

Unapproved until  
future meeting

ILLINOIS RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
IRTAPAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
April 30, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. by Chairman Roger Hampton

Members Present: Roger Hampton, Chairman; Ed Wollet, Vice Chair; Shirley Dodds, Treasurer; Doris Heaton, Secretary; Dave Davison, Past Chair; John Flaherty, IRTA Vice President; and Jo Anne Nelson, Bob Kaplan, Jan Bryant, Donna Sargent, Jim Barr, and Bill Funkhouser, Area Representatives.

Also Present: Jim Bachman, Executive Director; and Andrew Bodewes, Contract Lobbyist.

Motion by Bob Kaplan to approve the minutes of October 16, 2018 passed.

Andrew Bodewes spoke about the governor's budget and his desire to underfund the pension plans. The proposed underfunding is \$850 million for all pension funds including \$576 million underfunding for TRS. He told of other proposals being discussed but no action has been taken on them to date.

Of the twenty-five candidates for whom financial support was awarded by IRTAPAC in the November election, nineteen were elected and six were defeated with a total contribution of \$144,415 awarded. At present there is a balance of \$88,358 in the IRTAPAC account and 5,578 members who have \$1 payroll deduction.

Ed Wollet presented the IRTAPAC Committee plans to make videos for soliciting donations to the fund and is welcome to any ideas regarding these videos.

He presented three goals for 2019-20 which were established by the IRTAPAC Committee

## 2019-2020 IRTAPAC GOALS & STRATEGIES

### Goal 1:

**Committee Duties & Responsibilities & Goals:** To recommend endorsements of legislative and gubernatorial candidates.

**Strategy:** Develop General Assembly and Gubernatorial questionnaires to submit to each candidate through his/her campaign committee for return by July 5. Periodically, the PAC committee members will be updated on which candidates in their region have failed to return a completed questionnaire. PAC committee members will contact those campaigns encouraging them to submit the PAC questionnaire for consideration for endorsement. No consideration for endorsement will be extended to any candidate who does not submit a completed questionnaire.

### Goal 2:

**Committee Duties & Responsibilities:** Raise money for the IRTAPAC by increasing participation in the \$1/month deduction program to 7000 participants by December 31, 2019.

**Strategy:** The rationale behind the \$1/month deduction program is to provide consistency and predictability for the IRTAPAC fund. This program currently brings in an average of \$5 to every \$1 of voluntary contribution. This fund has grown from having \$20,000-\$30,000 available to support campaigns to over \$150,000. Regional PAC committee members will be supplied with PAC

enrollment forms to use as they meet with local units. Electronic communications will include the link (<https://form.jotform.com/80233925745156>) for members to use for electronic sign up.

**Goal 3:**

**Committee Duties & Responsibilities:** Assist in organizing campaign volunteers, particularly in units that will have Tier 1 races.

**Strategy:**

1. Help local units to schedule visits with candidates to review the answers to the PAC questionnaire and receive assurances of future support for TRS retirees' pension and **health insurance** benefits.
2. Help local units recruit up to 10 volunteers for campaigns, working particularly with units with identified Tier 1 campaigns. For example, volunteers may want to help by answering a phone at campaign headquarters, addressing and stuffing campaign envelopes, canvassing a precinct, or calling voters on election day...

Motion by Ed Wollet to revise Article VIII, Contributions, of the Articles of Association and Bylaws of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association Political Action Committee (IRTAPAC) from

~~After considering input from the local units; Jim Bachman, Mary Shaw and Andrew Bodewes may make a determination to spend IRTAPAC Funds for primary elections up to \$1,000 without prior approval~~

to

**After considering input from the local units; the Government Affairs Team may make a determination to spend IRTAPAC Funds for primary elections up to \$1,000 without prior approval.**

Motion passed.

The endorsement process and timing of the required questionnaire is being studied.

Motion to adjourn at 1:25 passed.

Doris Heaton, Secretary