

## M I N U T E S

### North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:30 A.M.

Members Present: Mr. Jeffry Volk  
Mr. Gerald Buck  
Mr. Bryan Klipfel  
Senator Dick Dever  
Representative Jason Dockter  
Senator Kyle Davison  
Ms. Casey Goodhouse  
Mr. Adam Miller

Members by Teams: Chairman Mike Seminary  
Representative Greg Stemen  
Mr. Tyler Erickson

Others Present: Ms. Rebecca Fricke, NDPERS  
Mr. Derrick Hohbein, NDPERS  
Ms. Katheryne Korom, NDPERS  
Ms. Marcy Aldinger, NDPERS  
Ms. MaryJo Anderson, NDPERS  
Ms. Lindsay Schaf, NDPERS  
Ms. Bonnie Wurst, GRS  
Mr. Joshua Murner, GRS

Chairman Mike Seminary called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. 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 meeting.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### Actuarial Valuations

Ms. Bonnie Wurst presented the Actuarial Valuation prepared by Gabriel, Roeder, Smith and Company (GRS). The Actuarial Valuation determines funding status, develops actuarial contribution rates and a comparison to statutory rates, and provides accounting data for various plans. She mentioned the implementation of House Bill 1040 and its effect on the Main plan. Ms. Wurst highlighted the positive impact of assumption changes and good investment returns on the funding ratios. She reported that the fiscal year had a very good investment return of 11.84%, which positively impacted the funding status of the plans. Contributions were increased to the Highway Patrol plan, noting that a \$15 million cash infusion was received after the valuation date which significantly improved the funding status. She stated the Job Service plan is overfunded and has one remaining active member. The public safety plans are in good shape and are projected to achieve

full funding in the future. She reviewed key takeaways from the report and actuarial projections. Discussion followed.

## **DEFINED BENEFIT**

### Job Service COLA

Ms. MaryJo Anderson presented the annual Job Service COLA increase for annuitants. This year the COLA index for the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) is 2.80% based on the consumer price index and the federal civil service retirement system. The actuarial assumption used in the annual valuation for the COLA is 2.40% effective July 1, 2025; the 2.80% increase represents a slight loss to the system.

## **SENATOR DEVER MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2.80% COLA INCREASE FOR JOB SERVICE ANNUITANTS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REPRESENTATIVE DOCKTER.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Mr. Volk

## **MOTION PASSED**

## **GROUP INSURANCE / FLEXCOMP**

### Flexcomp Plan Renewal

Ms. Katheryne Korom shared the renewal rate confirmation for the January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2028, contract period from ASIFlex. She noted that ASIFlex is offering a go green reduction in pricing and that positive feedback was received from higher education representatives.

## **SENATOR DAVISON MOVED TO APPROVE RENEWAL PROPOSAL FROM ASIFLEX FOR JANUARY 1, 2027, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2028. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. BUCK.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Mr. Volk

## **MOTION PASSED**

Health Insurance Consultant Contract Amendment

Ms. Katheryne Korom presented the contract amendment for health insurance consulting services prepared by legal counsel and approved by Deloitte Consulting.

**MR. BUCK MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT AMENDMENT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE CONSULTING SERVICES WITH DELOITTE CONSULTING FOR THE JANUARY 1, 2026, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2027, CONTRACT PERIOD, AND APPROVE THE SIGNATURE BY CHAIRMAN SEMINARY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. KLIPFEL.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Mr. Volk

**MOTION PASSED**

**LEGISLATION / ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

Proposed Regular Schedule Administrative Rules

Ms. Rebecca Fricke updated the board on the staff's progress of drafting administrative rules. She shared an initial summary of proposed rule changes and proposed rule drafts reviewed by staff and prepared by legal counsel. Ms. Fricke noted there are a few additional rules currently being worked on with staff and legal counsel that will be brought forward at the December meeting for consideration. A timeline for the promulgation process was shared with the board.

**OPERATIONS / ADMINISTRATIVE**

ADA Digital Accessibility

Mr. Hohbein provided information about the U.S. Department of Justice's final ruling mandating that all public-facing digital content comply with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA. The initiative applies to entities serving over 50,000 constituents. Staff is focusing on the member portal, employer portal, and the NDPERS public website. Mr. Hohbein shared a breakdown of software developer hours and associated costs for the employer portal and employee portal that is a part of the PERSLink business system. The board discussed possible consequences of noncompliance and how to cover the costs of the upgrades for the unanticipated project. Discussion followed.

**MR. MILLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF WORK FROM SAGITEC TO UPGRADE OUR MEMBER AND EMPLOYER PORTALS TO BE WEB CONTENT**

**ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES (WCAG) COMPLIANT BY APRIL 2026. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. BUCK.**

Discussion on the motion followed.

**MR. MILLER MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION ON THE FLOOR BY ADDING THE WORDS 'AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MODIFY THE STATEMENT OF WORK TO REMOVE THE EMPLOYER SELF SERVICE PORTION IF IT IS DETERMINED TO NOT BE NECESSARY'. THE AMENDMENT WAS SECONDED BY MR. BUCK.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Mr. Volk

**MOTION PASSED**

**CHAIRMAN SEMINARY CALLED FOR A VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION AS AMENDED.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Mr. Volk

**MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED**

**MEMBER**

Insurance Benefit Appeal Case #973

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 #973.**

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

**Board Members Absent:** Mr. Volk

All board members named above, Kirsten Tuntland, NDPERS staff members Rebecca Fricke, Derrick Hohbein, Lindsay Schaf, Brittany Berreth, and Jan Lund were in attendance for the Executive Session (closed meeting, electronically recorded) which began at 10:27 A.M. The meeting returned to Open Session at 10:44 A.M.

**MR. MILLER MOVED TO AFFIRM THE DENIAL OF THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST TO ADD THE MISSING DEPENDENT FOR HEALTH, DENTAL, AND VISION INSURANCES WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JULY 1, 2025 FOR CASE #973. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR DEVER.**

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

**Nays:** Ms. Goodhouse and Senator Davison

**Absent:** Mr. Volk

**MOTION PASSED**

The next meeting will be the Planning Meeting on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 A.M.

Submitted by:

Jan Lund  
Assistant to the NDPERS Board