



Minutes

Retirement Board Meeting

Board Room*, 1900 Polaris Parkway, Suite 201, Columbus, Ohio 43240

Thursday, February 19, 2026 – 12:00 p.m.

**Meeting was made available to public through Zoom*

Present: Major Matthew Them, *Chair*; Major (ret.) Darryl Anderson, *Vice-Chair*; Major (ret.) JP Allen; Colonel Charles Jones; Sergeant (ret.) Michael Kasler; Sergeant Derek Malone; Lieutenant Christian Niemeyer; Lieutenant Brice Nihiser; Craig Warnimont; Trooper Cynthia Wilt

Absent: None

Quorum? Yes

Others Present: Carl Roark, *Executive Director*; Michael Press, *General Counsel*; Anthony Bradshaw, *Chief Operations Officer*; Holly Carr, *Executive Assistant*; Renee Young, *Benefits Specialist*; Charmaine Carter, *System Accountant*; Jackie Huntzinger, *Project Manager*; Maggie O'Shea, *Assistant Attorney General*; Kevin Balaod, *with Intelligence (via Zoom)*

Proceedings:

Call to Order

- At 12:07 p.m., Them called the meeting to order, and the roll was called.
- Them led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Motion: To approve the minutes of the December 18, 2025 meeting, (motion by Jones; second by Malone; motion carried unanimously).**

Administration Committee

- Nihiser gave a brief update on topics discussed at the committee.
- Bradshaw presented the final 2025 budget comparison and noted HPRS operated 9.35% under budget for the year.
- Nihiser presented OAC 5505-1-01, 5505-3-01, and 5505-7-01 which were up for five-year review, noting there were no recommended changes.
- **Motion: To approve the no change amendments to Ohio Administrative Code 5505-1-01, 5505-3-01, and 5505-7-01 as presented by staff, (motion by Nihiser; second by Niemeyer; motion carried unanimously).**

2026 HPRS Board of Elections

- Roark presented draft documents for board approval for the 2026 employee and retiree member elections: Notice of Election – Employee, Notice of Election – Retiree, Candidacy Form – Employee, Candidacy Form – Retiree, Employee Voting Instructions, and Retiree Voting Instructions.
- **Motion: To approve the election announcements, candidacy forms, and voting letters for the 2026 employee and retiree elections, as presented by staff, (motion by Them; second by Kasler; motion carried unanimously.)**
- Them appointed himself, Carr, and Huntzinger to the ballot counting committee.

Health, Wellness, & Disability Committee

- **Motion: To grant the executive director authority to renew the board medical advisor contract with terms in the best interest of HPRS, (motion by Wilt; second by Kasler; motion carried unanimously).**
- **Motion: To go into executive session to discuss medical records required to be kept confidential pursuant to Division (G)(5) of Section 121.22 of the Revised Code at 12:15 p.m. with Roark, Press, Bradshaw, Carr, Carter, Young, Huntzinger, and O’Shea as guests, (motion by Wilt; second by Allen; motion carried unanimously).**
- At 12:19 p.m., Them declared the executive session was concluded.
- **Motion: To approve an in-the-line-of-duty disability application for Applicant #1 (XXXXXX), contingent on compliance with a treatment plan, recommended by the medical advisor, (motion by Wilt; second by Malone; motion carried unanimously.)**
- **Motion: To waive Applicant #1 (XXXXXX) from the Independent Medical Evaluation and Annual Disability Review requirements, (motion by Wilt; second by Niemeyer; motion carried unanimously.)**

Health Care Funding Committee

- Kasler gave a brief update on topics discussed at the committee meeting.
- Bradshaw presented the Quarterly Health Care Fund Report.

Special Committee on COLA

- Nihiser gave a brief update on topics discussed at the committee meeting, including options for providing a COLA alternative.
- Lengthy discussion ensued and staff fielded questions.

Audit Committee

- Malone reported there was no meeting.

Investment Committee

- Anderson gave a brief update on topics discussed at the committee meeting; including the total plan was up 1.0% year-to-date with assets of \$1.226 billion.

- Press reviewed the strategic asset allocation discussed by the committee and the recommendation.
- **Motion: To approve the Strategic Asset Allocation as presented by staff, (motion by Anderson; second by Warnimont; motion carried unanimously.)**

Travel and Education

- Roark presented the following travel cost estimates:
 - Niemeyer to attend the NCPERS 2026 Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE) in Las Vegas, Nevada, May 17 – 20, 2026, at an estimated cost of \$2,489.65.
 - Roark to attend the NASRA 2026 Annual Conference in Boston, Massachusetts, August 8 – 12, 2026, at an estimated cost of \$3,517.80.
 - Nihiser to attend Due Diligence meetings in New York City, New York, March 4 – 5, 2026, at an estimated cost of \$1,138.33.
- **Motion: To approve board and staff travel as presented, (motion by Anderson; second by Malone; motion carried unanimously).**
- Anderson gave an educational value report.

Board Self-Evaluation Results

- Roark presented the board self-evaluation survey results.

General Counsel Report

- Nothing to report

Administrative Report

- Roark presented the summary report of active and retired members, and the retirement beneficiary report.
- **Motion: To approve retirement applications and survivor pensions as submitted by staff, (motion by Malone; second by Niemeyer; motion carried unanimously).**

Comments

- None.

Adjournment

- At 1:03 p.m., Them declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

- The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for April 16, 2026, at 1900 Polaris Parkway, Columbus, Ohio 43240.

Minutes submitted by Holly Carr, Executive Assistant

Signature on File

April 16, 2026

Approved by Matthew Them, Chair

Date

To review any referenced documents, please contact Holly Carr, hcarr@ohprs.org.