the OPEB Fund Performance Report.

The market value as of June 30, 2025, was \$73.3 million. Q2-25 net investment change of \$4.7 million, returning 6.7% (net), vs policy index of 7.5%. FY25 net investment change of \$7.6 million, returning 11.4% (net), vs policy index of 12.3%. Positive attribution for the quarter resulted from outperformance by most equity managers and outperformance by Clarion and JP Morgan. Negative attribution for the quarter resulted from asset allocation and equity structure.

Mr. Spindell inquired about the political influence on Fed decisions. Mr. Wing stated that The Fed is expected to base its rate decision on upcoming economic data rather than political pressure. A half-point cut is unlikely unless the September 5th payroll report is unexpectedly poor. While some sectors like housing and manufacturing may benefit from a cut, overall financial conditions remain loose, suggesting limited urgency. The market currently prices in a likely cut, but this could shift depending on inflation and labor data.

4. **Additional Business**

Mrs. Jennings reminded everyone that the next meeting scheduled for November 20, 2025, will be held in person. The actuaries will be in attendance and will present.

5. **Adjourn**

At 10:38 a.m., a Motion was made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Ms. Roth, to adjourn. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi L. Albright
Executive Administrative Assistant