

**MINUTES**  
**Minnesota State Retirement System**  
**Board of Directors**  
**March 24, 2022**

The Board of Directors of the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS) met in regular session on Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., in the Retirement Systems of Minnesota Building, 60 Empire Drive, Suite 117, Saint Paul, Minnesota.

**Members Present**

*All members attended via video or phone conference, unless noted otherwise.*

Mary Benner, Chair [attended in-person]; Wes Skoglund, Vice Chair; Tommy Bellfield; Chet Jorgenson; Michael LeDoux; Michael Schweyen; Rena Schlottach-Ratcliff (representative for James Schowalter, Commissioner of Minnesota Management & Budget); Michael Roelofs [attended in-person]; Joseph Sullivan; Tommy Bellfield; and Jacqueline Terry [attended in-person].

**Others Present**

Mike Landers, Minnesota Retired State Employees Association; Kathleen Reitz, Attorney General's Office.

MSRS staff members: Erin Leonard (Executive Director) [attended in-person]; Linda Henderson [attended in-person]; Mark Manion [attended in-person]; Tim Rekow [attended in-person]; Holly Dayton; Kurt Augustin; and Sallie Rasmussen [attended in-person].

**Call to Order**

Chair Benner called the meeting to order at 9:04am. The agenda items were taken in the order as shown below.

**Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held**

The minutes of the regular Board meeting held Thursday, January 20, 2022, were submitted for approval.

Benner suggested an amendment to the minutes in the section regarding the appeal of Mark Ourada. She suggested changing the wording of the sentence where it was stated he could not attend the meeting, to include that he notified MSRS via email that he would not be able to attend the meeting.

*Jorgenson moved approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held January 20, 2022, as amended. Motion was seconded by LeDoux and carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

**2022 Board Election Results**

Erin Leonard submitted the *MSRS 2022 Board of Directors* election report from Survey and Ballot Systems. The two highest vote recipients for the General and Unclassified

Plans were incumbents Jacqueline Terry and Chet Jorgenson. Mike LeDoux had the highest number of votes for the State Patrol Plan and was re-elected. The participation rate for this election was 5.82%.

*Terry moved approval of the 2022 Board election results as presented. Motion was seconded by Roelofs and carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

### **Writing off Uncollectible Debts**

Tim Rekow referenced the memorandum regarding *Writing Off Uncollectable Debts* dated March 9, 2022. Rekow reviewed the current write off policy, and then discussed MSRS's actionable collection efforts to acquire the uncollectable debts before bringing them to the Board. In accordance with Board policy, Rekow requested that the Board to write off the debt that is deemed uncollectable over \$XXX.

*Roelofs moved to write off \$43,686.16 in uncollectable debt. Motion was seconded by Terry and carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

### **SBI Update**

Leonard discussed increased interest in how the State Board of Investment (SBI) and Investment Advisory Council (IAC) works, as well as, current legislation requiring divestment from Russian and Belarusian investments.

Leonard also gave an update on the search for Mansco Perry's successor. The Executive Director search committee has selected a finalist to provide recruitment services and they hope to begin interviewing potential candidates in June.

### **Legislative Update**

Holly Dayton referenced the memorandum *Legislative Update* dated March 17, 2022. The 2022 session is more active than expected. Since January the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR) has held seven meetings. Dayton referenced a chart in the *Legislative Update* that outlined a number of pension-related bills MSRS is currently tracking.

No action was needed on this item.

Tommy Bellfield joined the Board meeting at 10:10am

### **Board Governance Manual & FY23 Budget Planning**

Leonard discussed the updated *Board Governance Manual*. The manual is intended to be a resource for MSRS Board members to provide plan information, a compilation of policies, and additional reference materials regarding pension plan administration. Benner suggested that a committee be formed to evaluate content and current information in the Board Governance Manual rather than it being the responsibility of an MSRS staff member.

Leonard suggested using a software tool or portal to manage materials and resources available to the Board (including Board meeting packets and documents). Laptops could be made available to interested Board members to provide access to MSRS trainings, documents, and networks. This is something to consider for the 2023 budget.

Leonard reminded the Board that travel restrictions were lifted. She asked Board members to let her know if they planned to travel next year to attend training or seminars, so it can be included in the 2023 budget planning.

*Jorgenson moved to have MSRS staff budget for a Board Management software program and for laptops for any board members who request one. Motion was seconded by Bellfield and carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

### **Other Business:**

Leonard reported the rate of return at the end of February was 1.6%, and was closer to 1.95% as of the middle of March.

Leonard updated the Board on the return to workplace progress. In-office appointments were reinstated starting on March 23, 2022. Field offices will reopen in April on Wednesdays, and resume appointment hours in May. Phase 2 of the return to the workplace plan will be restarted on April 4, 2022, which will be a hybrid model of 2-3 days in the office and telework for the remaining days. Some staff elected to return to the office full-time.

Benner shared that she is unsure if she will be able to run for chair again. She encouraged Board members to start thinking about what comes next if she does not return as chair. Chair and Vice-chair will be up for election at the May meeting.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 19, 2022.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:43am.

*Terry moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Schweyen and carried by roll call vote.*

### **Informational Items:**

***Contracts Summary***

***Summary Financial Information (unaudited)***

***Information Security Report – Protected Non-Public Data***

***Retiree Lists***

***Rate of Return –presented at meeting***