

**NDPERS INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, February 24, 2026
8:30 a.m.**

Members Present: Chairperson Adam Miller
Gerald Buck
Tyler Erickson
Rep. Greg Stemen

Members Absent: Jeffry Volk

Staff Present: Marcy Aldinger
Rebecca Fricke
Derrick Hohbein
Katheryne Korom
Lindsay Schaf
Kirsten Tuntland

Others Present: Scott Anderson – RIO
Eric Chin – RIO
Craig Chaikin – Callan
Jack Beisel – Callan
Dave Ramirez – Empower

Minutes

Chairperson Adam Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

Agenda was approved by voice vote.

I. Minutes – Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Chairperson Miller called for questions or comments regarding the minutes of November 25, 2025.

Mr. Gerald Buck moved to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2025, Investment Subcommittee meeting. The motion was seconded by Rep. Greg Stemen.

Minutes were approved by voice vote.

II. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Consideration

None reported.

III. Defined Benefit Plans Performance Q4 2025 Update – RIO

Mr. Scott Anderson gave an investment update on the NDPERS Defined Benefit plans as of

November 2025. NDPERS performance, risk summary, asset allocation, and performance benchmark indices were reviewed. Assets under management as of November 2025 were \$5,159,473,482. The year-to-date total NDPERS net fund return of 14.1% less the policy benchmark return of 13.5% resulted in a total relative return of 0.6% as of November 2025. The one-year total NDPERS fund return of 12.5% less the policy benchmark return of 11.9% resulted in a total relative return of 0.6% as of November 2025. NDPERS 10-year average fund return as of November 2025 was 8.5% compared to the policy benchmark return of 8.1%, which resulted in a total relative return of 0.4%.

IV. Market Update & Performance – Callan

Mr. Craig Chaikin presented a market update for 4Q2025. The Federal Reserve approved a 25 basis points cut to the Fed Funds Rate at each of its meetings in September, October, and December. Consumer spending remains strong. Artificial intelligence remains the dominant theme across large cap equity over the period. Most small-cap active managers were underweight non-earners, resulting in significant relative underperformance. There have not been any significant changes to the Active Manager Monitoring Summary. The 457 Plan Asset Allocation & Distribution, 401 (a) Plan Asset Allocation & Distribution, and Plan Performance Monitoring reports were reviewed. Discussion took place.

V. Plan Review – Empower

Dave Ramirez with Empower presented the 4Q2025 plan review. The NDPERS 457(b) Companion plan has 10,842 participants and assets of \$266,137,974. The NDPERS 401(a) Defined Contribution plan has 3,643 members and assets of \$40,012,887. Overall, there are 14,485 plan participants with total assets of \$306,150,861. Approximately 46% of Companion plan participants and 19% of Defined Contribution participants have registered their online account. Participant education and engagement were reviewed. The 4Q2025 Customer Care Center Participant Satisfaction score was 4.53 out of 5. Mr. Ramirez reviewed the results of the performance guarantees as outlined in the Q4 2025 Service Level Agreement Report. Discussion took place.

VI. Job Service, RHIC, and Insurance Investment Policy Statements – RIO

Mr. Eric Chin, Deputy Chief Investment Officer for the Retirement and Investment Office (RIO), presented the updated Investment Policy Statements (IPS) for the retirement plan for employees of Job Service North Dakota, NDPERS Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund, and NDPERS Group Insurance Account. The new IPS templates created by RIO have been designed to enhance clarity and promote consistency across all client IPS. Job Service is the only fund that has a new asset allocation, and the updated IPS incorporates this new asset allocation. Discussion took place.

Mr. Tyler Erickson made a motion to adopt a recommendation to the full Board to approve the Investment Policy Statements (IPS) for the Retirement Plan for Employees of Job Service North Dakota, NDPERS Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund, and NDPERS Group Insurance Account Investment Policy Statement as presented. The motion was seconded by Rep. Greg Stemen.

Ayes: Chairperson Adam Miller, Mr. Buck, Mr. Erickson, Rep. Stemen

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Volk

Motion passed.

VII. Other Business

The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

The subcommittee adjourned at 10:16 a.m.