

## **MINUTES**

**Wednesday February 11, 2009  
Meeting Time 1:00 P.M.  
Retirement Systems Building  
60 Empire Drive, St. Paul, MN**

**Board Members Present:** Don Buckner, Gene Gere, Sandra Hale, Ruth Husom John Kuderka, Robert Lundahl, Dennis Maki, , Richard Mesenburg, Lyle Nelson, Peter Obermeyer, Yvonne Ross, Lois Willock.

**Board Members Excused:** Terry Dempsey, Fred Maurer, Sally Olsen

**Others Present:** Dave Bergstrom, Executive Director MSRS, Laura Dobozenski -MRSEA Service Provider

President Husom called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

### **Set and Approve Agenda**

Motion and second to approve agenda with one addition to new items {Retreat for board members to discuss goals for MRSEA}, motion carried.

### **Approve Minutes**

Upon a motion to approve the January 14, 2009 Regular Meeting minutes with a minor correction, and a second, the motion carried.

### **Accept Financial Report**

Upon a motion to approve the January 2009 Financial Statement and a second the motion carried.

#### **2009 Membership Report**

The Service Provider reported the progress of renewals and new members that have joined MRSEA. There were several people who did not want to renew or have anything to do with AFSCME; despite our efforts explaining the retiree affiliation. This information is mailed to the retirees as well as published in the newsletter as a reminder. Their names were removed from the mailing list. Upon a motion and second, the motion carried.

#### **MRSEA Committee Reports**

##### **Nominating Committee**

Ms. Ross reported one application has been received for the May election. Five incumbents are seeking reelection; the application deadline is February 21, 2009. The committee will report more in March and propose the endorsement slate of candidates.

##### **Legislative Committee**

Mr. Gere reported the Pension commission met February 10, all the house members were reappointed to the commission, two new senators were appointed. Senator Betzhold is the new chair, Rep. Mary Murphy- Vice Chair and Rep. Steve Smith-Secretary.

Senator Betzhold would like to have all bills in by March 27, 2009 to prevent the crunch time rush. Currently there are twelve pension bills.

They did adopt their Principles of Pension Policy which they have been working on all interim session.

There was a change request proposal for the Department of Corrections Budget. Commissioner Fabian and Paul Larson; Assistant Commissioner of Management and Budget presented the Governor's reduction proposal. The proposal is to move approximately 800 employees from the

MSRS Correctional Plan to the MSRS General Plan and save about 5.231 million dollars for the biennium and will result in the potential for loss of paid insurance upon retirement for those employees who are shifted to the MSRS General plan saving a projected \$404,000 for the biennium. The proposal will not change anything for current retirees.

Mr. Bergstrom clarified the proposed changes to the plan would set precedent for certain Correctional Plan Employees. Any proposed changes would not impact current retirees. MSRS's standpoint is the legislature decides the policy.

#### **Insurance Committee**

Mr. Nelson reported on the "Minnesota Health Act" introduced in the Minnesota Senate (SF118) by Sen. John Marty received a hearing. The purpose of this bill is to establish a state health care system to provide health care services to all Minnesota residents. Mr. Nelson attended the hearing.

Ms. Ross reported everyone should be proactive in calling around to check their prescription costs if they are considering changing pharmacies.

Mr. Obermeyer requested consensus of the board to contact other organizations to see if they are interested in similar issues concerning HSA's to build support for change for those over 65. Upon a motion and second, the motion passed to support the request.

#### **Meeting & Planning Committee**

Mr. Mesenburg confirmed the contact list of guest speakers, to book someone for the Annual May meeting. There is a concern that some speakers may or may not be able to commit for the date of the meeting; in the past we have had the guest speaker not show. A paid celebrity speaker would assure the speaker will be attending the meeting.

The Fall meeting is also being worked on by the committee with a strong possibility of being held in central Minnesota.

#### **Publications & Communications Committee**

Mr. Lundahl reported the next newsletter will be a six page newsletter and will have the annual meeting registration. The deadline is March 11, for all articles to be submitted. This will allow for formatting and finalizing of articles by March 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Technology Committee**

Mr. Maki reported the website is live. All suggestions and changes are welcome. We need to keep the website updated. All hot topics that come up as board members are attending committee meetings, please forward it to the office so that it may be posted to the site. Mr. Maki asked who should be reviewing the content posted. The consensus was an officer should be able to OK articles to be posted. Members may contact us through the website for any questions or concerns as well.

Mr. Maki will be giving statistical information in the future about the “hits” we receive on the web site.

The Adobe Software was received and this will allow us to make corrections to our newsletters without waiting for the vendor to make changes and resend for additional proofing. The encryption software has been ordered, however not received.

#### **Constitution & By-Law Committee**

No Report

#### **Finance Committee**

Mr. Maki reported the committee met January 28, 2009 to preliminarily discuss budgeting, taxes and audit preparation. The committee is looking for volunteers to do the audit and taxes. Upon a motion and second to authorize Dennis Maki to contact possible candidates to do the audit and taxes for MRSEA, the motion carried.

Mr. Kuderka reported he is continuing to research the information needed to formulate a scholarship program for MRSEA. He has researched what various organizations currently have in respect to the number of scholarships and the dollar amount of the scholarship.

**MN Senior Federation**

Mr. Nelson reported there is no meeting scheduled, he is on their mailing list.

**MN State Retiree Council**

No Report

**MSRS Board of Directors**

No Report

**PEPC**

Ms. Husom is following up about any scheduled PEPC meetings.

**Chapter Liaison Reports**

**a. Brainerd-March 19, 2009**

**b. Duluth- January 28, 2009**

Mr. Lundahl reported there was a good turn out; the guest speaker talked about in home services for seniors.

**c. Fergus Falls- March 3, 2009**

Mr. Nelson stated he would attend a couple meetings a year. Ms. Husom clarified the liaison is assigned to attend the quarterly meetings. The sub chapters look forward to a representative from MRSEA attending. The Business Service Provider attends the spring and fall meetings of each sub chapter.

**d. Mankato –June 2009-(Maurer)**

**e. Rochester-May 8, 2009 (Buckner)**

**f. West Central- Spring 2009-(Kuderka)**

**g. Southwest- April 28, 2009-(Ross)**

**h. Walker/ Northwoods- June 11, 2009-(Kuderka)**

**Old Items**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Party Vendor Agreement**

The Service Provider distributed the Third Party Data Privacy Contracts for the board to accept and authorize President Husom to sign. This is required to be done per the Data Privacy agreement with MSRS.

Upon a motion and second to accept the third party agreement for Idea Group, and Platinum Professional Management, LLC, the motion carried.

Mr. Maki inquired as to the members that contact us via email with our web vendor. If someone sends us their email it is subject to the posted data privacy web policy we have posted on the web.

#### **Director & Officers Liability Insurance**

Upon board review of the policy quote options for the Directors and Officers Liability Insurance through the Morse agency, a motion and second was made to authorize purchase of the policy with the Option 1 Plan. The motion carried.

#### **Organization Insurance**

Upon board review of the policy quote for the Organizational Insurance through the Hartford Agency, a motion and second was made to authorize purchase of the policy. The motion carried.

Mr. Nelson inquired about Worker's Compensation for the business service provider President Husom ruled Mr. Nelson out of order and stated the service provider works for Platinum Professional Management, LLC, and workers compensation insurance is not required by MRSEA.

Mr. Nelson stated this was important and wanted clarification if the contract held MRSEA harmless. President Husom ruled Mr. Nelson out of order and moved on with the agenda.

**New Items**

President Husom suggested the board hold a retreat to discuss MRSEA goals and committee work. This could be done on regular meeting date. The last retreat was held four years ago, for a full day. Upon discussion of the board, organizational issues, sub chapter relations, membership recruitment were items to be discussed at the retreat.

Ms. Ross reported that as an organizer of the last retreat it was difficult to participate as a director and to do the work involved in organizing.

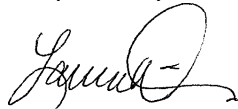
Mr. Mesenburg suggested a professional facilitator. Mr. Kuderka offered to contact someone about facilitating the retreat.

Ms. Husom suggested her Church Community Room for a location to hold the retreat. The facility would be a lower cost in comparison to renting a facility. Ms. Husom will see if the facility is available.

**Next meeting date is March 11' 2009**

**Meeting adjourned 3:15 PM**

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura Dobozenski-Service Provider  
Platinum Professional Management, LLC