ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Board Minutes

Residence of Mike O’Connor, 661 North Warren Street

December 20, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The board meeting of the Association of Montana Retired Public Employees was called to order by Mike O’Connor at 2:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike O’Connor, Lyle Manley, Jan Brown, John McEwen, James Driggers, Patty Mott, Cathy Kendall, Dale Boespflug, and Kristyn Bohlander (staff).

GUESTS

Leo Berry, Dave Galt, Brian Thompson, Tim Reardon, Sheena Wilson, and John MacKinnon.

MINUTES

Cathy Kendall made a motion to approve the minutes, Jan Brown seconded the motion, and the November minutes were approved unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Leo Berry and Dave Galt provided the board with a legislative update. Dave Galt presented the board with a list of bills that align with AMPRE interests, and that are currently being tracked by BKBH (Browning, Kaleczyc, Berry, Hoven, P.C.). Leo Berry mentioned that he did not anticipate the large amount of general revision bills pertaining to the public retirement system and public employee pensions.

Mike O’Connor mentioned several bills (LC 608, HB 85, HB 136) that AMRPE should be aware of. HB 85 pertains to providing actuarial funding for the Sheriffs’ Retirement System. Similarly, HB 136 addresses actuarial funding for the Game Wardens’ and Peace Officers’ Retirement System. LC 608 calls for the exemption of a portion, or all, of social security income from state income tax.

Cathy Kendall made a motion to accept the contract with BKBH for lobbyist services during the 2017 legislative session. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

At the November board meeting, Lyle Manley, Jim Lewis, and Dale Boespflug were nominated to serve another 3-year term.

John McEwen moved to accept these nominations and retain Lyle Manley, Jim Lewis, and Dale Boespflug for another 3-year term. James Driggers seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mike O’Connor, Lyle Manley, John McEwen, and Jan Brown had been nominated to serve as President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, respectively.

Cathy Kendall moved to accept the nominations and elect Mike O’Connor, Lyle Manley, John McEwen, and Jan Brown to serve as board officers for another 1-year term. Dale Boespflug seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The board members associated with each committee (Audit, Constitution and By-Laws, Contractor Coordination, Legislation and Litigation, Membership, and Nominating) will not change for 2017.

James Driggers inquired about testing the MPERA retirement portal. Unfortunately, MPERA has encountered issues with employer reporting, which has consequently delayed the portal progress. Sheena Wilson anticipates the portal to be working in Spring 2017.

The board discussed the upcoming newsletter, and determined what articles should be included. In addition to articles written by AMRPE board members, Dore Schwinden (MPERA) and Leo Berry will also provide articles.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

The next meeting will be held in the MPERA conference room at 100 North Park Avenue in Helena on January 17, 2017 at 9:30 A.M.