

**MINUTES OF THE  
UTAH STATE MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING  
October 2, 2023, 12:00 Noon  
Utah Retirement Office  
Hybrid Meeting**

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**Council Members Participating in Person:**

Mr. Marty Peterson, Chairperson, Professional Firefighters of Utah  
Ms. Heather Anderson, Utah Association of Special Service Districts  
Ms. Amy Ehresman, Vice Chairperson, Utah School Employees' Association  
Mr. Larry Millward, Utah Retired School Employees' Association  
Mr. Zane Woolstenhulme, Utah Association of School Business Officials

**Council Members Participating via Video Conferencing:**

Ms. Sheri Dearden, Utah Association of Counties  
Mr. Rod Hurd, Utah Education Association  
Ms. Anna Lewin, Utah Education Association  
Mr. Scott Wilberger, Utah Peace Officers' Association

**Excused:**

Mr. Jamie Davidson, Utah League of Cities and Towns  
Ms. Sandy Gustaveson, Utah Public Employees' Association  
Mr. Brad Hardesty, Utah Association of Retired Public Employees  
Ms. Tina McMullin, Utah Education Association  
Judge Kara Pettit, Utah Judicial Council

**Staff Participating in Person:**

Mr. Dan Andersen, Executive Director  
Mr. Ryan Ashcraft, Retirement Planning Director  
Mr. Daniel Boster, Defined Contribution Director  
Mr. Mark Cain, Deputy Executive Director  
Mr. Kory Cox, URS Association and Stakeholder Liaison  
Ms. Liza Eves, Senior Associate General Counsel  
Mr. Dee Larsen, General Counsel  
Ms. LuAnn Miskin, Executive Assistant  
Ms. Stacey Nielsen, Retirement Benefits Director  
Ms. Stacie Petersen, Executive Assistant

**Staff Participating via Video Conferencing:**

Mr. Rob Dolphin, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. James Hammer, Employer Services Director  
Mr. Chet Loftis, PEHP Director

**Welcome**

Chair Marty Peterson called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. and welcomed Council members, staff, and guests.

## Approval of Minutes

Chair Marty Peterson asked for approval of the September 11, 2023, Membership Council Meeting minutes.

**ACTION:** Mr. Larry Millward moved, seconded by Ms. Amy Ehresman, to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2023, Membership Council Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## Report from Member Organizations

Chair Marty Peterson asked staff, guests, and Council members to introduce themselves and the Council Members to provide a report from their organizations. He reported that the firefighters are hoping to influence how the funds from the reduction in the Tier 1 employer contribution rate will be used.

Ms. Heather Anderson stated that they have discussed the impact of the required FY25 Tier 2 employee contribution on employers and employees. Right now, they are leaning towards the employer being able to choose whether or not to pick up the employee contribution.

Mr. Zane Woolstenhulme recently had a meeting with superintendents regarding reduction in rates and the requirement for employees to pay the 0.7% increase. Superintendents want to work with the legislature to increase the employer contribution rate limit to cover the employee portion.

Mr. Rod Hurd reported that the employee contribution rate increase may be an issue. They will be discussing how to address the issue in their next meeting.

Ms. Sheri Dearden stated that they have not decided on how they want to resolve the employee contribution rate increase. They will be meeting in November.

## 2024 Legislation Update

Mr. Dee Larsen explained the difference between employer pick-up and employer contribution rate limits. Mr. Larsen and Mr. Kory Cox reviewed the following bill requests:

- Employee Contribution Rate Amendments
- Infertility Treatment Coverage Amendments
- Phased Retirement Extension
- Postretirement Reemployment Modifications
- Utah State Retirement Systems Revisions
- Joint Resolution Regarding Local Government Employee Compensation
- Utah Retirement System Amendments
- Cybersecurity Training Requirements for State Employees
- State Employees Leave Amendments
- Public Safety and Firefighter Retirement Death Benefits

Chair Marty Peterson reminded all to bring questions to the committee to discuss ideas with Mr. Dee Larsen and Mr. Kory Cox.

### **Director's Report**

Mr. Dan Andersen reviewed a 20-year Gallup graph on Retiree's Reality and Nonretirees' Expectation of Comfortable Living in Retirement which showed consistently for the past 20 years about 80% of retirees feel they are living comfortably versus a decline from 60% to 43% of nonretirees feeling they will be financially secure in retirement. He emphasized the role that URS plays in providing financial retirement security as well as peace of mind to active employees. He reminded council members to communicate this to their organizations and employees. He also encouraged them to provide feedback on how URS can help in that effort.

### **URS Membership Council Charter Updates**

Mr. Kory Cox reviewed the changes to the Membership Council charter.

**ACTION:** Mr. Larry Millward moved, seconded by Ms. Heather Anderson, to approve the changes to the Membership Council charter as discussed. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Zane Woolstenhulme thanked Ms. LuAnn Miskin for her service and wished her well in retirement.

### **Adjournment**

**ACTION:** Ms. Heather Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

The next Membership Council Meeting will be on November 6, 2023, at 12 noon. This will be a hybrid meeting.