



# ILLINOIS POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION INVESTMENT FUND

## MEMORANDUM

TO: IPOPIF STAKEHOLDERS  
FROM: RICHARD WHITE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
RE: TRUSTEE ELECTION – APPROVAL OF ELECTION PROCESS  
DATE: MARCH 20, 2026

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### **Background:**

The pension code authorizes the Board of Trustees to administer the election of Board of Trustees and to establish rules for the conduct of the election.

The Election Policy and the trustee election process were approved at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The following is an overview regarding the trustee election process which is provided for information. Complete information regarding the trustee election is contained in the Election Policy, revised as of March 20, 2026 and should be referred to for complete information.

Additional information will be posted to the IPOPIF website as necessary during the election process.



# ILLINOIS POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION INVESTMENT FUND

## **Trustee seats subject to election.**

The elected trustees serve 4-year terms of office with the election on a two-year staggered election cycle. The elected trustees will be seated in January 2027 and serve through December 2030:

The trustee seats and incumbent trustee subject to election currently are listed below.

- Municipal Member Trustee
  - Trustee Seat #1: Trustee Philip Suess
- Active Member Trustee
  - Trustee Seat #4: Trustee Lee Catavu
  - Trustee Seat #5: Trustee Paul Swanlund
- Beneficiary Member Trustee
  - Trustee Seat #7: Trustee Daniel Hopkins

Trustee Seat #9 is the seat appointed by the Governor as recommended by the Illinois Municipal League and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The appointment is for a two-year term of office and will run from January 2027 through December 2028.

## **Election Process Milestones.**

The process to be followed will include these major milestone steps:

### **1. Board of Trustees approval of Election Policy and approval for the election process of the Board of Trustees.**

The Election Policy provides guidance for the rules and administrative steps to conduct the trustee election. The Board of Trustees will authorize the opening of the election process at the March 20, 2026, meeting.



# ILLINOIS POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION INVESTMENT FUND

## **2. Nomination Period for Board Member Candidates**

The nominations for election will be conducted using a 'paper nomination' and will be coordinated by the Executive Director. The Election Policy, starting on page 5, defines the eligibility requirements for a candidate, the number of signatures required for nomination, and the specific class of elector that may sign a nomination petition.

*The nomination period for all trustee seats will run for a period of over five weeks from April 6, 2026, through May 8, 2026*

The Election Policy provides the administrative rules for challenges to the nomination petition process and for the resolution of these challenges. The timeline for this process, which begins after the close of the nomination period, is detailed in the election policy.

As aforementioned, the Board of Trustees will make the final decision about challenges to the nomination process at the Board meeting scheduled for June 5, 2026.

## **3. Board of Trustees approves candidate(s) and the election ballot process.**

At the June 5, 2026, meeting, the Board of Trustees will approve the candidate(s) and the election process for the trustee seats.

The Executive Director has the responsibility to approve the final ballot and biographical statement for each candidate that will be mailed to each elector.

The eligible electors are those in each class for the active members of Article 3 police pension funds, the retirees and beneficiaries of Article 3 police pension funds, and the municipal representative from each of the 357 municipalities. The Fund is responsible for compiling the database of eligible electors and supplying the database to the election services provider.



# ILLINOIS POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION INVESTMENT FUND

If only one candidate for each position is properly nominated in petitions received, that candidate shall be deemed the winner and no election under this Section shall be required, per Section 22B-116(d)(2).

#### **4. Election Period for Trustee Seats**

Upon approval of the election process, the election services provider (Survey and Ballot Systems) will mail via US Postal Service to each eligible elector a packet that contains the paper election ballot, the candidate biographical statements, and a return envelope. For information, Survey and Ballot Systems is under contract to conduct this election and was the election services provider in all the previous elections dating back to 2020.

*The election period will run from August 17 through September 11, 2026*

#### **5. Election Date and Final Tabulation of Election Ballots.**

Once cast, the election ballots are mailed directly to the election services provider where they are reviewed for completeness in accordance with the rules and accepted for tally. The tally of the election results will be finalized on September 11, 2026, with the election process used by the election vendor audited by an independent CPA firm. Once approved, the results will be provided to the Executive Director. The Fund will post and distribute the election results on September 14, 2026

#### **6. Certification of Election Results by Board of Trustees**

The Election Policy provides the administrative rule for challenges to the election results and for the resolution of these challenges. The Board of Trustees makes the final decision based on the recommendation of the General Legal Counsel, which if needed, is scheduled for the Board of Trustees meeting on October 16, 2026

The Board of Trustees will review and certify the election results at the October 16, 2026, meeting.



# ILLINOIS POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION INVESTMENT FUND

## 7. Seating of the Board of Trustees

The elected Board of Trustees will have an Oath of Office administered and will be seated at December 11, 2026, meeting for the term of office beginning on January 1, 2027.

+++++END OF MEMORANDUM+++++