

## MINUTES

**Wednesday September 10, 2008**  
**Meeting Time 11:00 A.M.**  
**Retirement Systems Building**  
**60 Empire Drive, St. Paul, MN**

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

**Guests Present:** Ross Anderson, Linda Pearson, Lois Stone-Duluth Sub Chapter Officers; Peggy Hildebrandt-Brainerd Sub Chapter President; Merton Rew-Rochester President, Robert Hilfers, Rochester Member, Robert Lamont, Michael Smith-Mankato Officers; Barbara Lamont-Mankato Member; Dave Bergstrom- MSRS Executive Director

**Others Present:** Laura Dobozenski -MRSEA Business Administrator

President Husom called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M.

### **1. Set and Approve Agenda** (*Board of Directors*)

Two items were added to the agenda, (1) Workers Compensation Study (2) United Way Acknowledgment. Upon a motion to approve and a second the motion carried to approve the agenda.

### **2. Discussion with Sub Chapter Officers**

#### **a. Sub Chapter Issues**

Mr. Mesenburg conducted a roundtable discussion to increase MRSEA renewals and Sub Chapter attendance. Everyone was asked to participate by listing ideas to reverse the aforementioned trends. Mr. Mesenburg documented all ideas generated.

Guest Speaker Dave Bergstrom, Executive Director addressed updates about the Post Fund and the possible merger. Mr. Bergstrom wanted everyone to know their pensions are secure. There were no new updates on HSA's for retiree's. This would require state and federal changes. Mr. Bergstrom anticipated there would not be any updates until after the November elections.

**\*\*\*\*Break for Lunch\*\*\*\***

**Reconvened Meeting 1:10 PM**

All participants were asked to place a dot by their top six priorities they would like to see addressed. Mr. Mesenburg will correlate all information to be forwarded to the Sub Chapters. This project will be an ongoing effort to address the issues raised and outcomes that were prioritized. Mr. Mesenburg will also be communicating with sub chapters not in attendance to see what has been successful or unsuccessful in their Sub Chapter.

**b. Other Items By Sub Chapters**

**i. Robert Lamont –Data Privacy Issues**

The Board reviewed the agreement proposed by MSRS addressing data privacy and maintenance of privacy with MRSEA. Mr. Bergstrom stated at the Mankato meeting it would be acceptable to create a list of first and last name and the city of a retiree only. This will be verified by MSRS prior to any lists being sent. Upon a motion to table and a second, The motion carried, board tabled action until the definition of a “third party” is defined.

Ms. Olsen reported that MSRS is also addressing vulnerabilities to their IT systems. Everyone is concerned about data privacy and compliance issues.

**3. Approve Minutes**

**a. August 7, 2008 Minutes**

Upon a motion to approve and a second the motion carried with minor corrections.

**4. Accept Financial Report**

**a. July 2008 Report**

Upon a motion and second the motion carried to accept the report.

**5. Accept 2008 Year End Membership Report**

Upon a motion and second the 2008 membership report was accepted.

**6. MRSEA Committee Reports**

**a. Nominating Committee-(Kuderka, Chair)**

Mr. Kuderka reported the entire nominating committee will be up for reelection, and a new committee will need to be appointed.

**b. Legislative Committee-(Gene Gere, Chair)**

Mr. Gere distributed handouts distributed by MSRS to the Pension Commission. The first “ A Better Bang for the Buck”; The Economic Efficiencies of Defined Benefit Pension Plans, by the National Institute on Retirement Security and the second a “Study on Summary Findings” for ‘A Better Bang for the Buck’, measuring the Economic Benefits.

Ms. Olsen reported the PAC committee had recently met and authorized a \$5000.00 donation to each of the House Caucuses. The checks will be hand delivered by Ms. Olsen and Mr. Raymond Faricy.

**c. Insurance Committee**

Mr. Maurer reported the committee had met with Budd Johnson, and at this time he did not have enough information available for the committee. The anticipated increases in the health care plans will range from 3.5%-7%.

Mr. Obermeyer also reported the committee will continue to work on some type of exemption for health care costs for retirees.

**d. Meeting & Planning Committee**

Mr. Mesenburg reported the committee has reserved the bus for the New Ulm trip. All the planning has been completed.

**e. Publications & Communications Committee-(Robert Lundahl, Chair)**

Mr. Lundahl reported on some research he did on the usage of photos in the newsletter. He encouraged promoting the usage of group photos taken at sub chapter meetings. A disclaimer or announcement could be made to let folks know they may be in a photo used.

**f. Technology Committee-(Maki, Chair)**

Mr. Maki reported committee reviewed the bids for the website. Mr. Maki highlighted the different options to the board. A motion was made to use Reliable Web Sites as the vendor and host for the new MRSEA website. This would allocate up to \$8000.00 for two years of development and hosting. Upon a second the motion carried.

**g. Constitution & By-Law Committee- (Olsen-Ross)**

No report.

**7. MN Senior Federation- (Husom)**

Ms. Husom appointed Lyle Nelson as the liaison to the Federation, Ms. Husom appointed Peter Obermeyer as the alternate.

**8. State Retiree Council-(Maurer)**

No Report.

**9. MSRS Board of Directors-**

Ms. Olsen reported MSRS waiting for results and news from the SBI in regards to the Post Fund merger. The Board also reviewed the 2009 legislative agenda, Disability Appeals, The 180 Day Disability Appeal process, and what compromises the High Five Salary. There will be a meeting with invitations to various groups to participate in this discussion taking place September 18, 2008. The board also reviewed continued computer security issues, as well as supported the change to "ING" for Deferred Comp plans.

**10. PEPC-**

Mr. Maurer reported a meeting was scheduled for August 24, and was cancelled.

**11. Chapter Liaison Reports**

**a. Brainerd-September 18, 2008**

President Husom appointed Lois Willock as the liaison to the Sub Chapter.

**b. Duluth- October 22, 2008-(Lundahl)**

Mr. Lundahl reported there is a local council picnic being held October 20<sup>th</sup>, and he will be attending the October meeting.

**c. Fergus Falls- Sept. 2, 2008**

The business administrator attended the September meeting. The Sub Chapter elected a new president and vice president. Ms. Husom appointed Lyle Nelson as the new liaison to the Sub Chapter.

**d. Mankato Sept 8, 2008-(Maurer)**

Mr. Maurer reported the Sub Chapter hosted guest speakers from Senior Federation and RSVP; a senior volunteer organization.

**e. Rochester-Oct. 31**

The business administrator reported the Sub Chapter will be holding elections at the upcoming meeting.

**f. West Central-Fall 2008**

Mr. Kuderka reported the sub chapter will be meeting in November.

**g. Southwest-Sept 25, 2008-(Ross)**

Ms. Ross reported she was not able to attend the spring meeting due to the conflict of the MSREA special meeting and will be attending the September as well as the business administrator.

**h. Walker/ Northwoods- Oct. 9, 2008**

Mr. Kuderka will be attending the October meeting in Akeley.

**12. New Items**

**a. Designate Signatory Roster for Affinity Plus (Husom)**

The Business Administrator reported the computer changes and updates required by affinity Plus and the updated signatories. Ms. Husom suggested Lois Willock, Sally Olsen, Gene Gere, Ruth Husom and Laura Dobozenki as the bank contacts for Affinity Plus. Upon a motion and second the motion carried.

**b. Business Administrator Contract Extension (Olsen)**

Ms. Olsen reported the September meeting is devoted primarily to the Sub Chapter business and the October meeting is primarily a social event. Therefore, the November meeting would be a better time for the board to consider the contract renewal.

Upon a motion, to extend the Business Administrator Provider's contract ending date from October 25, 2008 to November 30, 2008. Payment under the new contract would be retroactive to October 25, but all future contracts would be from December 1 to November 30, the following year, and a second the motion carried.

**13. Other Items**

**a. Workers Compensation Study**

Ms Husom requested Mr. Dempsey to research this area.

**b. United Way Recognition**

MRSEA received an acknowledgment from United Way in regards to the \$250.00 donation for the southern Minnesota floods.

**14. Next Meeting Date October 8, 2008 in New Ulm**

**15. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned 3:43 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Laura Dobozenski**

**MRSEA Business Administrator**