GENERAL ASSEMBLY RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF ILLINOIS
MEETING NO. 282

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 9, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly Retirement System of Illinois was held on Friday, January 9, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in Room S200 of the Michael Bilandic Building, 160 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois with a videoconference location at the System's Springfield Office, 2101 South Veterans Parkway, Springfield, Illinois.

Roll Call was taken with the following trustees in attendance:

Senator Robert Martwick, Chairperson (Chicago)
Representative Norine Hammond, Vice-Chairperson (Springfield)
Representative Kam Buckner (virtual)
Representative Barbara Hernandez (virtual)
Senator Napoleon Harris (Chicago)
Senator Chapin Rose (virtual)
Representative Tom Ryder, Retired (Springfield)

Others in attendance were:

Timothy B. Blair, Secretary
Jeff Houch, Associate Secretary
Angie Ackerson, GARS Division Manager
Dipesh Mehta, ISBI Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer (virtual)
Jennifer Koelle, ISBI Senior Investment Officer – Public Markets (virtual)

Chairman Martwick called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. noting that following a roll call that a physical quorum was not present. He notified the trustees that only informational items would be discussed and that the meeting would be reconvened in Springfield on January 14, 2026, to conduct the remaining agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Martwick asked if there were any members of the public in attendance who wished to address the Board. There were no members of the public in attendance, and no public comments were submitted.

REPORT OF THE ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF INVESTMENT (ISBI)

Dipesh Mehta, ISBI Executive Director, directed the Board's attention to the September 30, 2025, Performance Summary and informed that Board that quarterly report looked different as ISBI recently switched to RVK as their general consultant. He noted the portfolio's market value totaled $29.6 billion on September 30, 2025, an increase of $3.4 billion over the prior 12 months, adding the value on January 8, 2026, was $30.4 billion. Mr. Mehta stated the Fund's asset allocation was modestly underweight in Fixed Income and overweight in Equities. He explained that ISBI's asset allocation policy would be evaluated in the first half of 2026 and changes would be presented to the GARS Trustees at a future meeting. Mr. Mehta then introduced Jennifer Koelle, ISBI Senior Investment Officer, to review the performance of selected asset classes.

Ms. Koelle reported that the portfolio returned 8.9% for the year ended September 30, 2025, trailing the policy benchmark by 0.7% and the allocation benchmark by 1.1%. She noted that while the Fund has trailed its policy benchmark over the 1- year and 3-year periods, long-term results have remained strong with outperformance over the 5- and 10-year periods. Ms. Koelle reported that the portfolio returned 3.6% for the quarter ending September 30, 2025, lagging the benchmark return of 4.7% for the period.

Ms. Koelle then provided a brief overview of selected asset classes. She reported that the Global Public Equity portfolio returned 17.0% in the previous 9-month period but underperformed the benchmark by 1.3%. She noted the Foreign Equity portfolio returned 22.0% for the 9 months ending September 30, 2025, but trailed the index by 3.1%. Ms. Koelle reported that the Emerging Markets Equity portfolio lagged the benchmark, returning 20.3% for the period while the benchmark returned 27.5%, and the Credit portfolio returned 6.9%, outperforming the benchmark return by 0.6%.

Ms. Koelle concluded her report by noting that the Private Equity portfolio gained 5.0% for the year, lagging the relevant benchmark by 3.2% while the Infrastructure portfolio returned 7.2%, outperforming the benchmark return of 5.6%.

Chairman Martwick asked if any trustees had any questions and seeing none, thanked Director Mehta and Ms. Koelle for the report. A copy of the September 30, 2025 ISBI Quarterly Update is maintained in the ISBI office and made part of these minutes as *Exhibit A*.

Senator Harris arrived at the Chicago meeting location and was added to the roll, creating a quorum of four members in attendance at the Chicago and Springfield locations. He offered a motion to allow Representatives Buckner and Hernandez and Senator Rose to participate virtually. The motion was seconded by Representative Ryder and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Chairman Martwick noted that as a quorum had been established, there would be no need to convene the Springfield meeting mentioned at the beginning of the meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Martwick presented the minutes of Meeting No. 281 held on October 24, 2025, for approval. Copies were previously submitted to the trustees for review. Senator Harris moved to approve the October 24, 2025 minutes. The motion was seconded by Representative Hammond and all voted in the affirmative.

REPORT OF CHAIRMAN MARTWICK

Chairman Martwick offered no report.

REPORT OF ANY TRUSTEE

There were no reports offered.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Request to Defer Action on Michael Madigan Termination. Secretary Blair informed the Board he had received a letter from Daniel Collins of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, who represents Michael Madigan, requesting that any further action to terminate Mr. Madigan's benefits be stayed pending resolution of Mr. Madigan's appeal of his federal criminal conviction. He referred to the November 18, 2025, letter he sent to Michael Madigan notifying him that his pension benefits would be suspended March 1, 2025, and that the Attorney General's opinion concluded that his felony conviction was job-related.

After discussion and questions, Representative Ryder offered a motion to continue the suspension. Senator Harris seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken. All trustees voted in the affirmative.

State Actuary's 2025 Report and System Responses. Secretary Blair reviewed the State Actuary's recommendations and the system responses to those recommendations. He noted the State Actuary recommended a funding plan that finances the annual normal cost of benefits and amortizes the GARS unfunded liabilities within a reasonable period. Secretary Blair reminded the trustees that the GARS Board adopted an Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) policy in 2025 that is consistent with the State Actuary's recommendation.

The State Actuary also recommended smoothing the impact of assumption changes over a three-year period to align with the experience studies that are performed every three years. Secretary Blair stated the System concurs with this recommendation and added that changing the current funding plan and smoothing the effect of assumption changes over three years requires statutory changes.

Secretary Blair noted that the State Actuary only recommended two other changes, including the continuation of the annual review of economic assumptions and additional disclosures in future valuations regarding the development of economic assumptions. He concluded by referencing the letter outlining the State Actuary's recommendations and the GRS and GARS responses, which are made a part of these minutes as *Exhibit B*.

FY 25 Actuarial Valuation and FY 27 Employer Certification. Secretary Blair told the Board there were no changes to the FY 25 Actuarial Valuation from the draft approved at the October 2025 Board meeting. He requested that the Board approve the FY 25 Actuarial Valuation and certify the FY 27 employer contribution of $26,650,000, or 181.535% of projected payroll. He noted that the State contribution consists of $1,824,000 for the employer's portion of expected normal cost and $23,826,000 due to the unfunded liabilities.

Representative Hammond moved to approve the June 30, 2025 Actuarial Valuation and certify the FY 27 State contribution of $26,650,000. Representative Ryder seconded the motion. All trustees voted in the affirmative.

September 30, 2025 Financial Statements. Secretary Blair stated that in the first quarter of FY 26 total receipts were $11.5 million, with the Comptroller's Office funding an additional 1 ½ months of employer contributions in the quarter. For the quarter, disbursements totaled nearly $7.1 million, and the cash balance increased from $5.6 million on June 30, 2025 to almost $10 million on September 30, 2025.

Senator Harris moved to adopt the September 30, 2025 financial statements and Representative Hammond seconded the motion. Roll call was taken and all voted in favor. Copies of these Financial Statements are on file and made a part of these minutes as *Exhibit C.*

FY 2026 Funding Update. Secretary Blair reported that the Comptroller's Office made 4 ½ months of state contributions to GARS in the first quarter of FY 26 and has already paid January 2026 contributions.

REPORT OF MANAGER

Angie Ackerson provided that since the last Board meeting, GARS staff processed two retirement annuities totaling $6,985.71 per month and three survivor annuities equaling $13,995.88 per month. Senator Harris moved to approve the annuities as presented. Representative Hammond seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Martwick reminded the Trustees that the next Board meeting would be in Springfield on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 9 a.m. Senator Harris offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Representative Hammond. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

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Timothy B. Blair, Administrative Secretary

Date:____

APPROVED:

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Senator Robert F. Martwick, Chairman