

MINUTES

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System Monday, January 6, 2025 8:30 A.M.

Members Present: Chairman Mike Seminary
Representative Greg Stemen
Representative Jason Dockter
Senator Dick Dever
Senator Kyle Davison
Mr. Tyler Erickson

Members by Teams: Mr. Gerald Buck
Mr. Jeffry Volk
Ms. Casey Goodhouse
Mr. Adam Miller

Others Present: Ms. Rebecca Fricke, NDPERS
Mr. Derrick Hohbein, NDPERS
Ms. Michaela Huntington, NDPERS
Ms. Aime Miller, NDPERS
Ms. Kim Haug, Sanford Health Plan

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

Chairman Seminary called for questions or comments regarding the December 10, 2024, meeting minutes.

SENATOR DEVER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE December 10, 2024, MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REPRESENTATIVE GREG STEMEN AND CARRIED BY A VOICE VOTE. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE CONSIDERATION

None reported.

PRESENTATIONS

Demonstration of Member Self Service (MSS) Changes Due To House Bill 1040

Ms. Michaela Huntington demonstrated the online portal related to the implementation of House Bill 1040. The changes on Member Self Service are designed to ensure that new enrollees using the portal are aware of their election opportunities to have an additional employee contribution (up to 3%) to the plan which makes them eligible for an employer match at the same rate.

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

House Bill 1040 Implementation Update

Ms. Fricke updated the board about work efforts and progress made for the House Bill 1040 implementation. She reported that presentations were made to different groups in mid-

December relating to the special election window, plan provisions, and payroll reporting. PERSLink had been successfully tested to accommodate the Defined Contribution 2025 plan and the special election window transfers. Other activities discussed were continuing bi-weekly meetings with Empower to work through the collaboration for special election window education, fund transfer files and ongoing member education for new hires as of January 1st and after, communication efforts, and presentations planned for the month of January.

The plan successfully launched on January 1st.

DEFINED BENEFIT

Job Service Plan Adjustments

Ms. Fricke shared a red-line copy of revisions made to the Job Service Plan Document to retroactively amend the document as discussed at the December 2024 board meeting. Discussion followed.

SENATOR DEVER MOVED TO RETROACTIVELY AMEND THE JOB SERVICE PLAN DOCUMENT TO BE IN LINE WITH THE OPERATIONS MANUAL FOR THE CALCULATION OF DEFERRED RETIREMENT BENEFITS AND APPROVE THE REVISED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE VI OF THE JOB SERVICE PLAN DOCUMENT REGARDING THE DEFERRED RETIREMENT BENEFIT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR DAVISON.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Buck, Senator Davison, Mr. Miller, Representative Dockter, Mr. Volk, Representative Stemen, and Chairman Seminary

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. Goodhouse

MOTION PASSED

GROUP INSURANCE / FLEXCOMP

Sanford Health Plan Administrative Services Agreement

Ms. Fricke presented the Administrative Services Agreement provided by Sanford Health Plan. Staff will continue working with SHP to finalize exhibits and will bring it back at a future meeting. The board requested a summary of substantial changes. Discussion followed.

REPRESENTATIVE STEMEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH SANFORD HEALTH PLAN FOR THE UPCOMING BIENNIUM AND AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN SEMINARY TO SIGN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR DAVISON.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Ms. Goodhouse, Senator Davison, Mr. Erickson, Representative Dockter, Mr. Buck, Mr. Miller, Mr. Volk, Representative Stemen, and Chairman Seminary

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION PASSED

LEGISLATION / ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Legislation

Ms. Fricke discussed six additional bills added since the meeting of the Employee Benefits Programs Committee (EBPC) meeting in October. She also reviewed House Bill 1031, specific to Section 10, and House Bill 1023 which is the NDPERS appropriations bill. Staff requested guidance regarding the position of the Board for testimony preparation. Discussion followed.

MR. VOLK MOVED TO APPROVE BILL DRAFT 624, BILL DRAFT 655, BILL DRAFT 747, HOUSE BILL 1077, AND BILL DRAFT 743 AS A NEUTRAL POSITION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REPRESENTATIVE STEMEN.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Ms. Goodhouse, Senator Davison, Mr. Erickson, Representative Dockter, Mr. Buck, Mr. Miller, Mr. Volk, Representative Stemen, and Chairman Seminary

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION PASSED

MR. ERICKSON MOVED TO APPROVE HOUSE BILL 1031, SECTION 10 AND HOUSE BILL 1023 IN A POSITION OF SUPPORT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REPRESENTATIVE DOCKTER.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Ms. Goodhouse, Senator Davison, Mr. Erickson, Representative Dockter, Mr. Buck, Mr. Miller, Mr. Volk, Representative Stemen, and Chairman Seminary

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION PASSED

OPERATIONS / ADMINISTRATIVE

Committee Assignments

The board discussed the various subcommittees and current vacancies and considered appointments and replacements.

REPRESENTATIVE DOCKTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. ERICKSON TO CHAIR THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND SENATOR DAVISON TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND COMPENSATION SUBCOMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR DEVER.

Ayes: Senator Dever, Ms. Goodhouse, Mr. Erickson, Representative Dockter, Mr. Buck, Mr. Volk, Representative Stemen, Mr. Miller, Senator Davison, and Chairman Seminary

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION PASSED

Contracts Under \$10,000

Ms. Fricke presented an ongoing list of contracts over \$10,000 that she has signed.

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Mr. Derrick Hohbein stated that the ACFR has been completed. The report contains detailed financial, investment, actuarial, and statistical information for the plans administered by NDPERS. Each participating employer was notified that the annual report is available on the NDPERS website.

Member Experience Annual Report

Ms. Aime Miller explained the process to collect feedback from members on their experience following interactions with staff. She shared the 2024 annual member feedback summary. On a point scale of 0-4, with 4 being the highest, results of 2024 in four categories are:

| Number of responses. | Courtesy received from NDPERS Staff. | Promptness of NDPERS response. | Staff's review and explanation. | Information easy to understand. |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2,259 | 3.77 | 3.60 | 3.67 | 3.63 |

Ms. Miller noted the 2024 results are comparable to 2023.

Assurance NM

The board participated in a test of the state's emergency notification software.

The next regular meeting date of the NDPERS board is Friday February 7th at 2:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 A.M.

Submitted by:

Jan Lund
Assistant to the NDPERS Board