

IPERS BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Monday, May 12, 2008

IPERS Board Room

The following people were in attendance at the IPERS Benefits Advisory Committee meeting that was held in the IPERS Board Room on Monday, May 12, 2008.

Members of the Benefits Advisory Committee

Len Cockman, Brad Hudson, Jim Maloney, Alan Kemp, Walt Galvin, Diane Reid, Lewis Washington, M.J. Dolan, and Janie Garr.

Participation via conference call: Mollie Anderson.

Absent: Bill Sage, Craig Lonneman, Pat Lynch, and Gaylord Tryon.

IPERS Administration and Staff

Donna Mueller, Chief Executive Officer; David Martin, Chief Benefits Officer; Melinda Prince, Executive Assistant; Julie Economaki, Public Information Officer; Leon Schwartz, Chief Operations Officer; Bob Sharp, Project Manager; Gregg Schochenmaier, General Counsel; Kelly Lovell, General Counsel and Linda Guffey Employer Relations Bureau Chief.

BAC Alternates or Representatives

Mathelle Carlson, IPERS Improvement Association and Susan Cameron, Iowa State Sheriffs and Deputies Association.

Public Members

Jennifer Acton, Legislative Service Agency

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:01 p.m. by chair Len Cockman.

Jim Maloney made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2008, BAC meeting. Lewis Washington seconded, the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Membership Elections

Three membership voting seats on the BAC were up for election:

1. The statute requires one voting seat to be held by a constituent group representing teachers. Diane Reid nominated the Iowa State Education Association. Janie Garr seconded, the nomination carried by unanimous roll call vote of the full BAC membership.
2. The statute requires one voting seat to be held by an organization representing cities. Jim Maloney nominated the Iowa League of Cities. Walt Galvin seconded, the nomination carried by unanimous roll call vote of the full BAC membership.
3. The statute requires one voting seat be filled by a members of the public who has substantial pension benefits experience and who is not a member of IPERS. Jim Maloney

nominated Diane Reid to serve again as the public member. Lewis Washington seconded, the nomination carried by unanimous roll call vote of the voting membership.

Legislative Update

Julie Economaki reviewed IPERS changes in SF2424 – the pension omnibus bill. Donna Mueller thanked the BAC members for their support during the legislative session.

IPERS Staff Report

Administrative Rules – Kelly Lovell stated that IPERS is currently working on two administrative rules packages. One is intended to make technical changes designed to help with Internal Revenue Code compliance and internal administration. The other rules package is intended to implement the 2008 legislation changes.

Benefits Division Update – David Martin reviewed the Member Demand Measures Report for March 2008. He also reported that the benefits division is in the process of verifying the employees of the four groups moving into protection occupation, developing procedures and rules for the buy back and buy up provisions, updating forms and publications to reflect the new legislative changes, and testing the I-Que system and developing training materials for the employer rollout.

I-Que Project Update – Bob Sharp reported that employers will be offered three options for training on the new system: hands-on group training at various times and dates around the state, WebEx online training where individuals participate through the WebEx Web site and conference call, and an online tutorial that will be available on IPERS' Web site.

Appeals Update – Gregg Schochenmaier reviewed the May 2008 appeal status report.

Educational Topic – Section 125 Cafeteria Plans

Linda Guffey gave an educational presentation on section 125 cafeteria plans. Future educational topics discussed were: presentation from the Department of Administrative Services on the state's deferred compensation program, and an overview of the I-Que training documents.

Other Business

Donna Mueller distributed a *Governing.com* article discussing retirement plans with tiered benefits. She also reviewed the recent IRS roundtable meeting she attended.

Public Comments

None

Future Meeting Dates

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BAC is Monday, August 11, 2008. With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:26 pm.