Rutledge new chair, Howard new vice chair PERS Board of Trustees

Dr. Brian Rutledge, University of Mississippi Medical Center chief of staff, has transitioned from vice chair to chair of the Board of Trustees of the Public Employees’ Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) for fiscal year 2020, which began July 1.

At the Board’s June 25 meeting, Rutledge, the Board’s institutions of higher learning employee representative, became chair for fiscal year 2020, succeeding Kelly Breland, director of the Bureau of Administration for the Mississippi Department of Mental Health.

Chris Howard, executive director of the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services and one of the Board’s two state employee representatives, was elected by the Board to serve as the new vice chair.

The chair presides at board meetings, appoints members of board committees, and can call special meetings. The vice chair transitions to chair after one year and serves as chair when the current chair is absent.

The 10-member Board includes the state Treasurer, a gubernatorial appointee who is a member of PERS, two retirees, two state employees, and one representative each of public schools and community colleges, institutions of higher learning, counties and municipalities. With the exception of the state Treasurer and the gubernatorial appointee, board members are elected to staggered six-year terms.

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