

# **Board Governance Consultant Proposal**

June 14, 2023

#### Meet the Team





Chuck Campbell
Practice Group Leader
and Lead Counsel

- 25+ years of governmental plan experience
- Fiduciary and governance counsel to state-wide and local funds



Jessica Palvino
Senior Counsel

- Licensed 18 years, 6 years governmental plan experience
- Former Chief of Staff to Texas TRS General Counsel



Alyca Garrison
Senior Associate

- 6 years governmental plan experience
- Licensed CPA, formerly tax accountant with Deloitte



Anais Stevens
Associate

- Licensed in 2022,
   Summer Associate with
   Jackson Walker in 2021
   and 2022
- University of Texas School of Law

#### Our Public Pension Experience



- Represent over 40 public pension plans on "full service" basis, including as outside general counsel
  - Work includes Plan Administration, Fiduciary, Tax, and Investments
- Serve as fiduciary counsel to seven funds in excess of \$1 billion, including large statewide funds

Active members of national and state public pension associations

# Our Relevant Fiduciary and Governance Experience



- Counsel Boards on thorny governance and fiduciary issues, including:
  - Hands-on assistance with immediate issues, including in-person consultation and internal investigations
  - Follow-up recommendations on processes and policies to prevent issue from reoccurring
- Perform comprehensive fiduciary and governance review and establish or amend governance policy/bylaws and other policies in connection with the review

 Conduct both annual and periodic fiduciary, legal and governance training for trustees

### Our Philosophy



- 1 The Board of Trustees is the ultimate fiduciary of the Plan
- 2 Your fiduciary duties are the cornerstone of our work
- 3 Your governance process plays a key role in exercising prudence
- Trustees are often volunteers and wear different hats

### Our Thoughts on the Fiduciary Audit



- Through its recommendations, Funston Advisory Services provided a <u>blueprint</u> on how STRS Ohio could develop and maintain an optimal governance structure
- Key aspects to the blueprint:
  - Adopt a "single standalone policy" the Bylaws that provides the framework for the responsibilities retained by the Board and delegated to the Executive Director
  - Develop a streamlined governance and committee structure for the responsibilities retained by the Board
  - Adopt new policies and/or consolidate, modify or discontinue existing policies to reflect the governance framework
  - Develop Board training program and periodic schedule for governance review

## Thoughts on Project Plan



Phase 1

- Framing the House
  - Review blueprint and existing policies, prepare project plan, and draft bylaws

Phase 2

- Building the House
  - Adopt new policies and/or consolidate, modify or discontinue existing policies and Committee charters

Phase 3

- Maintaining the House
  - Develop and implement Board training and governance evaluation programs

#### Phase 1: Framing the House



- Comprehensive review of the "blueprint" by Funston and existing policies
- Develop and Finalize a Project Plan
  - Outline of Bylaws
  - Identify Board policies to adopt, modify, consolidate or discontinue
  - Feedback from Ad Hoc Governance Committee (the "Committee") and/or Board on Project Plan
- Prepare Draft of Bylaws in collaboration with the Committee for presentation to the Board
- Present Bylaws to the Board with the Committee and finalize for adoption

#### Phase 2: Building the House



- Work in collaboration with the Committee, Staff and appropriate Consultants to:
  - Draft new policies
  - Revise and consolidate existing policies as needed
  - Draft Board Committee Charters
- Present policies and charters to the Board with the Committee and finalize for adoption

### Phase 3: Maintaining the House



- Develop overall onboarding and continuing education plan for full Board, including training materials, if desired
- Participate in initial on-boarding training and plan and present educational sessions, as appropriate
- Collaborate with the Committee and Staff to develop governance review and evaluation plan and schedule
- Execute governance review and evaluation plan, as requested

#### Cost Model



#### All phases are time billed at hourly rates:

TEAM MEMBER	POSITION	STANDARD RATE	DISCOUNTED RATE
Chuck Campbell	Partner and Team Lead	\$965	\$695
Jessica Palvino	Senior Counsel	\$665	\$495
Alyca Garrison	Senior Associate	\$735	\$530
Anais Stevens	Associate	\$475	\$350

#### **Board Meeting in-person attendance:**

- Hourly rates, but only 50% charge for travel time, capped at 6 hours and no charge for travel expenses, or
- Flat fee, if desired, of \$5,000 per attorney.

#### Estimate of Project Plan



Phase 1

Framing the House

• \$85-125k

Phase 2

Building the House

• \$125-175k

Phase 3

Maintaining the House

• \$30-50k

Our Cost Estimate (estimate only) includes a **combination** of flat fee and hourly rates:

- Flat fee for in-person Board Meeting attendance.
- Hourly rates for virtual meeting attendance, review and drafting of bylaws and policies and meeting preparation.