

We work better, when we work together...

February 2017

For HR/Benefits use only – Please do not distribute to all users

New Board Member

Colonel Bret Johnson retired as of February 1, 2017. The Governor announced on February 1st that Lt. Colonel Sandra Karsten would be the next superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol upon confirmation by the Missouri Senate. The superintendent is an ex officio member of the Board of Trustees much like the Director of MoDOT. We look forward to working with the new Colonel and wish Colonel Johnson a long and enjoyable retirement.

2017 COLA Rate

The retiree benefit COLA rate for 2017 is **1.01%**. Year 2000 Plan member retirees will receive their COLA each year on the anniversary of the month in which they retired; or, if they chose BackDROP, the anniversary of their BackDROP date. Closed Plan member retirees will receive their COLA each October. Benefit Statements will also be issued to each retired member during the month in which they receive their COLA.

Salary for Benefit Statements

Just a reminder, every year MPERS issues benefit statements to our active employees. Included in the benefit statements are projected salary estimates **based on the member's pay for the month of February**. Please note that for any employee with "OHW" and flex, the salary projections may be skewed. Also please try to avoid any corrections or additions to the February payments that may also distort their estimates....or try to keep them in mind if a member comes to you concerned about the amounts shown in their statement.

Legislative Updates

The legislature is currently in session. Like most years, there are a few MPERS related bills. As a general rule, MPERS will not advance communication on these proposals unless they appear to have some momentum or require immediate attention. When notice is viewed as appropriate, we would likely reach out to members directly, note something on our homepage, post to social media, or a combination thereof. During ordinary times, we simply place a link on our website that connects interested parties with the Joint Committee on Public Employee Retirement where all pension related bills can be monitored.

Monday, February 13, 2017

To better serve our members, our office will be open on Monday, February 13, 2017.

2017 Board Meeting Schedule

February 23, 2017
April 27, 2017
June 22, 2017
September 28, 2017
November 16, 2017