

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 20, 2024 - FINAL



TRUSTEE AND STAFF ATTENDANCE

In Attendance	Dennis Lawson, Chair – Central Pierce Fire and Rescue (Retired)
In Attendance	Jason Granneman, Vice Chair – Clark County Sheriff’s Office
In Attendance	Mark Johnston – Vancouver Fire Department (Retired)
Teleconference	AJ Johnson – Snohomish County Fire District #1
In Attendance	Senator Jeff Holy – WA State Senator
Absent	Tarina Rose-Watson – Spokane International Airport Police Department
Absent	Wolf Opitz – Pierce County
In Attendance	Pat McElligott – East Pierce County Fire and Rescue
In Attendance	Representative Steve Bergquist – WA State Representative
In Attendance	Darell Stidham – Spokane County Sheriff’s Office (Retired)
In Attendance	Jay Burney – City of Olympia
In Attendance	Steve Nelsen – Executive Director
Teleconference	Tim Valencia – Deputy Director
In Attendance	Chloe Drawsby – Executive Assistant
In Attendance	Jessie Jackson – Administrative Services Manager
Absent	Tammy Sadler – Lead Benefits Ombudsman
In Attendance	Jacob White – Senior Research and Policy Manager
Absent	Jessica Burkhart – Benefits Ombudsman
In Attendance	Karen Durant – Senior Research and Policy Manager
In Attendance	Tor Jernudd – Assistant Attorney General

Call to Order

The LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board met in the Washington State Investment Board conference room in Olympia, Washington on November 20, 2024. A quorum of the members was present at this meeting.

Chair Dennis Lawson called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and requested those present to take a moment of silence to honor those who had fallen since the last the meeting.

1. Approval of September and October Minutes

The minutes from the September and October 2024 meetings are before the Board for consideration.

ACTION | It was moved to approve the board meeting minutes from September and October 2024. Motion seconded. The Board approved the minutes without objection.

2. DRS Annual Update

Shawn Merchant, Legislative and Community Relations Director for the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) gave an annual update to the Board. No actions was taken by the Board at today’s meeting.

3. CEM Update

Mark Feldhausen, Budget and Performance Management Director for the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) gave an annual CEM presentation to the Board. No action was taken at today’s meeting.

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4. WSIB Annual Update

Allyson Tucker, Chief Executive Officer and James Aber, Institutional Relations Director for the Washington State Investment Board (WSIB) presented an annual update to the Board. No action was taken by the Board.

5. 2025 Board Meeting Calendar Adoption

Chloe Drawsby, Executive Assistant proposed dates for the 2025 board meeting calendar at the October 2024 meeting. At today's meeting the 2025 meeting calendar is before the Board for adoption.

ACTION | It was moved to approve the 2025 board meeting calendar as presented. Motion seconded. The Board adopted the 2025 meeting calendar without objection.

6. Part-time Fire Fighter Employment – Comprehensive

Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager gave a comprehensive report to the Board regarding part-time fire fighter employment. Mr. White gave an initial presentation to the Board in July.

Options before the Board:

1. Motion for final briefing on policy option 1: Make part-time fire fighters eligible for LEOFFF 2
2. Motion for final briefing on policy option 2: Make part-time fire fighter employment eligible for LEOFF 2, if the position is filled with an active LEOFF 2 member and the position would otherwise be eligible for LEOFF 2 if it were full-time
3. No action
4. Push issue to next interim for further data gathering

ACTION | The Board motioned to adopt option #4; push issue to next interim to gather more data. Motion was seconded. The Board adopted option #4 without objection.

7. Salary Setting Responsibility

Karen Durant, Senior Research and Policy Manager presented to the Board regarding a salary setting responsibility follow up from last month. The Board will be presented with more information at the December board meeting.

Possible Executive Session – The Board held executive session to discuss the performance of a public employee. Executive session was announced to begin at 12:00 p.m. and end at 12:20 p.m., by Chair Lawson. Members of the public attending the meeting online were directed to a virtual breakout room and in person attendees were asked to leave the conference room.

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ACTION

It was moved to increase the salaries of three staff members, the Deputy Director and the two Senior Research and Policy Manager positions. The Deputy Director was given a 15% performance raise, and the Senior Research and Policy Managers received a 12% performance raise as of January 1, 2025. Motion was seconded. Motion was approved without objection.

8. Public Comment

The LEOFF 2 Board welcomes public comment in advance of all meetings and has posted instructions on its website for the submission of written comments. The Board received no public comment to discuss at today's meeting. No action was taken.

9. Admin Update

Steve Nelsen, Executive Director gave a monthly admin update to the Board regarding stakeholder outreach, fiduciary education, and agency updates. Mr. Nelsen reported a quarterly budget update to the Board. No action was taken by the Board at today's meeting.

10. Possible Executive Session

The Board held executive session to review the performance of a public employee and for the purpose of reviewing possible litigation. Chair Lawson announced that executive session was to take place at 12:38 p.m. and commence at 1:00 p.m. Members of the virtual public were directed to a virtual breakout room and in person attendees were asked to leave the conference room. No action was taken during executive session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board is scheduled for December 18, 2024 at the Washington State Investment Board located at 2100 Evergreen Park Drive S.W. Olympia, WA 98502.