



PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS OF IDAHO  
607 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

### **RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Board of the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho met in-person at 8:30 a.m., October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The following Trustees and PERSI Staff were present:

Jeff Cilek – Chairman  
Park Price – Vice Chair  
Darin DeAngeli – Trustee  
Lori Wolff – Trustee  
Josh Whitworth - Trustee  
Michael Hampton - Executive Director  
Alex Simpson - Deputy Director  
Cheryl George - General Counsel  
Richelle Sugiyama - Chief Investment Officer  
Chris Brechbuhler - Deputy Chief Investment Officer  
Mike Anderson – Financial Executive Officer

Presenters in attendance in-person were:

Liz Smith – Alliance Bernstein  
Avi Lavi – Alliance Bernstein  
Justin Moreau – Alliance Bernstein  
Robert Schmidt – Milliman  
Ryan Cook - Milliman

At 8:32 a.m., Chairman Cilek called the meeting to order. Chairman Cilek welcomed new Trustee Josh Whitworth.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Trustee DeAngeli moved to approve the minutes of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Board meeting. Trustee Price seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **PORTFOLIO**

##### **Monthly Portfolio Update**

Richelle Sugiyama presented the investment report as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and provided an overview of the Total Fund. Richelle noted the Fund hit a new all-time high value during the month, discussed portfolio and market performance, as of the end of the third quarter, and commented on the performance of the portfolio through October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Chris Brechbuhler informed the Board of portfolio activities are in progress. He presented an update on the fixed income manager search, conducted by Callan, in conjunction with staff. Chris also noted that at the December Board meeting, a new private equity general partner may present for consideration. He also gave an update on the fiscal year performance for the new investment management firms and explained that they are performing as expected.

Chris introduced Liz Smith with Alliance Bernstein.

Liz Smith introduced her team, Avi Lavi and Justin Moreau, and provided a firm update, including the celebration of 20 years with PERSI.

Avi Lavi and Justin Moreau provided an overview of the AB Global Strategic Value mandate, including their investment process and philosophy. They stressed the focus on long-term valuation, management quality, and business strength. As opposed to direct AI investment, as an example, Avi Lavi highlighted the increasing demand for nuclear energy, leading uranium prices higher, benefiting companies like Cameco. Avi Lavi concluded by summarizing the attractiveness of global value versus growth should benefit the portfolio in the future.

## OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

### Administrative and Operations Update

Alex Simpson updated Board on hiring Catherine Atchison as the new QA Manager. He discussed the timeline and progress of the internal audit plan by Plante Moran, including the completion of financial reporting controls, staff training and development.

### Actuarial Valuation and Contribution Rate

Mike Hampton presented the FY 2024 annual valuation for the JRF, FRF, State/School Sick Leave Plans, and the PERSI Base Plan. Trustee DeAngeli moved to adopt FY 2024 final valuations. Trustee Wolff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Robert Schmidt presented the contribution rate setting process, including the scheduled rate increases and the actuarial consequences in delaying or reducing those rates. Mike Hampton recommended to the Board a conservative approach to delay and reduce 1%. Trustee Price moved to delay the rate increases for a year. Following board discussion, Trustee Price amended his motion to delay rate increases for a year and revisit the rate setting in the Spring of 2025. Trustee DeAngeli seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Hampton presented return to work for public safety members contribution rate discussion. He invited Ryan Cook to provide background on the return to work law, including sunset date and conditions for eligibility. He also provided actuarial analysis to estimate the cost of the return to work based on actual experience for the past year.

Mike Hampton suggested revisiting the contribution rate decision at the next board meeting to assess the first six months of utilization and legislative developments. Trustee Price asked for more scenarios.

Mike Hampton presented postretirement allowance adjustment discussion. He provided the options available to the Board and the requirement to send a letter to the legislature by January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## FISCAL

### Fiscal Update/Travel/Expense Report Update

Mike Anderson presented Fiscal and Budget overview as of the end of September. Mike also provided details on annual interest rates for contributions and reinstatements.

## BOARD

### Future Agenda

The Board Meeting dates for 2025 were presented. Trustee DeAngeli proposed adding a January Board meeting date.

The Board proposed adding Audit to December Agenda.

The signature authorization document was presented to the Board collecting signatures due to the new addition of Trustee Whitworth.

### Executive Session:

At 10:52 a.m. Chairman Cilek stated the Board intended to move to executive session in accordance with Idaho Code § 74-206 (1)(a)(b)(f). Trustee Price moved to enter executive session and Trustee DeAngeli seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Upon conclusion of the executive session at 11:13 a.m., Trustee DeAngeli moved to return to regular session, Trustee Price seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. No decisions were made.

**Adjournment:** With no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 11:15 a.m.