



## MINUTES

**Special Meeting of the Elected Members of the Board of Trustees  
of the State Universities Retirement System  
Friday, June 7, 2019, 8:30 a.m.  
Northern Trust  
Global Conference Center – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
50 S. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL**

The following trustees were present: Mr. Aaron Ammons (via conference call), Dr. John Engstrom, Dr. Fred Giertz, Dr. Steven Rock, Mr. Collin Van Meter and Mr. Antonio Vasquez.

Others present: Mr. Martin Noven, Executive Director; Ms. Bianca Green, General Counsel; Ms. Kristen Houch, Head of Legislative Affairs; Ms. Suzanne Mayer, Chief Benefits Officer; Mr. Jefferey Saiger, Chief Technology Officer; Ms. Tara Myers, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Brenda Dunn, Chief Human Resources Officer; Ms. Kelly Carson and Ms. Annette Ackerman, Executive Assistants.

Elected members roll call attendance was taken. Trustee Ammons, present (via conference call); Trustee Engstrom, present; Trustee Giertz, present; Trustee Rock, present; Trustee Van Meter, present; Trustee Vasquez, present.

### DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROCESS OF FILLING AN ANTICIPATED VACANCY

Ms. Bianca Green discussed the SURS Administrative rules and statutes regarding the process that must be followed to fill an open vacancy for an elected trustee on the SURS board. Trustees considered the timeframe, future action and criteria needed in order for the new trustee to be ready to participate in the September meeting. At the end of the discussion, it was determined that staff will issue the press release and email blast the week of June 10 to notify annuitant members of the board vacancy. Applications, along with a resume or statement of qualifications, will be due by the end of business on July 5, 2019. A future meeting date will be held after applications have been received and reviewed by trustees.

A copy of the statute and the rule regarding filling a vacancy is incorporated as part of these minutes as [Exhibit 1](#).

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments presented to the committee.

There was no further business brought before the committee and Trustee Rock moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Trustee Giertz and carried with all trustees present voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Noven', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr. Martin Noven  
Secretary, SURS Board of Trustees

MMN:kc

**Joint Committee on Administrative Rules****ADMINISTRATIVE CODE****TITLE 80: PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES****SUBTITLE D: RETIREMENT SYSTEMS****CHAPTER II: STATE UNIVERSITIES RETIREMENT SYSTEM****PART 1600 UNIVERSITIES RETIREMENT****SECTION 1600.750 FILLING A VACANCY IN THE TERM OF AN ELECTED TRUSTEE**

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**Section 1600.750 Filling a Vacancy in the Term of an Elected Trustee**

- a) A vacancy occurring in the elected membership of the Board shall be filled by the elected trustees as prescribed in Section 15-159(e) of the Pension Code.
- b) The elected trustees shall fill an unexpired term with currently eligible candidates or replacements otherwise satisfying the conditions in Sections 1600.700(b)(1) or (c)(1) and 1600.730(d) as follows:
  - 1) If an elected trustee position becomes vacant within the first 3 years of a term, the vacant position shall temporarily be filled until the July 15 following the next regularly scheduled Election Date. The remaining 3 years of the term shall be permanently filled at the next available election. However, if a vacancy occurs within 6 months prior to the next election, the remaining elected trustees may choose to leave the position vacant until that election. The vacant position openings and term lengths shall be filled as follows:
    - A) The vacant position shall be temporarily filled by the elected members using the eligibility rules provided in Section 1600.700(b)(1) and the process rules provided in subsection (b)(3) of this Section.
    - B) If the vacancy occurs prior to the January 1 immediately preceding the next election, the vacant positions shall be filled for the remainder of the term (years 4-6), through the election process, by adding the appropriate number of available positions to the ballot at the next available election.
    - C) If a vacancy occurs prior to the January 1 immediately preceding the next election, and an election is required under Section 15-159(e) of the Pension Code, the term lengths shall be determined with the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes awarded the 6 year terms.

- D) If a vacancy occurs prior to the January 1 immediately preceding the next election and an election is not otherwise necessary under Section 15-159(e), term lengths shall be determined by blind random drawing.
- 2) If an elected trustee position becomes vacant within the last 3 years of a term, the vacant position shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the elected members using the eligibility rules provided in this subsection (b) and the process rules provided in subsection (b)(3). However, if a vacancy occurs within 6 months prior to the next election, the remaining elected trustees may choose to leave the position vacant until that election.
  - 3) Unexpired terms will be filled by the elected membership using the process outlined in this subsection (b)(3). The Board Secretary will announce the vacancy via a press release and request nominations be submitted by a certain date in the form adopted by the System. Once the nomination period has ended, the Board Secretary shall determine the eligibility of the candidates pursuant to Section 15-159 of the Pension Code and the eligibility qualifications provided in this subsection (b). The list of eligible nominees will be submitted to all elected members of the Board for consideration of which candidate would best represent the contributing members or annuitants, respectively. Departing elected members shall not be eligible to participate in the replacement process. Majority voting of all elected members will determine the appointee. If the elected members cannot decide on a replacement, the full Board may declare a special election to fill the vacancy.

(Source: Amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 15517, effective September 12, 2013)

(40 ILCS 5/15-159) (from Ch. 108 1/2, par. 15-159)

**Sec. 15-159. Board created.**

(a) A board of trustees constituted as provided in this Section shall administer this System. The board shall be known as the Board of Trustees of the State Universities Retirement System.

(b) (Blank).

(c) (Blank).

(d) Beginning on the 90th day after April 3, 2009 (the effective date of Public Act 96-6), the Board of Trustees shall be constituted as follows:

(1) The Chairperson of the Board of Higher Education, who shall act as chairperson of this Board.

(2) Four trustees appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate who may not be members of the system or hold an elective State office and who shall serve for a term of 6 years, except that the terms of the initial appointees under this subsection (d) shall be as follows: 2 for a term of 3 years and 2 for a term of 6 years.

(3) Four active participants of the system to be elected from the contributing membership of the system by the contributing members, no more than 2 of which may be from any of the University of Illinois campuses, who shall serve for a term of 6 years, except that the terms of the initial electees shall be as follows: 2 for a term of 3 years and 2 for a term of 6 years.

(4) Two annuitants of the system who have been annuitants for at least one full year, to be elected from and by the annuitants of the system, no more than one of which may be from any of the University of Illinois campuses, who shall serve for a term of 6 years, except that the terms of the initial electees shall be as follows: one for a term of 3 years and one for a term of 6 years.

For the purposes of this Section, the Governor may make a nomination and the Senate may confirm the nominee in advance of the commencement of the nominee's term of office.

(e) The 6 elected trustees shall be elected within 90 days after April 3, 2009 (the effective date of Public Act 96-6) for a term beginning on the 90th day after that effective date. Trustees shall be elected thereafter as terms expire for a 6-year term beginning July 15 next following their election, and such election shall be held on May 1, or on May 2 when May 1 falls on a Sunday. The board may establish rules for the election of trustees to implement the provisions of Public Act 96-6 and for future elections. Candidates for the participating trustee shall be nominated by petitions in writing, signed by not less than 400 participants with their addresses shown opposite their names. Candidates for the annuitant trustee shall be nominated by petitions in writing, signed by not less than 100 annuitants with their addresses shown opposite their names. If there is more than one qualified nominee for each elected trustee, then the board shall conduct a secret ballot election by mail for that trustee, in accordance with rules as established by the board. If there is only one qualified person nominated by petition

for each elected trustee, then the election as required by this Section shall not be conducted for that trustee and the board shall declare such nominee duly elected. A vacancy occurring in the elective membership of the board shall be filled for the unexpired term by the elected trustees serving on the board for the remainder of the term. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the adoption of rules providing for internet or phone balloting in addition, or as an alternative, to election by mail.

(f) A vacancy in the appointed membership on the board of trustees caused by resignation, death, expiration of term of office, or other reason shall be filled by a qualified person appointed by the Governor for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(g) Trustees (other than the trustees incumbent on June 30, 1995 or as provided in subsection (c) of this Section) shall continue in office until their respective successors are appointed and have qualified, except that a trustee appointed to one of the participant positions shall be disqualified immediately upon the termination of his or her status as a participant and a trustee appointed to one of the annuitant positions shall be disqualified immediately upon the termination of his or her status as an annuitant receiving a retirement annuity.

(h) Each trustee must take an oath of office before a notary public of this State and shall qualify as a trustee upon the presentation to the board of a certified copy of the oath. The oath must state that the person will diligently and honestly administer the affairs of the retirement system, and will not knowingly violate or willfully permit to be violated any provisions of this Article.

Each trustee shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in attending board meetings and carrying out his or her duties as a trustee or officer of the system.

(Source: P.A. 98-92, eff. 7-16-13.)