



NEWS TO USE

A newsletter for PERSI employers

June 2007

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ANNUAL REMINDER TO KEEP MAILING INFO CURRENT -returned mail continues to plague PERSI-

It's time for an annual reminder to employers to make sure the employee addresses provided to PERSI are current and accurate. PERSI wants to ensure members receive timely mailings of newsletters, statements, and other important materials. Yet throughout the year, we receive a high volume of returned mail. Some returned mail results when employees move or change their mailing information, but fail to give their employer the new information. Other mail is returned because employers forget to provide updates to PERSI when an employee does submit a change. And still more comes back because members receive mail at a P.O. Box, but PERSI only has a home address on file. (In some smaller townships, where P.O. Boxes are used exclusively, no mail will be delivered to the home address... so it's automatically returned to the sender.)

As mail comes back, PERSI dedicates resources to matching the name on the envelope to an employer and then contacting the employer for current mailing information. In some cases, such as with statements, PERSI has the fiduciary responsibility to try to locate members; therefore, once a correct mailing address is

identified, the mail must be resent. Multiply this effort by several hundred pieces of mail, and you can appreciate PERSI's concerns.

If you are an employer using PETRA, you can simply edit the employee's detail record by typing in the new address. If you're an employer who submits paper reports, write the new address on your report and mark it "Address Change." And if you're an employer who reports electronically, you can update the information in your payroll system, which should be programmed to automatically update the records on your next transmittal.

Please help PERSI keep its records current by:

- (1) Changing address information on your transmittal report whenever an employee moves.
- (2) Reminding employees to always give your payroll department their most current mailing address.
- (3) Making sure PERSI has the correct mailing address for your employees, not just a home address.

Together, we can work to make sure your employees receive their PERSI mail.

EMPLOYER MEETINGS

The 2007 Employer Meetings wrap up this month. The final meetings are in Grangeville on June 5th and in McCall on June 6th. If you are interested in attending one of these meetings, contact Jami Davis at (208) 287-9250. If you already attended a meeting, you know the value of the information presented. PERSI will be using the feedback from this year's meetings to help set next year's agenda. Employers are encouraged to share ideas for next year's meetings with the Employer Service Center (ESC) by calling (208) 287-9525 from the Treasure Valley or toll-free at 1(866) 887-9525 from elsewhere in Idaho. Later this year, PERSI expects to poll employers to learn how the information presented at this year's meetings has been applied, and to gain insight on how well the online tools are working.

Certificates of Completion for the Employer Education and Training Program presented at this year's meetings are in the process of being mailed. Employers who did not complete the program will be contacted by PERSI to arrange training for payroll personnel.

MAY BOARD MEETING HELD IN POCATELLO

The PERSI Retirement Board meets monthly in the Boise office, except for a June hiatus and a combined November/December meeting. The meetings, open to the public, begin at 8:30 a.m. and end around noon. Once a year, the Board tries to hold a meeting in an Idaho city other than Boise. On May 22, 2007, the board meeting was held in Pocatello. The agenda included investment and fiscal reports, administrative and operational updates, and a discussion on PERSI's Sudan Divestment Work Plan. Once approved, meeting minutes are posted on the PERSI Web site at www.persi.idaho.gov. Employers and members are encouraged to attend a board meeting whenever possible.

General Information About the Board

The Retirement Board is comprised of five individuals appointed by the Governor for terms lasting 5 years. These appointments are subject to Senate confirmation. State law requires two members of the Board be active PERSI members with at least 10 years of service.

Current Board Members and Terms

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jody B. Olson, Chairman | Term expires July 1, 2007 |
| Clifford T. Hayes | Term expires July 1, 2009 |
| Jeff Cilek | Term expires July 1, 2010 |
| J. Kirk Sullivan | Term expires July 1, 2011 |
| William "Bill" Deal | Term expires July 1, 2008 |

Fiduciary Duty of Loyalty

As fiduciaries, the primary duty of the Retirement Board and PERSI staff is that of loyalty, or acting with an "eye single" to the interests of the members. The Board is

required to discharge its duties for the exclusive benefit of members of the fund, consistent with the governing provisions of the plan.

Board's Areas of Responsibility

- Overseeing the fund's investment activities. This includes hiring investment managers and setting the asset allocation and funding policy.
- Reviewing and adopting actuarial assumptions.
- Overseeing PERSI's administrative activities, including approving PERSI's annual budget.
- Approving proposed legislation.
- Setting contribution and regular interest rates.

Some members and employers mistakenly think the Retirement Board has authority to approve changes to PERSI's benefit structure. The fact is, as Plan Sponsor, the Idaho Legislature has sole responsibility for determining the structure. The Board can, however, submit legislation to facilitate the administration of the plan, to clean up problems with existing statutes, or to enable better customer service. In addition, interested constituent groups may propose legislation affecting the system's benefit structure. While others may play a role, only the Legislature can pass laws to change retirement benefits.

The Board meeting schedule is posted on the PERSI Web site. Anyone wanting to attend a meeting, may want to call first to confirm the date, time and location. (In Boise: 208-334-3365; elsewhere: toll-free 1-800-451-8228.)

REMINDER: Employer contribution rates *will not change* this year. For the fourth straight year, the rate will remain at 10.39 percent for general members and 10.73 for police and firefighters.

Notes

IT Manager [Carol Boylan](#) attended the annual Public Retirement Information Systems Management (PRISM) conference where she agreed to represent the Western District (13 states) in arranging sponsors and setting the agenda for next year's conference.

PERSI Answer Center Supervisor [Kimberlee Hall](#) and IT Systems Analyst [Stacy Jones](#) were among the 40 honorees selected by the *Idaho Business Review* for its 2007 Accomplished Under 40 Awards. Nominees were selected based on personal and professional achievements and community service. On June 22, 2007, an awards luncheon will be held at the Boise Center on the Grove.

Chief Investment Officer [Bob Maynard](#) reported that as of May 18, 2007, the fiscal year to date return on PERSI investments was 19.1% and the current value of the fund was \$11,390,515,403.