



## Legislative Commission On Pensions and Retirement

Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
St. Paul, MN 55155

### HOUSE MEMBERS

Rep. Kaohly Her, Chair  
Rep. Tim O'Driscoll, Secretary  
Rep. Kaela Berg  
Rep. Ethan Cha  
Rep. Danny Nadeau  
Rep. Michael Nelson  
Rep. Dan Wolgamott

### SENATE MEMBERS

Sen. Nick A. Frentz, Vice Chair  
Sen. Jeff R. Howe  
Sen. Carla J. Nelson  
Sen. Sandra L. Pappas  
Sen. Jordan Rasmusson  
Sen. Judy Seeberger  
Sen. Bonnie S. Westlin

### COMMISSION STAFF

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**April 29, 2024**

Room 120, State Capitol

## MINUTES

### Call to order:

Chair Her called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

### Commission Members Present:

Representatives Berg, Cha, Her, Nadeau, Nelson, O'Driscoll, Wolgamott  
Senators Frentz, Nelson, Pappas, Rasmusson, Seeberger, Westlin

### Commission Member Absent:

Senator Howe

## Agenda Items

### Update from the State Board of Investment

Jill Schurtz, Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer, State Board Investment, gave a presentation, "[Supplemental Presentation on Asset Allocation](#)".

### Approval of meeting minutes

Sen. Westlin moved approval of the [April 8, 2024](#), meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**Informational Item: SF 1386 (McEwen);** Restoring augmentation to retirement annuities for members who left public employment before January 1, 2019, when vested but not yet at retirement age

➤ Chair Her moved SF1386 be laid over.

Sen. McEwen presented and testified in support of her bill.

Sean Kelly, Deputy Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR), reviewed the [staff summary](#) of the bill.

### Public testimony:

Mark W. Schulte, FSA, EA, Consulting Actuary, VIA Actuarial Solutions, the Commission actuary, reviewed the [SF1386 cost estimate](#) on the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS) General Plan; the actuarial accrued liability would increase by about \$210 million, the funded ratio would decrease by 1.12%, and the contribution sufficiency would be affected by 31 basis points.

Susan Lenczewski, Executive Director, LCPR, clarified deferred annuities augmentation for members. Dan Hannan, former Minnesota Pollution Control Agency employee and MSRS stakeholder, testified in support of the bill.

Michael Bergh, former University of Minnesota employee, former University of Minnesota Duluth employee, and current Duluth School District employee, testified in support of the bill.

- Chair Her laid over SF1386.

**Action Item: Resolution LCPR24- R1** directing the executive directors of MSRS, PERA, TRA, and St. Paul Teachers to correct errors as provided in current law, as amended by Article 8, Section 12, of the 2024 Pension and Retirement Policy and Supplemental Budget Bill

Ms. Lenczewski reviewed [Resolution LCPR24-R1](#) and a memo on the [IRS Correction Program and special legislation](#).

- Chair Her moved Resolution LCPR24-R1. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**Discussion: Pension options for public safety and public safety adjacent positions in the PERA General Plan such as 911 telecommunicators, probation and parole officers, and county child support agents**

### Public testimony:

Doug Anderson, Executive Director, PERA, testified and provided the [GRS Project Quote-Analysis of New Plan](#).

Darlene Pankonie, Washington County Sheriff's Office, testified in support of enhanced benefits for 911 telecommunicators, and referred to the [911 Telecommunicator Working Group Report](#) from 2022.

Seth Justice Loeffler-Kemp, 911 Dispatcher, St. Louis County, AFSCME Local 66, testified in support of enhanced benefits for 911 telecommunicators.

Ebony DeLovely, St. Louis County Dispatch, testified in support of enhanced benefits for 911 telecommunicators.

Wade Laszlo, President, Minnesota Correctional Officer Retirement Association (MNCORA), testified and provided a [letter from MNCORA](#) in opposition to adding additional groups to the Correctional Plan, but that MNCORA is not opposed to the study of other options for the 911 Telecommunicators.

Matt Hilgart, Association of Minnesota Counties, testified that 1) any plan enhancements should not compromise the funding of any existing or prospective plan; 2) increases to any employee-requested enhancements should be equitable and considerate of needs across all generations of employees; and 3) there is employee and employer consent.

Matt Massman, Minnesota Inter-County Association, testified to encourage further discussion on 1) what is the function of pension benefits generally and the difference between pension benefits and the total compensation package; 2) what is the policy rationale and criteria for differing pension benefits across differing classes of employees; and 3) consideration of how disaggregating employees to different pension funds might affect pension stability and how cost will be funded over time.

Submitted testimony ([combined into one document](#)):

Freeborn Co. Sheriff's Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
Anoka Co. Sheriff's Office Detention Deputies, Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
Hennepin Co. Sheriff's Office Detention Deputies and Employees Petition  
Olmsted Co. Sheriff's Office Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
Sherburne Co. Sheriff's Office Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
St. Louis Co. Sheriff's Office Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
Steele Co. Sheriff's Office Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
Washington Co. Sheriff's Office Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
Wright Co. Sheriff's Office Correctional Officers and Employees Petition  
Minnesota 911 Dispatchers Statewide Testimonials on Pensions and Retirement Age  
St. Louis County 911 Dispatchers  
Anne Felber, Probation Officer, Hennepin County Intimate Partner Violence unit

### **Projects and work groups for the 2024- 2025 legislative interim.**

Ms. Lenczewski reviewed the [list of 2024 Interim Projects](#)

Chair Her, Sen. Frentz, Sen. Rasmusson and Rep. Nadeau volunteered to assist with the process of recommending a firm to provide actuarial services to the Commission.

#### Public testimony:

Maggie Temple, a teacher representing Minnesota Educators for Pension Reform, provided [written testimony](#) and testified in support of improving benefits for Tier II teachers and requested a task force to explore solutions to fix the teacher pension system.

Submitted testimony ([combined into one document](#)):

Katie Dickerson, Hopkins School District teacher  
Vickie Penick, Minnesota public schools speech-language pathologist  
Jeff Kocur, Hopkins High School teacher  
Maggie Temple, Minnesota Educators for Pension Reform  
Lisa Storey  
Robert Laine, Baudette, Minnesota Career and Technical Education teacher  
Ann and Luis Millán, Minnesota public educators  
Todd Richter, Roseville Area Middle School counselor  
Diana Regis, Lakeville Area Public Schools social studies teacher  
Paul Peterson, International Falls teacher  
Kimberly Husfeldt, Minnesota school psychologist  
Holly Paschke, Clover Ridge Elementary School Speech-Language Pathologist

## LCPR Meeting Minutes

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Steve Clouse, Nashwauk-Keewatin ISD 319 Career and Technical Education teacher  
Jim Olson, Duluth educator  
Bethany Ocar, Hopkins High School CLR English teacher and instructional coach  
Kara Bancroft, St. Louis Park Schools ISD 283 teacher  
Lisa Jepson, Moorhead Area Public Schools  
Steve Bliven, educator

Chair Her announced that this is the last scheduled meeting and thanked members for their service on the Commission.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.