

**ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**  
**Board Minutes**  
**100 North Park – MPERA Office, 2nd Floor Conference Room**  
**March 21, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board meeting of the Association of Montana Retired Public Employees was called to order by Leo Hudetz at 9:30 a.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Patty Mott, Lois Menzies, Tom Livers, and Tyler Coenen (staff) were present in person. Leo Hudetz, Geoff Badenoch, Bruce Brensdal, and Barbara Martens were present by video call. Melanie Symons and James Driggers were excused.

**GUESTS**

Dore Schwinden – Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (MPERA) Executive Director was present in person.

**MINUTES**

There was no discussion or feedback regarding the February minutes. Patty Mott motioned to approve the minutes and Lois Menzies seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MPERA UPDATE**

There are several pension funding bills sitting in appropriations. Of the \$2.3 billion surplus, they have already over-extended by about \$800 million. HB 569 has no negative impacts on retirees. HB 119 only affects 3 safety systems (no PERS).

The PureView lawsuit is still sitting in the docket and has not been acted on.

The MPERA full Board meeting is scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**LOBBYING UPDATE**

Brian Thompson was not available to provide an update. The Board discussed the status of SB74. It was determined that there was no action to be taken at this time. Bruce Brensdal reported from the SEGBAC meeting that there are 153 retirees out of approximately 28,000 retirees on the health plan.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer's Report**

The Board reviewed the March financial report. Lois motioned to accept the March 2023 financial report and Barbara Martens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Membership Report**

Renewals are still coming in but slowing down. We sent out 1,359 renewal letters and have recorded 858 payments for 63% return. We also sent out 3,129 new member letters and have recorded 115 payments for 3.7% return.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **SEGBAC**

Actual financial losses are a lot less than what they were expecting. The high cost of actual Rx claims for specialized medication is a significant hit to the State Health Insurance.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Newsletter**

We are planning a newsletter with a legislative wrap up in the spring. The timing will depend on how the session is going. We want to have the right information out there. We have a president's message, a lobbyist update, a renewal and membership section, and any other things of interest to retirees. We will also include a board member recruitment section. We have a deadline for content by the end of April since we quit meeting in May.

### **MPERA Presentations**

Patty continues to present at the MPERA presentations. MPERA doesn't have anything scheduled for March meetings.

### **Website Review**

There are a few things that we could work on but they are secondary in nature. Nothing new to report.

Leo Hudetz adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

The next meeting will be on April 18, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. by video conference call or in-person.