

MINUTES

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System Tuesday, February 14, 2023 8:30 A.M.

Members Via Teams: Chairperson Mona Rindy
Ms. Casey Goodhouse
Ms. Yvonne Smith
Mr. Dirk Wilke
Mr. Adam Miller
Mr. Jason Grueneich

Members Absent: Ms. Claire Ness
Rep. Gretchen Dobervich
Rep. Greg Stemen

Others: Mr. Scott Miller, NDPERS
Mr. Derrick Hohbein, NDPERS
Ms. Rebecca Fricke, NDPERS
Ms. Katheryne Korom, NDPERS
Ms. MaryJo Anderson, NDPERS
Ms. Rebekah Ferstadt, Buck Consulting
Mr. Ron Ariel, Buck Consulting

Chairperson Mona Rindy called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Chairperson Rindy called for questions or comments regarding the meeting minutes of January 10, 2023, and January 19, 2023, Special Meeting.

MR. WILKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2023 MEETING AND THE JANUARY 19, 2023, SPECIAL MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. SMITH AND CARRIED BY A VOICE VOTE. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

PRESENTATIONS

Health Plan 2022 Executive Summary Quarter III

Mr. Steve Webster reviewed the annual membership summary of the active group. This group consists of state employees and political subdivisions; there was no significant change in this group. Per Member Per Month (PMPM) claims analysis information and membership and utilization data were reviewed.

Mr. Craig Beers shared information related to the retirees group, high-dollar cases, and prescription drug utilization.

Mr. Webster reported that fitness center reimbursement numbers continue to be stubborn to go up after COVID-19. Steve will pull together data to see if there is a national trend of lower fitness center utilization.

The Executive Summary also included a review of the Lifestyle Medicine Programs, Monthly Wellness Themes for the third quarter, Performance Standards, and Guarantees.

THE BOARD TOOK A SHORT BREAK FROM 9:25 A.M. TO 9:35 A.M.

GROUP INSURANCE

Life Insurance Plan Vendor Evaluation

This agenda item was noticed for Executive Session in order for the board, staff, and consultants to discuss negotiating strategy with the attorney in a Closed Session.

MR. ADAM MILLER MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO N.D.C.C. §44-04-19.1(9) AND §44-04-19.2 TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATING STRATEGY OR PROVIDE NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS TO ITS ATTORNEY OR OTHER NEGOTIATOR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. WILKE.

Ayes: Mr. Grueneich, Mr. Adam Miller, Mr. Wilke, Ms. Goodhouse, Ms. Smith, and Chairperson Rindy

Nays: None

Absent: Representative Dobervich, Ms. Ness, and Representative Stemen

MOTION PASSED

All members named above, attorney Dean DePountis, representatives of Buck Consultants Rebekah Ferstadt and Ron Ariel, NDPERS staff members Scott Miller, Rebecca Fricke, Derrick Hohbein, MaryJo Anderson, and Jan Lund were in attendance for the Executive Session (closed meeting, electronically recorded) which began at 9:45 A.M. The meeting returned to Open Session at 10:16 A.M.

THE BOARD DIRECTED STAFF ON HOW TO PROCEED WITH THE GROUP LIFE INSURANCE PLAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL.

Vision Plan Request for Proposal (RFP) Update

Ms. Katherine Korom stated that Buck Consultants has completed a review of the Group Vision Insurance Plan proposals. She shared a timeline of key dates for the proposal process.

MR. WILKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) PROCESS FOR THE GROUP VISION INSURANCE PLAN PROCESS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. ADAM MILLER.

Ayes: Ms. Goodhouse, Mr. Grueneich, Mr. Wilke, Mr. Adam Miller, and Chairperson Rindy

Nays: None

Absent: Representative Stemen, Representative Dobervich, Ms. Smith, and Ms. Ness

MOTION PASSED

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Request for Proposal (RFP)

Ms. Korom reviewed the process for selecting EAP program providers. NDPERS uses an agency-based approach allowing each agency to select the EAP provider most appropriate for their employees. Each agency is offered a list of providers who are able to continue to meet the minimum requirements.

MR. WILKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) RENEWAL PROCESS FOR THE EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. ADAM MILLER.

Ayes: Ms. Goodhouse, Mr. Grueneich, Mr. Wilke, Mr. Adam Miller, and Chairperson Rindy

Nays: None

Absent: Representative Stemen, Representative Dobervich, Ms. Smith, and Ms. Ness

MOTION PASSED

Insurance Updates

Ms. Rebecca Fricke provided an update about the flu vaccination clinics held from September through November. She provided statistical data from the fall Annual Enrollment including enrollment numbers for the FlexComp Plan, Dental and Vision Plans, High Deductible Health Plan, and the 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan.

RETIREMENT

Disability Consultant Contract

Ms. MaryJo Anderson stated the agreement with Mid Dakota Clinic for disability consulting services will expire on June 30, 2023. Innovis Health, LLC (formerly Mid Dakota Clinic) is interested to continue to provide these services for NDPERS at the same rate of \$200 per hour for the contract period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025. This would represent the fifteenth year with no increase in the hourly rate. The proposed agreement has been reviewed by legal counsel and Innovis Health.

MR. WILKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE DISABILITY CONSULTING CONTRACT WITH INNOVIS HEALTH AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$200 FOR THE CONTRACT PERIOD JULY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT AMENDMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. GRUENEICH.

Ayes: Ms. Goodhouse, Mr. Grueneich, Mr. Wilke, Mr. Adam Miller, and Chairperson Rindy

Nays: None

Absent: Representative Stemen, Representative Dobervich, Ms. Smith, and Ms. Ness

MOTION PASSED

MISCELLANEOUS

Appoint Board Election Subcommittee

Ms. Aime Miller reported on an upcoming vacancy for an active elected board member on June 30, 2023. Administrative Code governs the election process for elected positions on the board. A proposed timeline for the 2023 election was reviewed.

CHAIRPERSON RINDY APPOINTED MR. DIRK WILKE, MR. ADAM MILLER, AND MS. CASEY GOODHOUSE TO THE ELECTION SUBCOMMITTEE WITH MS. GOODHOUSE TO SERVE AS THE COMMITTEE CHAIR.

Annual Communication Plan

Ms. Miller provided an overview of the annual communication plan for the remainder of the calendar year.

Member Experience Annual Report

Ms. Miller presented a summary of member feedback for 2022. The report provides a year-to-year comparison and a month-to-month comparison of members' experience with NDPERS, the responses are scored on whether the information was easy to understand, staff's review and explanation, promptness of NDPERS response, and courtesy from the NDPERS team.

Budget Status

Mr. Derrick Hohbein presented an update on the status of the current budget. The report summarized expenses and appropriations through December 31, 2022.

IT Consulting Contract

Mr. Hohbein stated there are a handful of essential functions (Deferred Compensation processing, Flex processing, H.S.A. processing) that use archaic processes for which utilizing an IT consultant to debug the programs and make changes if needed. Staff proposes to use Nexus as an IT consultant that utilizes a state contract. Because the services will be under the \$250,000 threshold, an RFP process is not necessary.

MR. WILKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR AN IT CONSULTANT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE BIENNIUM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT AGREEMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. GRUENEICH.

Ayes: Ms. Goodhouse, Mr. Grueneich, Mr. Wilke, Mr. Adam Miller, and Chairperson Rindy

Nays: None

Absent: Representative Stemen, Representative Dobervich, Ms. Smith, and Ms. Ness

MOTION PASSED

Legislative Relations

Mr. Scott Miller reviewed the staff's internal tracking list for legislation. The board reviewed the status of bills on the list.

Chairperson Rindy reminded the board of the PBM audit review on Thursday at the LAFRC meeting to be held in the Pioneer Room at the state capitol at 4:00 P.M.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Prepared by,

Jan Lund
Assistant to the Board