A meeting of the State Board of Finance of the State of Arkansas was held Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 9:30 am, pursuant to notice duly given to each member of the Board by the Chairman. The meeting was held in the Timberlands Conference Room, in the Winthrop Rockefeller Building. A Zoom recording of the meeting is available through the Treasurer of State’s office.

The following members were present:

Larry Walther, Secretary of DFA  
Dennis Milligan, Treasurer of State  
Andrea Lea, Auditor of State  
Susannah Marshall, Arkansas Bank Commissioner  
Eric Munson, Commissioner, Arkansas Securities Department (Zoom)  
Cale Turner, Appointed Member  
Keith Konecny, Appointed Member  
Amy Fecher, Governor’s designee, and Secretary of Transformation and Shared Services

Others present were Jason Brady, T.J. Fowler, Stacy Peterson, Autumn Sanson, and Grant Wallace of the Treasurer’s staff, and Alan McVey, Paul Louthian, and Debbie Rogers of the Department of Finance and Administration. Cynthia Bearden from the Arkansas Securities Department, Jake Bleed, Director of EBD, and several employees of the Employment Benefit Division were also in attendance. Secretary Walther seeing a quorum, called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the meetings held on Friday, May 7, 2021 and Tuesday, May 11, 2021 were approved as presented.
Mr. Walther recognized Secretary Fecher to go over the agenda for the meeting. Mrs. Fecher then recognized the Milliman group, represented by Courtney White and Paul Sakhrani, to make a presentation based on questions and feedback from the prior meeting. The entire presentation is available in Zoom format and available through the Arkansas State Treasury. Mr. White presented the five levers, or changes, that the board could make to the insurance plans, and the options that were evaluated by Milliman and the EBD board. Mr. White also went over the summary of initiatives for the state employees from the April 2021 EBD Board meeting that included a 5% active contribution increase, a 10% pre-65 and post-65 retiree contribution increase, and changes in the wellness contribution. These initiatives totaled a savings of $39.5M.

Mr. Sakhrani then presented to the board the public school employees summary of initiatives from the April 2021 EBD board meeting. These initiatives included a 10% active contribution increase, a 15% pre-65 retiree contribution, and a 20% post-65 retiree contribution increase. These initiatives totaled a savings of $40.3M.

Next on the agenda was the review of recommendations of the former EBD board, and explanation and breakdown of the cost of the changes based on those recommendations. This presentation was given by Mr. White and Mr. Sakhrani of Milliman.

Chairman Walther then updated the board of different duties going forward, including the placement of board members to the subcommittees, reviewing current contracts of the Employee Benefit Division, and giving Legislative Council an update on Friday May 21, 2021.
Walther then informed the board that the next meeting would be on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. Seeing no additional business, Chairman Walther asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Konecny made the motion for adjournment and Auditor Lea seconded. All members were in favor. [01:56:36-02:19:00, Zoom presentation]