PERS

Special Called Telephonic Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, June 16, 2026
10:00 A.M.

I. **Call to Order** *(Board Chairman Bill Benson)*

II. **SPB Requirement- Personnel Matters**

III. **Adjourn**

The PERS board room on the fourth floor of 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS, will be open to any member of the public who wishes to attend this meeting.

Board Members:
Mr. Bill Benson, *Board Chair*
Mr. George Dale, *Board Vice Chair*
Mr. Kelly Breland
Mr. Chris Graham
Ms. Kim Hanna
Dr. Randy McCoy
State Treasurer David McRae
Dr. Brian Rutledge
Dr. Jay Smith
Mr. Terrance Yarbrough

MINUTES | BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Special Called Telephonic Meeting | Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi
June 16, 2026 | PERS Board Room and Live Streamed via YouTube

The Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) Board of Trustees met telephonically Tuesday, June 16, 2026. This meeting was duly announced to the public Monday, June 15, 2026, at 10:19 a.m., on the Public Meetings Notice website of the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration, as well as was posted in the PERS lobby, on the PERS website, and on the PERS YouTube Channel. (**Note:** Due to technical difficulties, only video was captured during the live stream of the meeting on YouTube. However, a separate audio-only file from the meeting was posted to YouTube for archival and reference purposes.)

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES
In Person: Mr. George Dale.
Via Teleconference: Board Chair Mr. Bill Benson, Mr. Kelly Breland, Ms. Kimberly Hanna, Dr. Randy McCoy, State Treasurer David McRae, Dr. Brian Rutledge, and Mr. Terrance Yarbrough.
Absent: Mr. Chris Graham Dr. Jay Smith

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON ATTENDEES
In Person: None.

STAFF ATTENDEES
In Person: Executive Director Ray Higgins; Deputy Director Administrative Services Melanie Estridge; Human Resources Director Kirista Anderson; Chief Technology Officer Mike Lowry; Billy Means and Philip West, Information Technology; and Communications Director Shelley Powers.
Via Teleconference: Member and Employer Services Deputy Director Mason Frantom and Benefit Services Deputy Director Lisa Green.

GUEST ATTENDEES
Via Teleconference: Assistant Attorney General Emily Sheppard.

CALL TO ORDER
Board Chair Benson called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

AGENDA
- **Motion:** To approve the meeting agenda.
  - **Made by:** McRae.
  - **Seconded by:** Breland.
  - **Discussion:** None.
  - **Voting for:** Benson, Breland, Dale, Hanna, McCoy, McRae, Rutledge, and Yarbrough.
  - **Voting against:** None.
  - **Absent:** Graham and Smith.
  - **Duly Passed.**

PERSONNEL MATTERS
SPB Requirements – Personnel Matters
Higgins presented the Board with a matter concerning salary adjustments across many positions throughout the agency. Because Higgins is resigning from PERS to pursue a new opportunity, the Mississippi State Personnel Board (MSPB) agency has paused the transactions. A motion from the Board is needed to continue moving forward.

- **Motion:** To approve the salary adjustments as previously authorized by the executive director and entered by the PERS Human Resources staff.
  - **Made by:** McCoy.
  - **Seconded by:** Hanna.
  - **Discussion:** There was brief discussion on whether action was needed now on the future executive director position.
  - **Voting for:** Benson, Breland, Dale, Hanna, McCoy, McRae, Rutledge, and Yarbrough.
  - **Voting against:** None.
  - **Absent:** Graham and Smith.
  - **Duly Passed.**

ADJOURN
Benson called the meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. Ray Higgins, Jr.
Executive Director
Public Employees' Retirement System

Bill Benson
Jun 26, 2026 11:48 AM CDT
Bill Benson
Chair
PERS Board of Trustees

HRH