

ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
Board Minutes
Video Conference
November 16, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

GUESTS

Dore Schwinden, Executive Director, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration
Brian Thompson, BKBH, AMRPE Lobbyist
Melanie Symons

MINUTES

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

MPERA UPDATE

Dore Schwinden stated that there is no update on the PureView/County lawsuit. He also stated that he had attended the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs (SAVA) meeting. The committee members seem to be interested in providing funding for the Game Wardens' and Peace Officers' (GWPORS) pension plan. They have a couple of ideas, and if they decide to act, the goal is to reduce the amortization to below 30 years. Dore also stated that Montana Public Retirement Administration (MPERA) would be presenting the Actuary Evaluation at the joint SAVA and Legislative Finance meeting and the Board of Investments in the next couple of weeks.

LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Brian Thompson has also attended the SAVA meetings and agrees that there has been a good discussion on understanding pensions. He believes there is more education needed and will be making phone calls to committee members on AMRPE's behalf. Brian believes the committee's main concern is if pensions are a problem for the Montana State budget. Brian is starting to monitor potential candidates for the next election cycle.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Lyle Manley asked if all board members had reviewed the financial report and if there were any questions.

Cathy Kendall made a motion to approve the November financial statement, Jim Lewis seconded the motion, and the November financial statement was approved unanimously.

Membership

Patty Mott stated renewals are trickling in with three renewals in the past month. The new member letter campaign was mailed to prospective members, so look for a new member report in December. Eighty-eight percent of the members renewed their membership this year, and AMRPE received 113 new members, a 6% return on the 2020 new member campaign.

Patty attended a MPERA retirement seminar and thought it went well. She is looking for board members to attend the November 18th and December 9th seminars. She will send out the dates and times to the board.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominating Committee

Lyle Manley stated that Lois Menzies has agreed to take over Connie Welsh's board position.

Jim Lewis made a motion to approve Lois Menzies as a new board member, Dale Boespflug seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

CMS Contract Renewal

Leo Hudetz stated that he, James Driggers, and CMS have reviewed and amended the contract, and it is ready for board approval. All board members should have received an emailed copy of the contract for review.

Patty Mott made a motion to approve the AMRPE contractor contract, Jan Brown seconded the motion, and the AMRPE contractor contract was approved unanimously.

Bylaw Review

Jim Lewis stated he reviewed the bylaws and did not see any needed changes. Lyle Manley asked the board to consider if the number of terms a board member can serve should be increased from three to four terms, each term three years. The board will decide on this in December.

Committee Assignments

Lyle Manley stated he will send out proposed committee assignments and the board will review at the December meeting. Lyle also recommended Patty Mott for the Secretary position and Leo Hudetz for the Vice President position.

Connie Welsh made a motion to approve the slate of new officers, Jim Lewis seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Lyle confirmed that he and James Driggers will continue to serve next year as president and treasurer, respectively.

Leo Hudetz made a motion to approve the slate of returning officers, Patty Mott seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

December Board Meeting

The December board meeting and holiday social has been moved to 3 p.m. on December 14th at Cathy Kendall's house.

Lyle Manley adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

The next meeting will be on December 14, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. at Cathy Kendall's house.