**Minutes**

**Retirement Board Meeting**
Board Room*, 1900 Polaris Parkway, Suite 201, Columbus, Ohio 43240
Thursday, June 25, 2026 – 11:30 a.m.
**Meeting was made available to public through Zoom*

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

**Proceedings:**

**Call to Order**
- At 11:37 a.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 April 16, 2026 meeting, (motion by Anderson; second by Kasler; motion carried unanimously).**

**Preliminary Results of the December 31, 2025 Actuarial Valuation**
- Brad Heinrichs reviewed the preliminary results of the December 31, 2025 actuarial valuation via Zoom.
- Heinrichs explained that the purpose of the preliminary actuarial valuation was to provide information to the board to set the rates for COLA, employee contribution, and the health care fund allocation. The HPRS funding policy was also discussed.
- In-depth discussion ensued amongst the board and staff.
- **Motion: To set COLA at 2.68% for 2027, the employee contribution rate at 14% for 2027, and a health care fund allocation of $3.5M for 2026, (motion by Anderson; second by Allen; motion carried unanimously).**

**Oath of Office**

- O'Shea administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed trustee Dustin Neely.

**Administration Committee**

- Nihiser gave a brief update on topics discussed at the committee.
- Roark presented proposed updates to the HPRS policies and procedures, which were non-substantive.
- **Motion: To approve the updates to HPRS policies and procedures as presented by staff, (motion by Nihiser, second by Niemeyer; motion carried unanimously).**

**Health, Wellness, & Disability Committee**

- Wilt reported there was no meeting.

**Health Care Funding Committee**

- Kasler gave a brief update on topics discussed at the committee meeting.
- Roark presented the Quarterly Health Care Fund Report.
- Roark presented a 2027 Health Reimbursement Proposal and discussed staff recommendations.
- Lengthy discussion ensued and staff fielded questions.
- **Motion: To recommend the board approve the increase to the 2027 Medicare allocation for retirees to $265 per month and for surviving spouses to $132.50 per month, as presented by staff (motion by Anderson; with no second; motion did not carry).**
- **Motion: To recommend the board approve the increase to the 2027 Medicare allocation for retirees to $255 per month and for surviving spouses to $127.50 per month, as presented by staff (motion by Anderson; second by Kasler; motion carried unanimously).**
- **Motion To recommend the board approve the increase to the 2027 pre-Medicare base allocation for retirees to $900 per month and for surviving spouses to $375 per month, as presented by staff (motion by Kasler; second by Anderson; motion carried unanimously).**

**Special Committee on COLA**

- Roark reported the next step is obtaining the recommendation from the ORSC for the proposed amendment.

**Audit Committee**

- Malone gave a brief update, including the presentation by Rea.
- Bradshaw reported that Rea finished with the final review of the audit and issued an unmodified opinion.

- Bradshaw reported the 2025 HPRS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report was in its final stage and on track to be submitted to the Auditor of State and the Office of Budget and Management by the June 30th deadline.
- Bradshaw recommended the hiring of Summit County Internal Audit Department for 2026 and presented a proposed scope of work and plan, not to exceed $20,000.
- **Motion: To approve the hiring of Summit County Internal Audit Department to provide audit services in 2026 for an amount not to exceed $20,000 and to authorize the executive director to enter into an agreement with terms in the best interest of HPRS, (motion by Malone; second by Kasler; motion carried unanimously.)**

**Investment Committee**

- Anderson gave a brief update on topics discussed at the committee meeting.

**Travel and Education**

- Niemeyer gave an educational value report on the NCPERS Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE)he attended in May.
- Roark presented the following travel cost estimates:
    - Roark to attend the NCPERS 2026 Public Safety Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, October 25 – 28, 2026, at an estimated cost of $2,634.70.
- **Motion: To approve staff travel as presented (motion by Anderson; second by Wilt; motion carried unanimously).**

**General Counsel Report**

- Press provided an update.

**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 Wilt; motion carried unanimously).**
- Roark gave an update on the 2026 retired member election.

**Adjournment**

- At 1:23 p.m., Them declared the meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting**

- The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for August 20-21, 2026, at the Berlin Grande Hotel, 4787 Township Road 366, Berlin, OH 44610.

*Minutes submitted by Holly Carr, Executive Assistant*

**Signature on File** **August 20, 2026**

Approved by Matthew Them, Chair Date

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