Maryland State Retirement and Pension System
Administrative Committee
Minutes of Open Session

Convened on June 2, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. via a video/phone conference.

Open Session Attendees

Committee members present:

Robert Sandlass, Chair
Richard Norman, Vice Chair
Jamaal Craddock
Treasurer Dereck Davis
Ayana English-Brown
Marc Nicole (designee, Secretary Weissmann)
Vernon Reid

Staff members present:

Jonathan Martin, Acting Executive Director
Caitlin Box
Gary Burgess
Sarah Carta
Cheryl Davis- Shaw
Anne Gawthrop
Michael Howard
Derrick Johnson
Lisa Jordan
Edward Kamonjoh
Kate Kemmerer
Courtney Key
Van Lewis
John Lane
Thomas Montanye
Megan Myers
Kim O'Keeffe
Nick Pindale
Ben Robb
David Rongione
Bonita Rose
Tonia Shultz
Karen Simpson

Assistant Attorneys General present:

Emily Spiering

Other attendees:

Philip Anthony
Joe Gutberlet
Megan Schutz

Open Session

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

Trustee Sandlass called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. **Open Session Meeting Minutes**

On a motion made by Trustee English-Brown and seconded by Trustee Norman, the Committee approved the meeting minutes from the meeting held on April 8, 2026.

3. **The Town of Forest Heights to Join EPS and Participate in Employer Pick-Up Program**

On a motion made by Trustee Reid and seconded by Trustee Norman, the Committee approved Forest Heights' request to join the Employees' Pension System and participate in the employer pick-up program.

4. **The Town of Pittsville to Join EPS and LEOPS**

On a motion made by Treasurer Davis and seconded by Trustee Craddock, the Committee approved Pittsville's request to join the Employees' Pension System and the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System.

5. **The City of Seat Pleasant to Join LEOPS and Participate in Employer Pick-Up Program**

On a motion made by Trustee Reid and seconded by Trustee Norman, the Committee approved Seat Pleasant's request to join the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System and participate in the employer pick-up program.

6. **Allegany County to Participate in Employer Pick-Up Program for CORS**

On a motion made by Mr. Nicole and seconded by Trustee Craddock, the Committee approved Allegany County's request to participate in the employer pick-up program for the Correctional Officers' Retirement System.

7. **Dorchester County to Participate in Employer Pick-Up Program for CORS**

On a motion made by Trustee Reid and seconded by Trustee Craddock, the Committee voted to approve Dorchester County's request to participate in the employer pick-up program for the Correctional Officers' Retirement System.

8. **The Town of La Plata to Participate in Employer Pick-Up Program for LEOPS**

On a motion made by Trustee Craddock and seconded by Trustee Norman, the Committee approved La Plata's request to participate in the employer pick-up program for the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System.

9. **Transfer of Eligible Members from One State System to Another**

Caitlin Box, Employer Services Manager presented resolutions for the following counties and towns to transfer from one state system to another:

• Allegany County; Employees' Pension System to Correctional Officers' Retirement System
•Dorchester County; Employees' Pension System to Correctional Officers' Retirement

System
•Dorchester County (Emergency Medical Technicians from Employees' Pension System to Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System
•The Town of La Plata; Employees' Pension System to Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System

10. Member Services Update

Gary Burgess, Member Services Administrator, presented updated Member Services statistics through April 2026, reporting a decrease in call volume compared to the previous fiscal year. Key performance metrics remained strong, and member feedback was positive, with an average satisfaction score of 4.47 out of 5 in April. Counseling services achieved a milestone by reducing appointment wait times to less than one week and has been conducting approximately 230 counseling appointments per month over the past several months.

11. Benefits Administration Update

Kim O'Keeffe, Benefits Administrator, presented updated Benefits Administration statistics through April 2026, reporting steady operations for Benefits Processing, Data Control, and Special Projects. Retirement estimates and final retirement remain on trend with previous years. The monthly check register remained stable, paying out over $371 million in monthly payments to more than 1800 retirees and beneficiaries. Staff is preparing for year-end activities. Ms. O'Keeffe concluded by confirming that COLA programming and testing were successfully completed, with implementation expected to proceed as scheduled.

12. Finance Reports for quarter ending in March 31, 2026

Van Lewis, Director of Budget, Procurement, and Contracts, presented the Committee with the Administrative Expense Report dashboard, noting that the Agency spent 71.28% of its FY2026 appropriation in the third quarter. He reported a projected year-end surplus of approximately $127,000 due to underspending for contractual IT developer programming costs.

Mr. Lewis also presented the FY2026 Q3 Minority Business Enterprise report. Of the approximately $3.5 million in procurement value, approximately $1.98 million was awarded to MBE firms. The Agency achieved an MBE participation rate of 57.3% percent, exceeding the statewide goal of 29 percent.

13. Vacancy Report

Derrick Johnson, Deputy Executive Director, reported that while there were no significant changes in the overall vacancy numbers, that progress continues in staffing, with five new hires joining the agency since the last report. The agency also has brought in 8 interns and had 3 internal promotions. He also reported that three offers have been extended with a pending June 10 start date.

14. Update and Special Meeting for Governance Consultant Recommendation

Kate Kemmerer, Governance and Strategic Projects Manager, provided an update on the Governance Consultant search, reporting that the technical proposals have been reviewed and oral presentations have been scheduled with all qualified candidates. Ms.

Kemmerer requested that the Committee hold a special meeting in July to receive the recommendation ahead of the July 14 Board of Trustees meeting. Staff will work with the Committee to schedule a date.

15. Committee-led Discussion

No discussion

16. Next Administrative Committee Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

17. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

On a motion made by Trustee English-Brown and seconded by Trustee Craddock, the meeting was adjourned at 11:23am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Martin
Acting Executive Director and Secretary to the Board