



BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Virtual Video / Telephonic Meeting
February 22, 2021

The following people attended the IPERS Benefits Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting held virtually on Monday, February 22, 2021.

Members of the Benefits Advisory Committee - Present

Len Cockman, Chair	Danny Homan
Lowell Dauenbaugh, Vice Chair	Connie Kuennen
Matt Carver	Erin Mullenix
Susanna Cave	Melissa Peterson
Matt Cosgrove	Adam Steen
Andrew Hennesy	Phil Tetzloff
Steve Hoffman	

Members of the Benefits Advisory Committee - Absent

Jim Romar

IPERS Administration and Staff

Greg Samorajski, Chief Executive Officer	Elizabeth Hennessey, General Counsel
David Martin, Chief Benefits Officer	Shawna Lode, Director of Communications
Melinda McElroy Executive Assistant	Darla Iverson, Chief Financial Officer
Karl Koch, Chief Investment Officer	Rick Hindman, Chief Information Officer

Call to Order

Len Cockman, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Lowell Dauenbaugh made the motion to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2020, and December 4, 2020, Benefits Advisory Committee meetings. Matt Carver seconded; the motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Bona Fide Retirement Period of Licensed Teachers - Patrice Beckham and Brent Banister

Patrice Beckham and Brent Banister of Cavanaugh Macdonald presented the cost estimates of the proposal to shorten the bona fide retirement period from four months to one month for licensed teachers. The study showed the cost impact to the System for a five-year pilot program added \$20-\$40 million in liabilities and increased contribution rates between 0.07% and 0.45% depending on if the enhanced benefit was applied to just teacher payroll or all Regular membership payroll. The study also showed that if the shortened bona fide retirement period proposal was permanently enacted the System's liabilities would increase \$100-\$200 million and contributions rates would increase between 0.13% and 1.12% again depending on if the enhancement was applied to teacher payroll or if applied to the entire Regular membership payroll. The Committee accepted the report.

CEO Report - Greg Samorajski

NIRS Annual Membership Renewal - Danny Homan made the motion that the BAC authorize the expenditure of \$6,400 from its budget to renew IPERS' membership in the National Institute of Retirement Security. Phil Tetzloff seconded; the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Legislative Update - Shawna Lode

Shawna Lode reported on two bills IPERS is tracking this session. House File 410 workers' compensation, currently IPERS offsets (reduces) Special service disability benefits for disability-related payments received for the same disability. Senate File 326 amends Iowa Code Chapter 97B.1A to allow graduate medical students who are serving as interns or resident doctors in training at any hospital to have the option to contribute to IPERS.

Staff Reports

Benefits Update - David Martin reported that member annual benefit statements will mail the end of March. He also noted letters will be mailed to retirees who are under the age of 65 and exceeded the \$30,000 earnings limitation.

Investment Update - Karl Koch estimated IPERS' fourth quarter investment returns to be 9.62% and 13.46% for the calendar year. The Trust Fund market value was approximately \$39.8 billion.

Appeals Report - Elizabeth Hennessey reviewed the appeal status report as of February 2021.

Other Business

None

Public Comments

None

Future Meeting Dates

The next BAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 22, 2021. With no further business to come before the committee, Danny Homan made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Hoffman seconded; the motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.