NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM BOARD
MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2026, BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT
Senator Dick Dever
Representative Greg Stemen
Representative Jason Dockter
Mr. Tyler Erickson
Mr. Gerald Buck
Chairman Mike Seminary
Mr. Jeffry Volk
Mr. Adam Miller
Lt. Huibregtse
Senator Kyle Davison
Mr. Bryan Klipfel

STAFF PRESENT
Ms. Rebecca Fricke, NDPERS
Mr. Derrick Hohbein, NDPERS
Ms. Lindsay Schaf, NDPERS
Ms. MaryJo Anderson, NDPERS
Ms. Katheryne Korom, NDPERS

OTHERS PRESENT
Ms. Courtney Meyer, Sanford Health Plan
Ms. Kirsten Tuntland, Office of Attorney General

Chairman Mike Seminary called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. on Tuesday, July 14, 2026. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE CONSIDERATION

None were submitted prior to the meeting, and none were verbally disclosed at the start of the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Fiduciary Responsibility & Ethics

Ms. Kirsten Tuntland General Counsel, presented the annual fiduciary duty and ethics training. Her presentation explained the board members' responsibilities of fiduciary duty including the duty of loyalty, duty of impartiality, duty of care and prudence. Ms. Tuntland discussed the relationship between the NDPERS Board and the State Investment Board. She also discussed distinctions of fiduciary responsibility across different plans. Ms. Tuntland pointed out that some trustees under statute are appointed either by the legislature or the governor This means when a board member comes into the boardroom, they take off their legislator or governor appointee hats and put on the NDPERS board member hats. She concluded her presentation with an overview of the ethics rules and the new travel disclosure requirements. The board reviewed six-step conflict disclosure process.

Discussion followed.

MINUTES

Chairman Mike Seminary called for questions or comments regarding the June 9, 2026 meeting minutes.

SENATOR DEVER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9 2026 MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR VOLK. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

DEFINED BENEFIT/RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE CREDIT

HIGHWAY PATROL FINAL AVERAGE SALARY INDEXING FOR DEFERRED MEMBERS

Ms. MaryJo Anderson stated the Highway Patrol Retirement Plan has a provision regarding the calculation of final average salary for deferred members. The NDPERS Board sets the rate to be used in establishing the index factor for deferred members of the Highway Patrol. The North Dakota Highway Patrol leadership is recommending that deferred members in its system receive a 3.00% increase to their final average salary. This is the same salary increase granted to state employees.

Discussion followed.

SENATOR DAVISON MOVED TO APPROVE THE HIGHWAY PATROL ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION FOR A 3.00% INCREASE FOR THE DEFERRED MEMBERS TO THEIR FINAL AVERAGE SALARY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REPRESENTATIVE STEMEN.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Mr. Klipfel, Representative Stemen, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Miller, Representative Dockter, Senator Davison, Lt. Huibregtse, Mr. Volk, Mr. Buck, and Chairman Seminary.
Nays: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIED

DEFERRED COMPENSATION/DEFINED CONTRIBUTION

INVESTMENT CONSULTANT SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) UPDATE

Ms. Katheryne Korom updated the board on the RFP process, reviewed the timeline and key deadlines.

GROUP INSURANCE / FLEXCOMP

HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Ms. Katheryne Korom updated the board on the RFP process for the Group Health Plan. She reviewed the timeline, key dates and deadlines. The vendor selection will occur this fall.

FLEXCOMP PLAN CONTRACT AMENDMENT

The Board approved the contract renewal for the FlexComp plan with ASIFlex at the October 29, 2025 meeting. The renewal was approved for the January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2028, contract period. The contract amendment was prepared by legal staff and approved by the University System, who partners with NDPERS for this product.

SENATOR DAVISON MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT AMENDMENT FOR THE FLEXCOMP PLAN WITH ASIFLEX FOR JANUARY 1, 2027 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2028, CONTRACT PERIOD AND APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR DEVER.

Ayes: Senator Davison, Senator Dever, Lt. Huibregtse, Mr. Volk, Mr. Klipfel, Representative Stemen, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Miller, Representative Dockter, Mr. Buck, and Chairman Seminary.
Nays: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIED

SANFORD HEALTH PLAN MEMBER SURVEY

Ms. Lindsay Schaf introduced Ms. Courtney Meyer from Sanford Health Plan who provided the board with results of the semiannual Heath Plan Member Survey. The survey was sent to a random sample of 7,500 NDPERS members. The survey questions and methodology remained consistent with previous surveys in order to support trend comparisons. A total of 956 NDPERS members completed the survey.

Topics included in her presentation were: member experience, satisfaction with benefits, satisfaction by line of business, and summary of comments. Ms. Meyer provided information about the Net Promoter Score (NPS) which provides an industry-standard measure of member loyalty. She ended her presentation with a summary of the member service center and customer service satisfaction.

Discussion followed.

Lt. Huibregtse left the meeting at 10:00 A.M.

WELLNESS RENEWAL

Ms. Lindsay Schaf reported that staff have completed the renewal of the Employer Based Wellness Program for the plan year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. A total of 162 out of 205 employers elected to participate in the wellness program, which is similar to the participation rate from last year.

LEGISLATION/ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Proposed Legislation: NDCC 54-52-03 Governing Authority

Board discussed quorum requirements under NDCC 54-52-03 Governing Authority. They considered pursuing changes to quorum requirements. Staff provided history and impact analysis. Board consensus was to not move forward with preparing legislation to modify.

OPERATIONS / ADMINISTRATIVE

Budget

Mr. Hohbein presented the base budget and optional packages for final approval. The board discussed operational inflation, PERSLink business system development team, Co-Pilot licensing, and additional FTE's in the event we moved to a self-insured health insurance plan.

SENATOR DAVISON MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2027-2029 BASE BUDGET AND OPTIONAL PACKAGES AS DISCUSSED, TO BE SUBMITTED TO OMB. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. BUCK.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Mr. Klipfel, Representative Stemen, Mr. Buck, Representative Dockter, Mr. Miller, Senator Davison, Mr. Volk, Mr. Erickson, and Chairman Seminary.
Nays: None
Absent: Lt. Huibregtse
MOTION CARRIED

Sagitec Statement of Work – IRIS Conversion

Mr. Derrick Hohbein provided information regarding the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) retiring the Filing Information Returns Electronically (FIRE) system on December 31, 2026. Beginning with Tax Year 2026 (filed in early 2027), the Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) will become the exclusive platform for submitting information returns.

Under the FIRE system, PERS submitted annual 1099 files through a manual portal upload, requiring staff to log into the IRS system and transmit the file directly. IRIS replaces this process with an application-to-application (A2A) submission requirement. To streamline development of the A2A functionality, Sagitec can build a standardized application that can be leveraged across its entire client base. This shared-development model will reduce overall costs for individual clients, as a single solution will serve multiple organizations.

Additionally, the operating budget is expected to be constrained due to the accessibility upgrades made earlier this year to the member and employer portals, therefore, it will be necessary to move contingency funds to operating.

REPRESENTATIVE STEMEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF WORK FROM SAGITEC FOR $50,000 PENDING LEGAL REVIEW, AND APPROVE MOVING $250,000 OF APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY FROM THE CONTINGENCY LINE ITEM INTO THE OPERATING LINE ITEM OF THE BUDGET, AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. VOLK.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Mr. Klipfel, Representative Stemen, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Miller, Representative Dockter, Senator Davison, Mr. Volk, Mr. Buck, and Chairman Seminary.
Nays: None
Absent: Lt. Huibregtse
MOTION CARRIED

Board Self-Evaluation Results

Ms. Fricke reported on the results of the board self-evaluation. The purpose of this exercise is to reflect on board members responsibility, and evaluation of themselves as a trustee.

Code of Ethical Responsibility

Ms. Fricke shared the Code of Ethical Responsibility form to board members for their annual review and signature.

Contracts under $15,000

Ms. Fricke provided the monthly report on contracts under $15,000 signed since the last update.

Everbridge Emergency Notification Test

Ms. Katheryne Korom conducted the semiannual test of the Everbridge emergency communication system, instructing board members to report any issues with receiving notifications.

The board took a break from 11:01 A.M. to 11:08 A.M.

MEMBER (Executive Session)

Insurance Benefit Appeal Case #1025

This agenda item was noticed for Executive Session.

CHAIRMAN SEMINARY CALLED FOR THE BOARD TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO N.D.C.C. §44-04-19.2(1) AND §54-52.1-11 (GROUP

INSURANCE) TO DISCUSS INFORMATION PERTAINING TO AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE'S GROUP MEDICAL RECORDS FOR CLAIMS, EMPLOYEE PREMIUM PAYMENTS MADE, SALARY REDUCTION AMOUNTS TAKEN, HISTORY OF ANY AVAILABLE INSURANCE COVERAGE PURCHASED, AND AMOUNTS AND TYPES OF INSURANCE APPLIED FOR UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CASE #1025.

Board Members Present: Representative Dockter, Mr. Buck, Senator Dever, Mr. Klipfel, Senator Davison, Representative Stemen, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Volk, Mr. Miller, and Chairman Seminary.

Board Members Absent: Lt. Huibregtse

All board members named above, Kirsten Tuntland, NDPERS staff members Rebecca Fricke, Derrick Hohbein, Lindsay Schaf, Margie Johnson, Brittany Berreth, and Jan Lund were in attendance for the Executive Session (closed meeting, electronically recorded) which began at 11:08 A.M. The member was present by phone. The meeting returned to Open Session at 11:26 A.M.

REPRESENTATIVE STEMEN MOVED TO AFFIRM THE DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THAT GOOD CAUSE DID NOT EXIST TO WAIVE THE 31-DAY APPLICATION REQUIREMENT FOR THE MEMBER TO ENROLL IN THE HEALTH PLAN WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 FOR CASE #1025. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. VOLK.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Mr. Klipfel, Mr. Buck, Representative Stemen, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Miller, Representative Dockter, Senator Davison, Mr. Volk, and Chairman Seminary.
Nays: None
Absent: Lt. Huibregtse
MOTION CARRIED

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 8:30 A.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

Submitted by:

Brittany Berreth
Assistant to the NDPERS Board