

MINUTES

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System

Bank of North Dakota, Room 238, Bismarck

November 7, 2008, 2008

1:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mr. Levi Erdmann
Mr. Ron Leingang
Mr. Mike Sandal
Ms. Arvy Smith
Mr. Thomas Trenbeath

Via Conference Call: Ms. Joan Ehrhardt
Chairman Jon Strinden

Others Present: Mr. Sparb Collins, NDPERS
Ms. Kathy Allen, NDPERS
Ms. Rebecca Fricke, NDPERS
Mr. Brad Ramirez, Segal
Mr. Mitchell Tjaden
Mr. David Weaver
Mr. Warren Boyd
Mr. Don Bitz
Mr. Harry Bieber
Ms. Susan Pederson
Mr. Tom Pederson
Mr. Mike Deisz
Mr. Ed Kouba

Chairman Strinden called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

RETIREMENT

Job Service COLA

Mr. Collins indicated to the Board that at the October meeting a decision was not made relating to the Job Service cost of living adjustment since the federal government had only released the consumer price index the day of the meeting. Mr. Collins reviewed with the Board information relating to the history of the plan, the agreement on the unfunded liability, background on the COLA, 2009 CPI, the plans investment performance since July, and the funding implications of granting or not granting the increase and related work efforts that are ongoing. Mr. Ramirez from Segal reviewed with the Board the funded ratio which was at 107% on July 1, 2008. Based upon the funded status of the plan and the review by Segal, staff recommended the 5.8% cost of living adjustment for Job Service retirees to be effective December 1, 2008.

MR. TRENBEATH MOVED TO GRANT JOB SERVICE RETIREES A 5.8% COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2008. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. SANDAL.

Ayes: Ms. Ehrhardt, Mr. Leingang, Mr. Sandal, Ms. Smith, Mr. Trenbeath, Mr. Erdmann, and Chairman Strinden.

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Several individuals in attendance had questions of the Board. Mr. Collins indicated that in early December a meeting will be arranged to address future issues and concerns regarding the funded status of the Job Service Plan.

DEFERRED COMPENSATION

457 Limits

Ms. Allen presented information to the Board relating to the limits for the Section 457 deferred compensation plan. The annual deferral limit, age 50 catch-up limit, as well as the 457 special catch-up (3 year) were increased. This information will be shared with all payroll contacts.

GROUP INSURANCE

Wellness Forum

Ms. Fricke reported to the Board that the 2008 Wellness Forum will be held on Wednesday, November 19 at the Heritage Center Auditorium. This forum is an opportunity to learn more about the program, specifically the requirements for the 2009-2010 plan year. It will be webcast and archived for future viewing.

MISCELLANEOUS

Proposed Legislation

Mr. Collins reviewed with the Board the four PERS bills, three of these bills received favorable recommendations from the Legislative Employee Benefits Committee and one received no recommendation. Staff recommendation is to prefile PERS bills 90111, 90112, 90113, and 90114 by the required deadline.

MS. EHRHARDT MOVED TO ACCEPT STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO PREFILE BILLS 90111, 90112, 90113, and 90114. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. SMITH.

Ayes: Ms. Ehrhardt, Mr. Leingang, Mr. Sandal, Ms. Smith, Mr. Trenbeath, Mr. Erdmann, and Chairman Strinden.

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Retirement Appeal

Ms. Allen reviewed with the Board detailed information relating to a retirement appeal based on NDPERS request to repay an overpayment of pension benefits. The member has requested to be released from liability for the overpayment of benefits that occurred. The Board discussed this appeal.

MR. TRENBEATH MOVED TO DENY THE RETIREMENT APPEAL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. SANDAL.

Ayes: Ms. Ehrhardt, Mr. Leingang, Mr. Sandal, Ms. Smith, Mr. Trenbeath, Mr. Erdmann, and Chairman Strinden.

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Board Education

Mr. Collins reported that the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans has scheduled an employee benefits conference next spring. Mr. Erdmann has expressed interest in attending and this will require Board authorization.

MR. TRENBEATH MOVED TO APPROVE MR. ERDMANN'S ATTENDANCE AT THE FOUNDATION SUMMIT THIS SPRING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. SMITH.

Ayes: Ms. Ehrhardt, Mr. Leingang, Mr. Sandal, Ms. Smith, Mr. Trenbeath, Mr. Erdmann, and Chairman Strinden.

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Proposed 2009 Board Meeting Dates

Mr. Collins shared with the Board the 2009 meeting dates. The October meeting will be changed to one week later to accommodate necessary action on the Job Service COLA. The 2009 schedule will be updated and shared with the Board at the December meeting.

Chairman Strinden called for any other business or comments. Hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Prepared by,

Cheryl Stockert
Secretary to the Board