Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System Minutes of the Legislative Committee Meeting April 3, 2024

The Legislative Committee of the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System held a meeting on <u>Wednesday</u>, April 3, 2024, at the system's office at 7722 Office Park Boulevard in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Major Raymond Burkart, Jr. at 9:10 a.m.

B. Roll Call

Members Present

Major Raymond Burkart, Jr, Chairman Mayor Greg Cromer Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson Lt. (Retired) Chad King

Members Absent

Others Present

Mr. Benjamin Huxen II, MPERS Executive Director and General Counsel

Ms. Emily Thurston, Accountant

Ms. Melissa Frazier, MPERS, Benefits Administrator

Mr. Greg Curran - Curran Actuarial Consulting, Actuary

Ms. Sheri Morris - Daigle, Fisse, & Kessenich

Ms. Taylor Camp, MPERS, Chief Financial Officer (Virtual)

Ms. Ashlee McNeely, Executive Management Officer (Virtual)

Ms. Brooke LeBeouf, MPERS (Virtual)

Ms. Karen Correll, MPERS Membership Analyst (Virtual)

Ms. Christie Ziadeh, MPERS Benefits Analyst (Virtual)

Mr. David Barnes, NEPC, Investment Consultant (Virtual)

Mr. Robert Gauss, Ice Miller, Outside Fiduciary and Tax Counsel (Virtual)

Chief David Addison, MPERS Trustee

Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., MPERS Trustee

Mr. Craig Cassagne, Commissioner of Administration Designee

Asst. Chief Jason DiMarco, MPERS Trustee

Mr. Julius Roberson, State Treasurer Designee

Lt. Tyrone Warren, MPERS Trustee

Chief Christopher Wilne MPERS Trustee

Chief Christopher Wilrye, MPERS Trustee

Mayor Gerard Landry, MPERS Board member (Virtual)

Mr. Joey David, House Retirement Committee, Legislative Analyst (Virtual)

Mr. Patrick Cronin, RMI

Mr. Rick Allen, Mayor of Leesville

Mr. Richard Williams, LMA

C. Public Comment

Public comment was made by Mr. Rick Allen, Mayor of Leesville.

Mr. Allen stated that he had reviewed over 200 pages of emails related to the issues and that he had been working with Richard Williams of LMA and Patrick Cronin of RMI to try to come up with solutions. He added that negotiations are made more difficult with litigation and legislation ongoing. He discussed HB42 and SB412 on venue. The primary focus is to create a 3-year prescriptive period, so we don't go back 15 years. He discussed the finances of towns involved. He stated that they were on the same team and both sides need to come up with a solution and meet in the middle.

Mr. Allen pledged to work with LMA and MPERS to resolve the outstanding issues regarding the litigation by MPERS. Mr. Allen stated that they are asking MPERS to extend the original date of April 5th to June 30th to get data to MPERS. He stated they are asking this because RMI will be sending a letter to every municipality that owes, or allegedly owes, that has not produced the records that MPERS has requested. Mr. Allen stated that they will notify them in writing that they have until June 30th to provide the information to MPERS, and if they do not, they will not receive free legal counsel from RMI. He added that RMI had spent \$275,000 in litigation to this point. Additionally, he stated that LMA was willing to have a resolution provided to MPERS from their Board that says if this ever happens again and a municipality is not in compliance and will not respond to requests for data, they will be notified by LMA in writing and have 30 days to respond or they will not be represented by RMI legal counsel. Mr. Allen stated that to negotiate with these municipalities, they need to get them to the table. He stated that this would get them to the table with the data MPERS has requested and that will allow MPERS to get the figure each owes. Once that figure is determined, negotiations can then start on a case-by-case basis. Mayor Allen stated that this will not immediately solve all the problems but could eliminate problems in the future and give an opportunity to get these municipalities to the table, get the data requested, and begin the negotiations to solve the problem. He then stated that the email circulated by MPERS insinuating that LMA wishes to defund the police needs to be retracted because that is not true.

Major Burkart asked why these cities have not at least gone on record saying they would begin paying today. He stated that he has gotten phone calls from people in New Orleans. Mayor Allen stated that he believes that when the municipalities find out about RMl's plan to remove free legal counsel, they will not be able to afford not to comply. Mayor Cromer welcomed Mayor Landry online and Mayor Allen and addressed how mayors respond to demands for money. He stated that the LMA proposal was levelheaded. He said that some of these communities won't have records going back that far. Mayor Cromer stated that this plan would force these municipalities to comply. Mayor Allen stated that the majority of these municipalities have too little funds in unrestricted surplus to pay

the amounts owed. He stated that this was not going to be easy, and it would have to be looked at case by case. Major Burkart stated that he understood the issues with the past but that towns needed to enroll officers going forward. Mayor Allen stated that the key was to not let it get this far in the future.

Chief Edwin Bergeron stated that he thinks MPERS should negotiate the back end, and help these people get current. He stated that getting current means they must enroll their people. He stated that they have worked with them on the back end, and given multiple extensions, but they continue to not enroll their people. He stated that the Board is willing to negotiate on the back amounts owed, but this is about the future of the system also. Chief Bergeron said we still don't have anyone saying the mayors for the cities are going to become compliant today.

After a long discussion with good questions by the MPERS board members, it appeared there could be a compromise.

D. Approval of the March 20, 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion by Lt. (Retired) Chad King, seconded by Mayor Greg Cromer, to approve the minutes of the meeting held March 20, 2024. Without objection, the motion carried.

E. New Business

1. Discussion and Action Regarding Legislation for the 2024 Regular Session

a. House Bill No. 14 by Rep. Dewitt

Will be heard on Friday. Mr. Huxen stated that he sent the requested changes to the author and that the committee did not need to take action since they had done so at the last meeting.

b. House Bill No. 15 by Rep. Fontenot

Like House Bill 14, no action was needed.

c. House Bill No. 36 by Rep. Bacala

Mr. Huxen and the committee discussed the amendments recommended in addition to what was approved at the last meeting. Mr. Huxen stated that LMA wanted an increase in the minimum monthly salary for elected chiefs of police from \$1,000 to \$2,500. He stated that he would be fine with the increase if MPERS came to an agreement with LMA on the total proposal, but otherwise he would not recommend it.

Mr. Huxen stated that MPERS learned in the prior month's meeting that the current law on opt-out affidavits violates federal law because you

cannot have an extended period when a member can opt-out at any time. It must be no more than a 30 or 60 day window for opt-out. For employees (like those from Cheneyville) that had not enrolled, the law should say that if you did not opt-out within the 30 or 60 day window, you can no longer opt out. Mr. Gauss commented that 30 days would be preferred and once an employee has missed that deadline they ought to be in the plan. Also, their decision on whether to opt-out stays with them for as long as they are employed by that employer. Mayor Cromer stated that 30 days was recommended but asked if 60 was allowed. Mr. Gauss stated that his firm had gotten permission for 60 days in a Private Letting Ruling (PLR) from IRS. He stated that if the Board wanted to be completely safe, they could seek their own PLR, but otherwise he stated that they could rely on the information that he had provided. Mayor Cromer suggested that the system get a Private Letter Ruling. Mr. Gauss stated that the current filing fee is \$30,000 and the process takes about a year.

The committee discussed whether they would have to adopt a 30 day rule until receiving the PLR. Ms. Morris asked if the law could state 30 days, or the period approved by the IRS in a PLR. Mr. Gauss stated that if 60 days were preferred, the law could state 30 days, or 60 days if approved by the IRS, because that language would not be seen as a hypothetical by IRS.

Mr. Huxen stated that current law allows members who were not enrolled to opt out but asked Mr. Gauss if the new law said something different. Mr. Gauss stated that the law could disallow opt-outs if it was not done within 30 days of employment or at most the law could give 30 days from the effective date of the new law for opt-outs with the door then closing.

Mr. Huxen stated that the next item related to LMA's statement that they were opposed to making MPERS participation contingent on a particular dollar value or a percentage of fines or fees in a municipality. Mr. Huxen stated that if MPERS and LMA could agree on a total package, he would be fine with getting rid of that.

Mr. Huxen stated that the LMA would strike the entirety of item 3(a-h) in the MPERS proposal. This item included requiring life insurance for officers who opt-out because there have been officers killed in the line of duty and survivors did not receive benefits because they were not enrolled in MPERS. The issue is bigger than just retirement benefits. If there was an agreement on a total package, this could be removed. Mr. Huxen stated that he did not believe that they could agree to removing item b, because if employers cannot agree to it then they are not admitting the problem. Item b requires a chief of police or mayor to sign an affidavit specifying that they did not influence the officer who opted out and proving that the benefits were budgeted. He added that if they cannot do that, then affidavits should be removed.

Major Burkart asked if other police systems had members opt out and not be covered by survivor benefits or insurance. Mr. Huxen stated that NCPERS had not heard of another state allowing this. Major Burkart suggested that this be told to the committee.

Mr. Huxen mentioned that in a conversation with Representative Bacala, it was discussed that affidavits should be phased out over three years. This would give everyone notice of the change. The committee discussed the dangers of traffic stops and how officers are used to generate revenue.

Mr. Huxen stated that they could agree with getting rid of item d. Item e suggests not allowing opt-out for employees with at least five years of service credit in MPERS who subsequently become employed by an employer on the affidavit opt-out list. This would keep those employees who are on their way to vesting from losing benefits.

Item f related to employees killed in the line of duty with survivors who did not receive a benefit because they weren't enrolled. The item would require the employer to make actuarially required payments to their survivors. LMA did not agree to this item.

Item g would require employers to enroll officers and purchase back service for those who were vested and subsequently pressured into opting out within the last ten years. LMA did not agree to this item.

Item h is not needed if the ability to file affidavits is gotten rid of in three years.

Mr. Huxen clarified details related to item f. He added that the change in venue would have to go. He added that the committee should not favor LMA's requested changes on seeking funds from the Treasurer.

Ms. Morris stated that some of the concessions like raising the salary to mandatorily enroll chiefs of police should be viewed in terms of the entire package because they only make sense if the 3-year prescription, venue change, and seeking money from the Treasurer were removed. Those three items restrict MPERS' ability to avoid litigation. If it takes a year to litigate, the amount owed continues to grow which makes it harder for the municipality to pay. Reporting to the Treasurer has made some municipalities pay attention. Many of the delinquency suits have been continued and the amount owed has grown.

Major Burkart asked if these bills affected other pension systems. Ms. Morris answered that the bills only affected MPERS. Major Burkart asked why, if it was best practice, it only affects MPERS. Mr. Huxen stated that it was meant to reduce the MPERS board's ability to file lawsuits against municipalities. Ms. Morris stated that it would limit their ability to work through the lawsuits. She gave the example that coming up there were

three hearings scheduled for one day in the 19th JDC. This is more efficient for MPERS but would not occur under the venue change. The venue change would require the system staff, attorneys, and actuary to travel to the different judicial districts. Ms. Morris described the status of previous hearings on venue and stated that there were currently five cases where venue was being litigated. The legislation is aimed at eliminating all of those. Ms. Morris stated that the cases so far filed would have been in approximately 20 parishes. She added that she did not believe that the legislation would affect the venue of ongoing cases.

Mr. Huxen stated that if the proposed bill were to become law it would result in additional lawsuits being filed because of the bill. Ms. Morris stated that if prescription changes were passed, MPERS would be required to assert all of the claims that they have right away.

Major Burkart asked if other systems had these problems. Mr. Huxen and Ms. Morris answered that they did not and stated that the affidavits were the problem.

Chief Westlake asked if any other systems had opt-out provisions like MPERS. Mr. Huxen stated that the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS) was the only one but highlighted the use of volunteer departments in the smallest municipalities as one reason that they don't have the same problem as MPERS. He highlighted a similar issue that FRS was having with Amite. He stated that other plans had fewer issues because they had mandatory membership.

Mayor Cromer stated that he had discussed some of this with LMA. He stated that he believed that LMA wanted to ensure that the Board approved before staff certified amounts to the Treasurer. He stated that on prescription, the idea was to facilitate settlements. He stated that so far, the settlements had not been larger than the amounts under a 3-year prescription period. He added that with it, MPERS could wind up with larger settlements. He stated that he didn't think that venue was a big issue.

Major Burkart made comments about the process of getting records in these cases. He suggested records like W2s could be used. He stated that a lot of this was revisiting issues that occurred in the 1970s.

Mayor Allen commented that the group was getting into decisions that are supposed to be made by employees. He stated if a small municipality has four officers and are mandated to budget for retirement on all of them, they will have to cut one officer to afford benefits on the other three. He added that once MPERS receives the documents, they will be able to see what they can afford. He stated that municipalities were going to see MPERS and LMA standing side by side and understand that the organizations were going to work on this together.

Major Burkart and Mayor Allen discussed the need to generate new sources of revenue.

Chief Bergeron asked if the June 30th date would be a problem with cities that have a June 30 fiscal year end. Ms. Morris stated that the date was extended so that municipalities that did not have amounts budgeted in the current fiscal year could put amounts in their upcoming fiscal year budget.

Asst. Chief DiMarco stated that he understood the example of a town with four officers but stated that he did not understand why a town would hire four if they could only afford three. He added that a lot of officers do feel like LMA is trying to defund police because no one is attacking the Sheriffs' system. He added that the problem was related to only a small number of mayors who don't like the law. He stated that in reality those mayors aren't fighting this pension board, they're hurting law enforcement officers and family members.

Asst. Chief DiMarco asked if LMA requires mayors to attend a training like the class required of new chiefs of police. Mayor Allen stated that LMA just created a training course but stated that it was not mandated. He added that they were changing classes at the LMA conventions to be suited to new elected officials. Mayor Allen stated that he believes that when MPERS gets all the information, they will better understand the municipalities' financial situation.

Chief Bergeron asked what will force the municipalities to the table once we have that information. Ms. Morris stated that they had learned a lot from the litigation. She described what MPERS had done in cases where information was not available. With some of the cases currently in litigation MPERS has received the information but the municipalities are still not willing to enroll their officers. She added that until they do, the cost changes with every pay period. She added the 3-year prescription period may make sense for those who have enrolled their officers and only have past due amounts, but that it doesn't make sense for officers employed since 2005 and not enrolled. Ms. Morris stated that information was step 1 and RMI's assistance would be helpful, but every municipality knows their current officers and could enroll them.

Chief Bergeron stated that at the end of the day if a municipality is unwilling to enroll their officers, even with the data, MPERS is going to be in a lawsuit with them. Chief Bergeron asked if RMI would represent those municipalities that turn in the paperwork but do not enroll members. Patrick Cronin from RMI stated that there was no coverage or indemnification for municipalities. The only thing RMI must provide is legal services. He stated that to get RMI legal counsel they were going to have to comply with enrolling officers if they are required to enroll officers. He stated that he did see municipalities that did ignore MPERS. He agreed

that there would be municipalities that would not comply, but that they would be on their own. There is a caveat in the RMI indemnification agreement that requires them to cooperate with the defense and the law. RMI will invoke the failure to cooperate clause and they will be out on their own. RMI wants to help MPERS get the records to calculate what is owed and get their officers enrolled.

The committee discussed with Mr. Cronin getting current officers enrolled. He stated that their defense counsel had been working with approximately 40 municipalities and that they have told them to enroll officers that are required to be enrolled because it will never end if they don't get them enrolled. RMI is starting a process of instructing them to get documentation to MPERS, but it will take on a new level when they don't have a legal backstop to receive legal counsel.

Major Burkart suggested removing the bills and working on a list of the towns that want to work with MPERS and those that won't. Mr. Cronin stated that he would have to work with his legal counsel to discuss how far he could go along those lines. Chief Bergeron stated he supported extending the deadline for municipalities to provide records through June 30th, but wanted those who did not enroll their officers within 30 days to lose the support of RMI legal counsel. Ms. Morris stated that the legislation stands in the way of that idea because if you give them an extension and the legislation passes, the change in venue and prescription changes. That would cost a lot more money to litigate. Ms. Morris reminded the committee that the municipalities that have been sued are the ones that refused to work with MPERS. Others are being treated as claims and have not been sued. Many municipalities involved in litigation have since provided records, some based on court orders. Only one of the RMI client municipalities involved in litigation with MPERS has enrolled officers. Some have opted out.

Chief Bergeron asked if they could be in favor of an agreement with LMA counter to the June 30th extension that if a municipality did not enroll officers within 30 days that they would lose legal representation. Ms. Morris stated that legislation has complicated the litigation and stated that the system may have to act prior to the effective date of the legislation.

Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson asked if LMA would withdraw the legislation that he felt was punitive against the lawsuits filed by MPERS. Lt. (Retired) Chad King stated that the Board was willing to make deals and highlighted twenty plus settlements. He stated that he was fine with an extension to give LMA and RMI time to get the changes up and running. He stated that they would know if a few months if it were working. He stated that they needed to come out with a compromise today that MPERS and LMA will be working together in the future.

Mr. Cronin stated that it would not be dealing with municipalities currently in lawsuits, but those not cooperating in the future. LMA is going to instruct them on how they need to follow the law and assist in training them. Major Burkart stated that MPERS needed a commitment. If LMA is unwilling to pull these bills, the Board is forced to fight and file lawsuits and ultimately the majors are going to pay larger employer contributions and police officers are going to want to leave for the Sheriffs and state police. Asst. Chief DiMarco stated that all this fighting over a small number of municipalities is hurting municipal law enforcement in the state of Louisiana. He added that LMA wasn't hurting the MPERS Board, they were hurting law enforcement. He stated that a handful of mayors who also took an oath don't seem to want to follow the law but want to change it instead because it benefits them. Major Burkart stated that this may cause police unionization to be the next bill.

Mr. Huxen stated that one thing that needs to be discussed is when a small municipality is not paying the money owed and enrolling officers, thus putting the system in jeopardy with the IRS, there ought to be a mechanism in state law that stops the bleeding by requiring the police department to shut down, report all of the information to MPERS, and they make their total dissolution payments.

Asst. Chief DiMarco stated that if the police went to the media to fight this it wouldn't go well for LMA, but they had not done that yet. Chief Wilrye asked Mayor Allen what chance there was to put the legislation on hold until this is worked out. Mayor Allen stated that that would take a full board decision and he would have to discuss it with their attorneys. He stated that he would find out and respond that day.

Mr. Huxen and a couple of Board members asked whether the LMA board approved the legislation, or whether the legislation was brought by a couple of mayors because they knew of many mayors that knew nothing about it. Mayor Cromer and Mayor Landry answered that they were not on the LMA Executive Board. Mayor Allen stated that he would make an effort to get an answer that day and added that there was a leadership change coming to LMA.

Chief Bergeron stated that since the full Board of Trustees was now present, he would prefer to finish the legislative committee meeting without taking action and pick up the conversation with the Board. He stated that he had items he wanted to discuss in executive session. Mr. Huxen stated that the Board could discuss litigation in executive session but could not discuss legislation in executive session.

Mr. Huxen stated that he had discussions with Representative Bacala on House Bill 36. He recommended requesting additional amendments for employees of eligible municipalities opt out affidavits no sooner than the employee becomes eligible nor later than 30 days after. The ability would

be lost forever after that point for IRS purposes. According to tax counsel that would be specific to the employer. If employees file an affidavit to opt out on their first day of employment, no contributions are due. Mr. Huxen recommended also requiring affidavits from the chief of police and mayor swearing that they did not influence the employee to file the affidavit and to show proof that the retirement contributions were budgeted. Mr. Huxen stated that for federal tax purposes it needs to say that opt out is eliminated for employees currently enrolled in MPERS or who were employed before July 1, 2024 if their employer failed to enroll them.

Mr. Huxen stated that he recommended, and Representative Bacala agreed, that they needed to get rid of opt out beginning July 1, 2027. He stated that until MPERS gets rid of affidavits, they will face lawsuits. He suggested that there would be cases where no affidavit is filed in the 30-day window and an employee would then be required to enroll. He stated that municipalities could still refuse to pay.

Motion by Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson, seconded by Lt. (Retired) Chad King, to approve amendments as stated. Without objection, the motion carried.

d. House Bill No. 38 by Rep. Freeman

Mr. Huxen stated that this was the bill for New Orleans. He stated that there was no action needed and no changes to the current position. He added that more information would be coming because he was scheduled to meet with New Orleans the next day.

e. House Bill No. 42 by Reps. Firment and Butler

Mr. Huxen stated that he agreed with Rep. Bacala's recommendation that as a compromise, Representative Firment amend his bill to basically eliminate everything and instead just include a provision regarding prescription. He added that given the complexity he suggested that the committee defer to he and Ms. Morris to draft that amendment. Mr. Huxen also recommended including a 15-year payback period, with applicable interest. He added that the prescription provision would go back to June 30, 2021. Representative Bacala suggested always going back to 2021.

Motion by Mayor Greg Cromer, seconded by Lt. (Retired) Chad King, to adopt the recommendation to the amendment as stated. Without objection, the motion carried.

f. House Bill No. 43 by Rep. Bacala

Mr. Huxen recommended that the committee vote to lower the proposed penalty for employers who do not timely provide a fully completed membership enrollment form, which includes a copy of the birth certificate and social security card for each member and beneficiaries, and a fully completed physical examination form. Mr. Huxen described cases where proper forms are not all provided to MPERS. The current bill has a penalty of \$100 per day with a max of \$2,000 per member. Mr. Huxen recommended lowering that penalty to \$20 per day, with the max still being \$2,000 per member. Mr. Huxen added that members should not be allowed to provide an affidavit until all the forms were completely provided. Mr. Huxen stated that if someone did not opt out on the first day, they would be a member even if only for 30 days. The bill could be amended to clarify that those that opt out on the first day will not be required to provide membership forms.

On page 8, section 227 it says that municipalities with a police officer must report to MPERS the police officers every month. This would mean that MPERS would not have to file lawsuits to get information.

Mr. Richard Williams from LMA stated that on page 5 in the section related to partial dissolution, LMA received comments from smaller municipalities concerned that a decline of 1 employee could trigger the law. Mr. Williams asked if they could do something to help them have time to hire. Mr. Huxen stated that a change to using a ten-year average might take care of this concern. Mr. Williams stated concern that the bill says 20% reduction.

Mr. Curran stated that one of the goals was to move to the ten-year average period instead of using the year-over-year test to give employers time to correct any of these issues. Mr. Curran stated that current law required a drop of at least two members to trigger. Mr. Huxen added that the law required a drop of at least two or a drop to zero. Mr. Curran described the reasons for the change to a ten-year average. He added that the law was changed so that towns had time to avoid paying by increasing their membership levels. Mr. Williams stated that he would like something in the language to state that they have to decrease by at least two to trigger the dissolution. Mr. Curran stated that because it will no longer be a year-over-year test, they could say that the membership level would have to be at least two lower than the ten year average. If the Board is interested, Mr. Curran and Mr. Huxen could find a way to figure that out.

Motion by Lt. (Retired) Chad King, seconded by Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson, to adopt the recommended amendments to House Bill 43. Without objection, the motion carried.

g. House Bill No. 52 by Rep. Firment

The Board already voted to oppose. No action needed unless the committee wanted to change that position.

h. Senate Bill No. 1 by Sen. Price

Passed the full senate and will move to the House Retirement Committee. No action needed.

i. Senate Bill No. 5 by Sen. Miguez

This bill deals with ESG. In its original form would have cost \$4.5 billion. The bill was changed to something that MPERS could live with, but it did not make it out of committee on a 3-3 tie. Mr. Huxen stated that he believed the issue would likely return.

j. Senate Bill No. 329 by Sen. Seabaugh

Already voted to oppose. No change recommended.

k. Senate Bill No. 412 by Sen. Seabaugh

Mr. Huxen recommended that the committee vote to oppose the bill.

Motion by Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson, seconded by Lt. (Retired) Chad King, to recommend opposing Senate Bill 412. Without objection, the motion carried.

Other Legislation

Mr. Huxen discussed House Bill 902. He stated the bill would cost MPERS a lot of money. The bill is regarding proxy voting and specifically mentions votes against management. He recommended opposing the bill and stated he would need more time to fully review it.

Motion by Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson, seconded by Lt. (Retired) Chad King, to recommend opposing House Bill 902. Without objection, the motion carried.

F. Other Business

Lt. (Retired) Chad King asked Richard Williams of LMA to work with Mr. Huxen if some of the negative bills come up. He pointed out that MPERS has shown that they are willing to work with LMA.

G. Adjourn

Motion by Lt. (Retired) Chad King, seconded by Major (Retired) Kelly Gibson, to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m. Without objection, the motion carried.

The next meeting date is May 15, 2024.

To the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes accurately represent the actions taken at the meeting held April 3, 2024.

Major Raymond Burkart, Jr. Legislative Committee Chairman

Ben Huxen,

Executive Director and General Counsel