

Education Committee Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2021

1. Meeting called to order (0:12)

The first meeting of 2021 of the Education Committee began on Thursday, August 19, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. via videoconference and teleconference.

2. Roll call of committee members (0:46)

Committee members present:

Chair Marcia Dush Rob Ries

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Chair Dush.

3. Roll call of members of the public (1:00)

There were no preregistered members of the public who would be providing comments.

4. Minimum Educational Training (MET) Program background (2:10)

Bryan Burnham discussed how program sponsors are accredited and then listed on the PRB's website. Mr. Burnham noted a high satisfaction rate with sponsors from participants. He outlined the seven PRB courses while mentioning over 3,900 courses have been utilized since 2016. Chair Dush asked if the PRB only offered the seven courses, and Mr. Burnham confirmed the courses were for core credit but could also be used for continuing education (CE) credit. Mr. Burnham noted that MET Program utilization had increased, likely because of canceled in-person conferences due to COVID-19. Michelle Downie Kranes added that certain statewide systems no longer provided their own accredited courses and instead chose to rely on the PRB's courses. Chair Dush noted stakeholders were now asking the PRB for more advanced trainings.

5. Educational Services Survey results, including feedback from respondents (26:02):

Mr. Burnham stated the Educational Services Survey results showed a 93 percent satisfaction rate with the MET Program and discussed comments received asking for additional CE course content. Chair Dush noted a comment asking for an in-person training course.

6. Ongoing and future MET Program course offerings (29:31):

a. Updates to PRB Core courses

Mr. Burnham stated staff was currently revising four courses to reflect updated industry standards and recent changes to statute. The committee discussed the review process and what criteria would be considered when updating the courses. Chair Dush encouraged staff to utilize the applicable board expertise when updating the courses.

b. Need for additional Continuing Education course offerings (36:45)

Ms. Kranes stated staff would focus on a CE course that detailed how recent changes to the Funding Soundness Restoration Plan (FSRP) statute would be implemented. She noted

the course could also act as a launching point for the agency's FSRP rules. She noted Texas Local Fire Fighters Retirement Act (TLFFRA) systems had requested a CE course that covers the day-to-day administration of pension plans. Ms. Kranes and Chair Dush discussed the process of updating the TLFFRA Trustee Training Manual and how it could influence the CE offered to TLFFRA systems.

Mr. Ries noted the advantages of case-based training using actual scenarios that local systems had experienced. The committee discussed reaching out to larger retirement systems as resources when creating CE courses. Chair Dush offered examples of future beneficial CE course content, including case-based cybersecurity, utilizing asset/liability modeling, providing appropriate guidance on developing investment policies, and instruction on developing requests for proposals and FSRPs.

7. Workplan for updated course offerings

Ashley Rendon stated that the PRB intended to create and administer two CE courses by the start of the 88th Legislative Session.

Chair Dush entertained a motion to direct staff to research and develop recommendations for continuing education courses to present to the full board at its November meeting.

The motion was made by Mr. Ries and seconded by Chair Dush.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. Date and location of next Education Committee meeting-TBD (49:45)

Chair Dush stated that no future committee meetings were scheduled but noted the upcoming November meeting of the full board.

9. Invitation for public comment (50:02)

There were no comments from the public.

10. Adjournment (50:56)

Chair Dush adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

In Attendance:

PRB Staff Present

Anumeha Kumar Bryan Burnham Michelle Downie Kranes Robert Munter Lindsay Seymour Wes Allen Madilyn Jarman Mariah Miller Ashley Rendon

Chair Marcia Dush