ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Board Minutes

100 North Park – PERA Office, 2nd Floor Conference Room

November 19, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The board meeting of the Association of Montana Retired Public Employees was called to order by Cathy Kendall at 9:30 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Patty Mott, Cathy Kendall, Jan Brown, James Driggers, and Kim Hoxie (staff) were present in the board room. Connie Welsh was present by conference call and Lyle Manley, Jim Lewis, Leo Hudetz and Dale Boespflug were excused.

GUESTS

Tim Reardon

Dore Schwinden, Executive Director, MPERA

MINUTES

Jan Brown made a motion to approve the October minutes, James Driggers seconded the motion, and the October minutes were approved unanimously.

MPERA UPDATE

Dore Schwinden distributed a handout regarding information on the MPERA systems that includes national data that may help answer questions when comparing the retirement system to other state systems.

Dore Schwinden also noted that there are three county hospitals that are privatizing and each county will be asked for payment on their unfunded liabilities to the State pension plan.

Dore Schwinden will be presenting the Actuarial Evaluation to the Board of Investments today and the Legislative Finance Committee will have a two-day session in December that he will be attending.

REPORTS

**Treasurer’s Report**

James Driggers presented the November financial report. He commented that the financial statement looked good. He did move money from the Rocky Mountain CD to the Stockman Bank CD this month.

James mentioned that it is the time of the year to review the categories on the financial statement if any changes need to be made. He distributed a copy of the CMS invoice and asked the board if they are still agreeable to the way the invoice is categorized and presented on the financial statement. The board decided that the invoice and financial statement will remain the same.

Jan Brown made a motion to approve the November financial statement. Patty Mott seconded the motion, and the November financial statement was approved unanimously.

**Membership**

Patty Mott stated that 2,346 letters were sent to MPERA new retirees in the September and AMRPE has received 110 new members. The total breakdown of new members is as follows: Lifetime, 8 (7.3%); 1 year, 61 (55.4%); 2 year, 22 (20%); 3 year, 19 (17.3%).

**By-law Review**

James Driggers stated that the Bylaws Committee has reviewed the bylaws. The committee is recommending

changes to the statement on promoting and lobbying for healthcare issues (Article I, number 5), the deletion of the honorary membership, and the ability for the board president to be a member of the nominating committee. The committee is also recommending some wording clarifications on board terms and the overseeing of deposits by the Treasurer.

Patty Mott made a motion to approve the changes presented except for the statement on healthcare (Article I, number 5) which will be re-written and presented at the board meeting in December. Connie Welsh seconded the motion, and the by-law changes were approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Cathy Kendall stated that board members are continuing to get emails that are not generated from Lyle Manley. Please call Lyle if you get an email that seems suspicious.

NEW BUSINESS

**Board Member Terms**

Lyle Manley, Jim Lewis, and Dale Boespflug have indicated that they are willing to serve another term on the board.

Patty Mott moved to approve Lyle Manley, Jim Lewis, and Dale Boespflug for a three-year board term beginning January 1st, 2020. Jan Brown seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

Cathy Kendall stated that the board officers have agreed to another term in office. The board officers are:

Lyle Manley, President, Cathy Kendall, Vice President, James Driggers, Treasurer, and Jan Brown, Secretary.

Patty Mott agreed to another term as Membership Chair.

**Newsletter**

The board discussed the newsletter which will be completed in February 2020. Article ideas were discussed and the board will finalize articles in December. Article ideas the board will review are State Health Care by Amy Jenks, Health Care and Benefits division; County hospitals going private and what that means to a retiree; primary elections information and an article on whether the pension plan is at risk.

**Retirement Seminars**

Cathy Kendall reported for Dale Boespflug that the MPERA administration has agreed to allow AMRPE representatives to attend the retiree seminars next year. Dale Boespflug will get more details on the schedule in the next couple of months and update the board at that time.

Cathy Kendell adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

The next meeting will be held December 17th, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. at Cathy Kendall’s home.