

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD
100 North Park Avenue, Room 201
Helena MT 59601

CLOSED MEETING
Thursday, April 10, 2025
10:15 am

ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees

Maggie Peterson, President
Rich Hickel, Vice President
Terry Halpin, Member (*via video conference*)
Doug Kary, Member
Jason Strouf, Member
Sonja Woods, Member

MPERA Staff

William Holahan, Executive Director
Hollie Resler, Deputy Director and Fiscal Services Bureau Chief
Nick Domitrovich, Chief Legal Counsel
Jade Herrera, Benefits Specialist Supervisor
Kelly Winterburn-Cox, Network Administrator
Cynthia Pearson, Executive Assistant

Public

SRS Member L.B. and Spouse
PERS Member S.L. (*via video conference*)

ACTIONS

I. Consent Agenda

- Member Doug Kary moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Vice President Rich Hickel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. Disability Denials

- Member Doug Kary moved to deny the disability claims of SRS member D.H. and SRS member A.O., as presented. Member Jason Strouf seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Member Jason Strouf moved to award full disability benefits to SRS member P.T., with a review to be conducted in one year. Member Sonja Woods seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. Contested Cases

- Informal Consideration: Member Jason Strouf moved that the Board uphold staff recommendation to deny the disability claim of SRS member L.B., with a re-evaluation of the case—including newly submitted information from the claimant—to be conducted by third-party medical examiner (MMRO). Member Sonja Woods seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- Proposed Final Order: Vice President Rich Hickel moved to uphold staff recommendation to adopt the hearing examiner's proposed decision, with the rejection of conclusion of law #15. Member Doug Kary seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.