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In The Matter Of:

*PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' BENEFITS PROGRAM BOARD
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS*

April 7, 2025

*Capitol Reporters
628 E. John St # 3
Carson City, Nevada 89706
775 882-5322*

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PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' BENEFITS PROGRAM BOARD
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
ZOOM/TELEPHONIC MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

The Board: Joy Grimmer, Chairperson
Michelle Kelley, Member
Jim Barnes, Member
Jennifer McClendon, Member
Janell Woodward, Member
Theresa Carsten, Member
Laura Rich, Member
For the Board: Radhika Kunnel
Deputy Attorney General
For Staff: Celestena Glover
Executive Officer
Jessica Crane
Executive Assistant
Nik Proper
Operations Officer
Gideon Davis
Administrator, State Purchasing
Reported by: CAPITOL REPORTERS
Certified Shorthand Reporters
BY: BECKY VAN AUKEN
Nevada CCR #418
628 E. John Street, Suite 3
Carson City, Nevada 89703

(775) 882-5322

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AGENDA ITEM PAGE

- 1. Open Meeting; Roll Call 4
- 2. Public Comment

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on any matter raised under this item unless the matter is included on a future agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Public comments to the Board will be taken under advisement but will not be answered during the meeting. Comments may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson. Additional three-minute comment periods may be allowed on individual agenda items at the discretion of the chairperson. These additional comment periods shall be limited to comments relevant to the agenda item under consideration by the Board. The total time allotted to public comment may be limited to one hour at the discretion of the chairperson. As noted above, members of the public may make public comment by using the call-in number provided above. Persons unable to attend the meeting in person or by telephone and persons whose comments may extend past the three-minute time limit may submit their public comment in writing by uploading your document to the Public Comment Upload Form located under Contact Us on the PEBP website, <https://pebp.nv.gov>, no later than two business days prior to the meeting. If you need ADA accommodation, please let us know by 4:00 p.m. two days before the board meeting so that we may make appropriate arrangements. Persons making public comment need to state and spell their name for the record at the beginning of their testimony.

5

- 3. PEBP Board disclosures for applicable Board meeting agenda items. (Radhika Kunnel, Deputy Attorney General) (Information/Discussion)

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4. Discussion and possible action to rescind and or substitute the Board's November 2024 directive to issue a Request for Proposal for a second medical network to include Carson Tahoe Health providers. A portion of this item may be conducted in a closed session to consult with legal counsel and to allow the Board to prepare a request for a proposal or other solicitation for bids under NRS 287.0415(4). Any action will be in an open meeting in accordance with NRS 287.04345(5), including cancelling the request for proposals, or modifying and reissuing the request for proposals. (Celestena Glover, Executive Officer, Gideon Davis, Administrator, State Purchasing Division) (For Possible Action).	10
5. Discussion and possible action regarding 2025 Legislative Bills that may impact the Public Employees' Benefits Program. (Celestena Glover, Executive Officer) (For possible action)	14
6. Public Comment. Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. Comments may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson. Persons making public comment need to state and spell their name for the record at the beginning of their testimony.	15
7. Adjournment.	17

1 MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025, CARSON CITY, NEVADA

2 -oOo-

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: All right. Good afternoon,
5 everyone. This is the Public Employee Benefit Program meeting
6 on April 7, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. We're conducting this meeting
7 virtually.

8 I'd like to call the meeting to order. Will
9 staff please call the roll.

10 MS. CRANE: Thank you. Starting roll.

11 Board Chair Grimmer.

12 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Present.

13 MS. CRANE: Michelle Kelley.

14 MEMBER KELLEY: Here.

15 MS. CRANE: Jim Barnes.

16 MEMBER BARNES: Here.

17 MS. CRANE: Jennifer McClendon.

18 Okay. Jennifer McClendon seems to be absent.

19 Janell Woodward.

20 MEMBER WOODWARD: Here.

21 MS. CRANE: Betsy Strasburg.

22 Okay. She also seems to be absent.

23 Theresa Carsten.

24 MEMBER CARSTEN: Present.

1 MS. CRANE: Laura Rich.

2 MEMBER RICH: Here.

3 MS. CRANE: All right. Thank you very much. We
4 do have a quorum.

5 Please remember to state and spell your name and
6 speak clearly for our transcriber.

7 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Okay. Thank you.

8 We will move on to Agenda Item Number 2, public
9 comment.

10 Public comment may be taken during this agenda
11 item. No action may be taken on any matter raised under this
12 item unless the matter is included on a future agenda as an
13 item on which action may be taken. Public comments to the
14 Board will be taken under advisement but will not be answered
15 during the meeting. Comments may be limited to three minutes
16 per person.

17 IT, do we have anyone online for public comment?

18 MR. HOPKINS: Yes, we do, Madam Chair. And I'm
19 getting the slide up right now. It looks like we have three
20 in the lobby, and I'll go ahead and make my announcements.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Perfect. Thanks.

22 MR. HOPKINS: If you would like to call in to
23 provide public comment, please dial (669) 900-6833, and when
24 prompted to provide your meeting ID, please enter 86139632374

1 and then press pound. When prompted for the participant ID,
2 please press pound. Joining the Zoom meeting as an attendee
3 is for making public comment only. If you do not wish to make
4 a public comment, please leave the Zoom meeting now so that
5 you are not accidentally called upon.

6 Please feel free to watch it via the YouTube
7 livestream on the PEBP YouTube channel. The link to the
8 livestream is located on the agenda.

9 For those who have joined for public comment,
10 your name or the last four digits of your phone number will be
11 announced and you will have been advised you have been
12 unmuted. Please slowly state and spell your name for the
13 record and then proceed with your comments.

14 Kent Ervin, you have permission to speak. Please
15 slowly state and spell your name for the record.

16 MR. ERVIN: Hello. Kent Ervin, E-r-v-i-n,
17 representing the Nevada Faculty Alliance, the independent
18 association of professional employees at our public colleges
19 and universities statewide.

20 Regarding the legislative update, the NFA
21 continues to oppose AB22 which will remove the authority of
22 the PEBP Board over final approval of contracts, which is a
23 fiduciary duty of the board. We also oppose SB32 which will
24 eliminate the quality control officer from statute. PEBP

1 needs to improve customer service and provide better
2 assistance to participants who have difficulty navigating
3 their benefits among PEBP contractors.

4 NFA strongly supports AB188 which would restore
5 retiree health benefits for State employees hired after 2011.
6 We have provided a fact sheet on AB188 as written public
7 comment. Adding back these benefits with a minimum of
8 15 years of service would, at most, require a modest increment
9 in the fringe rate on State salaries that funds retiree health
10 benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis.

11 At the March meeting, Executive Officer Glover
12 indicated that she could only testify in neutral on bills
13 despite having presented AB22 and SB32 in hearings on behalf
14 of PEBP. However, PEBP's own written Board and agency's
15 duties, policies and procedures document specifies that the
16 PEBP Board has the responsibility over positions on bill:
17 Quote, Board members are entrusted with the responsibility of
18 ensuring efficient administration of the program in accordance
19 with all applicable laws and regulations and shall, among
20 other items, take a position on any proposed legislative
21 matters affecting the program and direct agency employees to
22 make that position known to the legislature. During the
23 legislative session, the Board authorizes the Executive
24 Officer to take a position of neutral on any new bill

1 affecting the program by default. This allows for the rapid
2 response to legislative committee meetings scheduled prior to
3 a Board vote. The Board can revise the default position at
4 the next board meeting, end quote.

5 Thus, the Board -- the PEBP Board not only may
6 take a position on a bill; it is your stated responsibility to
7 do so on bills that affect the program.

8 Board members, if you have not recently reviewed
9 the PEBP duties, policies and procedures manual, I recommend
10 that you do so. It was last revised and published in the
11 Board packet at the January 28, 2021, board meeting.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. HOPKINS: Thank you, Mr. Ervin.

14 Caller with the last four digits 0891, please
15 press *6 to unmute, and please slowly state and spell your
16 name for the record.

17 MS. LAIRD: Good afternoon, Chair Grimmer, fellow
18 Board members, Executive Officer Glover, and PEBP staff. My
19 name, for the record, is Terri Laird, T-e-r-r-i L-a-i-r-d.
20 I'm the executive director at RPEN, Retired Public Employees
21 of Nevada, founded nearly 50 years ago and currently has
22 nearly 7,000 members and 17 chapters statewide.

23 Our team is already on the record opposed to
24 AB22 and SB32 during your last legislative meeting, as well as

1 during initial hearings on both bills, so we do remain opposed
2 to both measures for reasons already mentioned by
3 Dr. Ervin.

4 In regard to the April 15th upcoming PEBP budget
5 hearing, we also remain hopeful that an increase in the health
6 reimbursement arrangements, HRAs, for Medicare retirees in the
7 Medicare exchange will be included during the budget hearing.
8 We tried to get that passed at the last session and were
9 unable to do that, and we're hopeful that that will be
10 considered.

11 Additionally, we wholeheartedly support AB188
12 from Assembly Member Max Carter that seeks to restore retiree
13 health benefits for post-2011 hires.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. HOPKINS: Thank you.

16 Jason Douglas, please slowly state and spell your
17 name for the record if you wish to make public comment.

18 Jason Douglas, you have permission to speak.
19 Please unmute your mic if you wish to make public comment.

20 Madam Chair, that concludes public comment.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Okay. Thank you for that.

22 We will close Agenda Item Number 2 and go on to
23 Agenda Item Number 3, PEBP Board disclosures for applicable
24 board meeting agenda items, Deputy Attorney General Radhika

1 Kunnel, information and discussion.

2 MS. KUNNEL: Thank you, Chair Grimmer.

3 Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Radhika
4 Kunnel, Deputy Attorney General, for the record.

5 This agenda item is to allow me to make a
6 disclosure regarding conflicts of interest on behalf of the
7 Board members who are eligible for Public Employee Benefits
8 Program.

9 Pursuant to NRS 281A.420, on behalf of the Board
10 members who are eligible for PEBP benefits or whose families
11 are eligible for PEBP benefits, I offer this disclosure that
12 they will be voting on those items that may affect the
13 benefits available to them or their family members.

14 The law does not require abstention from voting
15 merely because the Board member or their family member is
16 eligible for PEBP benefits. At this time I invite any member
17 of the Board who has any additional disclosures to make them
18 now. Thank you.

19 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Okay. Seeing no further
20 disclosures, I will close Agenda Item Number 3 and we will
21 move on to Agenda Item Number 4, discussion and possible
22 action to rescind and/or substitute the Board's November 2024
23 directive to issue a request for proposal for a second medical
24 network to include Carson Tahoe Health Providers,

1 Celestena Glover, Executive Officer, and Gideon Davis,
2 Administrator of Purchasing, for possible action.

3 I'll turn it over to you, Celestena.

4 MS. GLOVER: Thank you. This is Celestena Glover
5 for the record.

6 So first I want to say that we do have a Board
7 member, Member Rich, who is having some problem with her
8 voice, so any questions or comments she may have, Jess Crane,
9 our executive assistant, will be in chat with Ms. Rich and
10 will read out her questions out loud so people can hear those
11 in the event they're watching or listening on audio but not
12 seeing any of the video.

13 With that, this agenda item, we're going to go
14 back and discuss the Board's decision back in November to go
15 out to bid for a secondary network. A portion of this to
16 discuss some concerns with the RFP as written will be in
17 closed session, and then any Board action will be taken in the
18 open meeting again if any action is to be taken.

19 Gideon Davis, the administrator for State
20 purchasing, will be in the meeting to answer Board questions
21 and to discuss what their concerns are about the RFP and then
22 any other questions the Board may have regarding that RFP and
23 what our options may be.

24 And with that, unless there are some questions I

1 can answer in the open session, I think this would be a good
2 time to go ahead and transition to the closed session as soon
3 as that is done. With that, I'll take any initial questions
4 and then we'll go from there.

5 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Are there any questions?

6 Okay. I see none.

7 Do we make a motion to go to recess at this
8 point?

9 MS. GLOVER: I think all we need to do is
10 transition over. But Radhika can help us with that if she
11 needs --

12 MS. KUNNEL: Chair Grimmer, if you would like to
13 take a motion to go into a closed session, that would be
14 appropriate.

15 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Thank you.

16 Do I have a motion to go into closed session?

17 MEMBER KELLEY: Michelle Kelley for the record.
18 So moved.

19 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Perfect. Do I have a
20 second?

21 MEMBER CARSTEN: Theresa Carsten. I second.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Thank you. We have a motion
23 and a second. Is there any further discussion?

24 Seeing none, I'll call for the vote.

1 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

2 (The vote was unanimously in favor of the
3 motion.)

4 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: All those opposed? Okay.
5 Seeing none, motion passes.

6 We will go into closed session. Thank you,
7 everyone.

8 MR. HOPKINS: Madam Chair, I'll go get the slide
9 up and keep the Zoom webinar running on YouTube with my slide
10 up, and I will see everyone else in the Teams meeting. Please
11 drop off the Zoom meeting to ensure there's no spillage of
12 audio into the other meeting. Thank you.

13 (After a closed session, the following
14 proceedings were had:)

15 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Okay. And with that, it
16 looks like the majority of our board is here; is that correct?

17 Okay. Welcome back, everyone. Thank you.

18 We are on Agenda Item Number 4, discussion and
19 possible action to rescind and/or substitute the Board's
20 November 2024 directive to issue a request for proposal.

21 Do I have any action on this item?

22 MEMBER CARSTEN: Theresa Carsten for the record.

23 I make a motion to rescind the November 24th
24 Board decision to release an RFP for the secondary network.

1 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Okay. Thank you.
2 Do I have a second?
3 MEMBER KELLEY: Michelle Kelley for the record.
4 I'll second.
5 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Okay. We have a motion and
6 a second.
7 Do we have any further discussion on this item?
8 Seeing none, I'll call for the vote. All those
9 in favor, signify by saying aye.
10 All those opposed?
11 Seeing none, the motion carries.
12 (The vote was unanimously in favor of
13 the motion.)
14 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: We will close Agenda Item
15 Number 4 and go on to Agenda Item Number 5.
16 Oh, I'm sorry. Jessica Crane has her hand up.
17 MS. CRANE: Yes. Thank you, Madam Chair. I just
18 wanted to put on record that Jennifer McClendon is now in
19 attendance.
20 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Okay. Thank you.
21 Okay. So Agenda Item Number 5, discussion and
22 possible action regarding 2025 legislative bills that may
23 impact the Public Employees' Benefits Program,
24 Celestena Glover, Executive Officer, for possible action.

1 MS. GLOVER: This is Celestena Glover for the
2 record.

3 So as the agenda item says, this is the
4 legislative update. We have no updates for this meeting as
5 far as any new bills we're following or updates to fiscal
6 notes. At the moment the fiscal notes have quieted. We put
7 this on here so in the event any of the Board members had any
8 questions or anything they wanted to discuss.

9 I will say that right now PEBP is scheduled for
10 their budget closing to be April 15th. I saw the agenda come
11 out today. It's at the call of the Chair, so I have no idea
12 what time that will happen. And, of course, I've been seeing
13 meetings change left, right, and center, so that could change
14 as well.

15 I have been given no information regarding any
16 changes to the budget as submitted, and my guess is we'll get
17 that information probably the day before, the day of the
18 closing.

19 And with that, I'll take any questions.

20 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Are there any questions,
21 Board members?

22 Okay. Seeing none, and with no action on this
23 item, we will go ahead and close Agenda Item Number 5 and go
24 on to Agenda Item Number 6, public comment.

1 Public comment will be taken during this agenda
2 item. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

3 IT, please go ahead and put the slide up.

4 MR. HOPKINS: One moment, Madam Chair. It looks
5 like we have one person in the lobby.

6 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Thank you.

7 MR. HOPKINS: I'll go ahead and read my
8 announcement real quick too.

9 For those who have joined for public comments,
10 your name or the last four digits of your phone number will be
11 announced, and you will be advised you have been unmuted.
12 Please slowly state and spell your name for the record and
13 then proceed with your comments.

14 Michelle, please slowly state and spell your name
15 for the record if you wish to make public comment.

16 One more time.

17 Michelle, you have permission to speak. Please
18 unmute your mic and please slowly state and spell your name
19 for the record if you wish to make public comment.

20 It looks like she just left.

21 Madam Chair, there's no one else in the lobby.
22 Would you like me to stop sharing?

23 CHAIRWOMAN GRIMMER: Yes, please.

24 Okay. Thank you for that.

1 Seeing no further public comment, we will close
2 Agenda Item Number 6 and we will adjourn. Thank you for
3 everyone's time today.

4 (Meeting adjourned 3:16 p.m.)

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I, BECKY VAN AUKEN, Court Reporter for the State of Nevada, Public Employees' Benefits Program Board, do hereby certify:

That on April 7, 2025, I was present via Zoom for the purpose of reporting in verbatim stenotype notes the within-entitled meeting to the best of my ability;

That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1 through 17, inclusive, includes a full, true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes of said meeting to the best of my ability.

Dated at Reno, Nevada, this 21st day of April, 2025.

//Becky Van Auken//
Becky Van Auken, RPR, RMR, CRR
NV CCR #418

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' BENEFITS PROGRAM BOARD
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