

**EDUCATION MINNESOTA RETIRED
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Education Minnesota Headquarters, 41 Sherburne Avenue, St. Paul
(Meeting in Conference Room I)*

DATE: Monday, November 14, 2016 • 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Present: President Larry Koenck, Vice President Julie Jagusch, Past President Walt Munsterman, Treasurer Lynette Wayne, Secretary Lowell Ueland, Ed Mikulich - 1, Cathy Stringfield – 1, Wes Hanna - 2, Jerry Klebs - 2, Bonnie Herman – 3, Sharon Kjellberg - 4, Myrna Doran - 5, Lois Wendt - 5, Warren Misiewicz - 6, Joan Beaver – 6, Charles Hellie - 7, John Lipke - 7, Jan Cummings - 8, Sandy Skaar – At Large, Lori Nord At Large, Boy Toy

Other: Betty Toy (Cmte Mbr), Matt Blewett (Retired Staff Liaison), Christine Thornborrow (Retired Staff Liaison), Marty Zins (TRA Rep), Jim Hagger (Legislative Staff), Shelly McDonald (ESI)

Not Present: Jean Scheu – 3, Bobby Margo – 8

A quorum is present.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by **President, Larry Koenck**

Items to be added to the Agenda:

Under Old Business – Grant Committee

Adoption of the May 18, 2015 Agenda: Motion by Ed Mikulich, second by, Sharon Kjellberg to accept the agenda with flexibility. Motion approved.

Approval of the February 23, 2015 Minutes: Motion by Sharon Kjellberg, second by Charles Hellie to approve the minutes as presented with corrections. Motion approved.

Financial Report: The Financial Report was presented by Lynette Wayne with discussion. (See Green Sheet in Folder) Motion by Sharon Kjellberg, second by Julie Jagusch to receive and file the Financial Report. Motion passed.

Officer Reports:**President: President Larry Koenck** reported on:

- EdMN-R Members worked in Elections
- Spent time on elections, but was limited due to health issues

Vice President: Julie Jagusch reported on:

- Hosted Fall Conference at Ruttger's replacing Larry due to health issues
- Meeting of Finance Cmte and Grant Cmte at Ruttger's
- AFL-CIO meeting in Duluth
- Travels

Treasurer: Lynette Wayne - Financial report was given earlier in the meeting – Finance and Grant Cmte meetings at Ruttger's**Secretary: Lowell Ueland** – reported on: Lessons learned on elections in CD7 – Not good**TRA: Marti Zins** – See attached report – Noted that Pensions are essential to teacher recruitment**Education Minnesota Officer Liaison: Rodney Rowe (Education Minnesota Secretary-Treasurer)** – Paul Mueller filled in and reported on:

- Elections
- Comey's "Bombshells"
- Hillary Clinton won popular vote with over 2 million plus votes
- Lots of challenges
- EdMN has 18 members in the Legislature
- 80% of Local Levies passed

Legislative Report – James Hagger reported on:

- Election results – there was much discussion on the report

Education Minnesota – Retired Staff Liaison: Christine Thornborrow – Reported:

- Recruiting new retired members

Old Business:

1. 2016 Fall Conference at Ruttger's – Lois Wendt:
 - Evaluations were good with sessions receiving 4s and 5s – will have finished for next meeting
 - Will meet with committee to begin planning for 2017
 - 2017 Conference will be at Ruttger's on September, 11 thru 13, 2017

- There will be some new sessions
2. 2016 Fall Breakfast Update – Lois Wendt:
 - 30 People in attendance
 3. Grant Committee - Lynette Wayne
 - Special Meeting at Ruttger's, Re: Grant Request from Wes Hanna's local retired group organizing effort
 - \$500.00 was granted for that request
 - Wes Hanna spoke to need for funding his local retired group – Steering Committee in place and working on effort
 - By-laws speak to organizing locals, but may not meet the needs of organizing retired locals
 - Grant Committee needs to address the issues and make recommendations – a work in progress

New Business

1. Elections Update – Boy Toy
 - Ballots will be out on 11-22-2016
 - Ballots will be returned on 21-22-2016
 - Ballots will be counted on 1-4 -2017
 - Only one board position contested
2. NEA Retired Conference
 - March, 21-23, 2017
3. Political Conference (REAM organizing 2017 Conference) – Chuck Hellie
 - Reported on planning, etc. for the 2017 Political Conference
4. Exhibit Volunteers
 - Workshops covered for November
 - Workshops in Jan-Feb need volunteers
 - Emails will be sent requesting volunteer
5. TRA Update - Walt Munsterman
 - TRA to meet Wednesday to determine number of dollars to be include in governor's budget
 - Recommendation to TRA Board the following: Walt Munsterman moved, seconded by Joan Beaver to make following recommendation Education Minnesota Retired Position on TRA Legislative Proposals for 2017

Repeat the provisions of the 2016 proposal, including

1. Lower the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for retired beneficiaries to one percent annually for five years, to be followed by a 1.75 percent COLA;
2. Eliminate the trigger mechanism to automatically raise COLAs;

3. Increase employer contribution rate to 8.5 percent, phased in;
4. Change the amortization period to 30 years.

In addition, Education Minnesota Retired supports a provision to allow the TRA board to monitor the pension fund and make necessary adjustments, including assumption rates and COLAS.

We are also concerned that allocated funds from the state to school districts be designated specifically for pension contributions on an ongoing basis.

Motion passed

6. Membership Discussion - Christine Thornborrow
 - Reported on Retired membership – numbers looking up, need more to sign-up
 - Close to 7,000 which would mean another member to the retired delegation.
 - Membership recommendations will be given at the February 2017 Board meeting

Congressional District Reports:

- District 1: Ed Mikulich – Reported on: Political activity in CD1 – a mixture of results
- District 1: Kathy Stringfield – Reported: Political activity in CD1 – Red area for this election in the legislature
- District 2: Wes Hanna - Reported on: Political activity in CD2 – Jason Lewis won -bad news
- District 2: Jerry Klebs – Reported: Political activity in CD 2
- District 3: Bonnie Herman – Reported: Political activity in CD3 – better than most
- District 3: Jean Scheu – No Report - Absent
- District 4: Sharon Kjellberg – Reported on: Political activity in CD4 – Dems won out
- District 4: Judy Rohde – Reported: Political activity in CD4
- District 5: Myrna Doran – Reported: Political activity in CD5 – all Dems won – Reported on AFL-CIO Council
- District 5: Lois Wendt – Reported on: Political activity in CD5 – Elison won – pretty much a Democratic district
- District 6: Joan Beaver – Reported on: Political activity in CD6 – Emmer won
- District 6: Warren Misiewicz – Reported on: Political activity in CD6
- District 7: Charles Hellie – Reported on: Political activity in CD7
- District 7: John Lipke – Reported on: Political activity in CD7 – handed out written report
- District 8: Roberta Margo – No Report - absent
- District 8: Jan Cummings – Reported on: Political activity in CD8 – Pretty Red
- At Large: Sandy Skaar – No Report

- At Large: Lori Nord – No Report

Standing Committees Reports:

1. Finance: Lynette Wayne – Reported Earlier
2. Membership: Judy Rohde – Reported on new business item previously
3. Program: Lois Wendt – Committee to meet Thursday, January 19th to begin 2017 planning
4. Communications: Myrna Doran – Committee to meet Thursday, January 19, 2017 – mailing problems – talked about website
5. Resolutions: Sharon Kjellberg – Passed out Statement of Principles to be presented at annual meeting for adoption
6. Nominations and Elections: Boy Toy, Betty Toy –Reported earlier
7. Governmental Relations: Joan Beaver – Focus to work with both parties – REAM to host 2017 Legislative Conference
8. Professional Advocacy: Judy Rhode – Focus on staff development

Special Committees Reports:

1. Local Chapters: Chuck Hellie –Reported on Northfield organizing
2. By-laws Committee: Walt Munstermann – Rework by-laws, etc.

Adjournment:

Lois Wendt moved, second by Sharon Kjellberg to adjourn. Motion passed

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Announcements: None

Future Board Meeting Dates:

- February 13, 2017 – Board Meeting
- April 21, 2017 – Retired Annual Meeting
- May 15, 2017 - Board Meeting
- Annual 2017 Conference will be at Ruttger's on September, 11 thru 13, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,
Lowell Ueland, Secretary

