

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
JULY 12, 2023, AT 2:00 P.M. ET
VIA LIVE VIDEO TELECONFERENCE**

At the Special Called meeting of the County Employees Retirement System (CERS) Board of Trustees held on July 12, 2023, the following members were present: Betty Pendergrass (Chair), Dr. Patricia Carver, George Cheatham, Michael Foster, JT Fulkerson, Dr. Merl Hackbart, Dr. Martin Milkman, and Jerry Powell. Staff members present were KRS CEO John Chilton, David Eager, Rebecca Adkins, Erin Surratt, Liza Welch, Michael Lamb, Michael Board, Victoria Hale, Carrie Bass, Kristen Coffey, Katie Park, Shaun Case and Sherry Rankin. Others present included Eric Branco with Johnson Bowman Branco, LLP.

Ms. Pendergrass called the meeting to order.

Mr. Branco read the Legal Public Statement.

Ms. Rankin called roll.

There being no *Public Comment* submitted, Ms. Pendergrass introduced agenda item **2024 Proposed Legislation** (*Video 00:07:00 to 01:24:50*). Ms. Pendergrass indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed 2024 Housekeeping Bill. She briefly reviewed the modifications/administrative policy changes in the 2023 Housekeeping Bill versus the proposed 2024 Housekeeping Bill.

These administrative policy changes included: (1) Add a vocational expert to the medical review team(s) (See Section 22, page 153 of HB49); (2) Permit telephone voting for Trustee elections (See Section 27, page 191 of HB49). The CERS Legislative Working Group opposed this change in 2023; and (3) Revise medical review process for disability applications (See Section 15, page 116). The CERS Legislative Working Group opposed this change in 2023. Erin Surratt has provided additional information to help explain the KPPA Staff request to revise the medical review process.

Ms. Erin Surratt and Ms. Liza Welch presented the History of KRS 61.665(2) which discusses the medical review process. There was extensive discussion surrounding the current process.

Mr. Powell made a motion that the CERS recommends the methodology that was adopted in 1998 that has one (1) medical examiner reviewing materials. It was clarified that the motion merely expresses the opinion of the CERS Board of Trustees. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Mr. Fulkerson opposed; however, the motion passed.

Ms. Pendergrass stated that she would draft a memo to Representative Johnson and Senator Higdon expressing the concerns and opinion of the CERS Board of Trustees.

Ms. Pendergrass introduced agenda item *Closed Session* and announced that a Closed Session was not needed.

Ms. Pendergrass opened the floor for a motion to *adjourn* the meeting. Mr. Fulkerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mr. Powell. The motion passed unanimously.

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CERTIFICATION

I do certify that I was present at this meeting, and I have recorded the above actions of the Trustees on the various items considered by it at this meeting. Further, I certify that all requirements of KRS 61.805-61.850 were met in conjunction with this meeting.


Recording Secretary

I, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the County Employees Retirement System, do certify that the Minutes of Meeting held on July 12, 2023, were approved on September 13, 2023.


Chair of the Board of Trustees

I have reviewed the Minutes of the July 12, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting for content, form, and legality.


Executive Director
Office of Legal Services