

State Employee Advisory Commission and Public-School Advisory Commission Minutes

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

The Arkansas State Employee Advisory Commission and Public-School Employee Advisory Commission met on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was recorded and is available upon request through the Department of Shared Administrative Services. The following members were present:

ASE Commission Members Present:

**Cynthia Dunlap
Ronda Walthall
Bruce Maloch
Marty Casteel
Shane David**

PSE Commission Members Present:

**Julie Bates
Greg Rogers
Zinnia Clanton
Debbie Jones**

Others present were Grant Wallace, Director of Employee Benefits Division, and Fran Jansen, Deputy Director of Employee Benefits Division. Also present were staff from the Employee Benefits Division, EBRx, Public Consulting Group, Colonial Life, and Navitus Health Solutions.

Chairwoman Dunlap, seeing a quorum, called the meeting to order. Chairwoman Dunlap asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meetings held on November 4, 2025, and January 20, 2026. A motion was made by Marty Casteel and seconded by Shane David. All members were in favor.

Chairwoman Dunlap then recognized Jay Eickman of Navitus Health Solutions to present the December, January, and February Pharmacy Formulary recommendations. Chairwoman Dunlap called for a motion to approve the pharmacy formulary recommendations. A motion was made by Julie Bates and seconded by Shane David. All members were in favor.

Chairwoman Dunlap then recognized Kristen Belew of EBRx to present the February Medical Formulary recommendations. Chairwoman Dunlap called for a motion to approve the February Medical Formulary recommendations. A motion was made by Shane David and seconded by Marty Casteel. All members were in favor.

Chairwoman Dunlap recognized Grant Wallace, Director of the Employee Benefits Division, to present the Remote Meeting Attendance Policy, which was adopted in response to Act 505 of 2025. The policy addresses the growing use of remote meetings and formalizes the organization's procedures surrounding this technology. A motion was made by Ronda Walthall to approve the policy and seconded by Bruce Maloch. All members were in favor.

Chairwoman Dunlap recognized Grant Wallace, the Director of the Employment Benefits Division, to provide an update. Director Wallace reported on the preparation and distribution of 1095-C Forms, and the issuance of updated member ID cards for the 2026 plan year. He also gave an update on the Boston Consulting Group contract, noting it was reviewed and approved by the State Board of Finance, allowing it to proceed to the Arkansas Legislative Council for further consideration at their February meeting.

In conclusion, Director Wallace provided an update on the onboarding and implementation of Beneliance as the new vendor for Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) and Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs). He emphasized that ongoing monitoring is being conducted to resolve issues that arose during implementation and ensure improved service going forward.

With no further discussions on the agenda, Chairwoman Dunlap called for a motion to adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting in May or a called special meeting. A motion was made by Marty Casteel to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Bruce Maloch. All members were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned.