

661—400.3(97A) Governance. The system is governed by a board of trustees, appointed and elected as provided in Iowa Code section 97A.5, subsection 1. The board of trustees shall have five members, including the commissioner of public safety, who shall serve as chairperson of the board, the treasurer of state, an actively engaged member of the system, a retired member of the system, and a person appointed by the governor.

400.3(1) Terms of office. Terms of office of members of the board of trustees are as follows:

- a. The commissioner of public safety shall serve a term that is concurrent with appointment as commissioner of public safety.
- b. The treasurer of state shall serve a term that is concurrent with the term of treasurer of state.
- c. The actively engaged member of the system shall serve a two-year term commencing on July 1 of an odd-numbered year and terminating on June 30 of the next odd-numbered year.
- d. The retired member of the system shall serve a two-year term commencing on July 1 of an even-numbered year and terminating on June 30 of the next even-numbered year.
- e. The member appointed by the governor shall serve a two-year term commencing on May 1 of the year of appointment and terminating on April 30 in the year of expiration.

400.3(2) Election of board members.

- a. The actively engaged member shall be elected by secret ballot of the actively engaged members of the system. The retired member shall be elected by secret ballot of the retired members of the system. The actively engaged member shall be elected in odd-numbered years, and the retired member shall be elected in even-numbered years.
- b. At least 90 days prior to the start of the term of office for the actively engaged member or the retired member, the secretary shall distribute by regular mail a write-in nomination ballot to each member of the system who is eligible to vote. The deadline for return of the ballots shall be established by the secretary at no less than 30 days nor more than 35 days after the date of distribution of the ballots and shall be printed on each ballot. In order to record a nomination, a member shall return the nomination ballot with a postmark or by personal delivery prior to the deadline specified on the ballot, filled in with the name of the member whom the member casting the ballot wishes to nominate.
- c. The secretary shall contact each of the nominees who receive the three highest numbers of nominations to determine if each nominee is willing to serve if elected. For each nominee contacted who is unwilling to serve, the secretary shall contact the next nominee in descending order of nominations until three nominees willing to serve are identified.
- d. The names of those three eligible members willing to serve if elected who receive the highest number of write-in nominations shall be placed on an election ballot.
- e. The secretary shall distribute by regular mail election ballots to the members of the system who are eligible to vote. The deadline for return of the ballots shall be established by the secretary at no less than 30 days nor more than 35 days after the date of distribution of the ballots and shall be printed on each ballot. Any eligible member who receives a ballot and wishes to vote shall return the ballot to the secretary with a postmark or by personal delivery prior to the deadline printed on the ballot with a choice of one of the three candidates listed indicated. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall serve as the actively engaged member or the retired member of the system on the board of trustees.
- f. In the event that two of the three candidates tie with the highest number of votes, a new election ballot with the names of the two candidates who tied shall be distributed by regular mail by the secretary to all members who are eligible to vote. The deadline for return of the ballots shall be established by the secretary at no less than 30 days nor more than 35 days after the date of distribution of the ballots and shall be printed on each ballot. Any eligible member who wishes to vote shall return the ballot to the secretary prior to the deadline with the member's preference indicated. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall serve as the actively engaged member or the retired member on the board of trustees.
- g. In the event that all three candidates receive the same number of votes in the initial election balloting or that the two remaining candidates receive the same number of votes in an election held to break a tie between two candidates, the selection of the board member shall be determined by drawing of lots under the supervision of the commissioner of public safety, acting as chairperson of the board of trustees.

400.3(3) *Vacancies.* A vacancy in a position held by an elected member shall be filled in the same manner as the original election, and the newly elected member shall serve for the balance of the original term for the position filled.