MINUTES
PUBLIC MEETING
May 7, 2026
10:00 a.m.
IGCS – Conference Rooms 1 & 2, Wabash Hall

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were Mike Frick (Appointee, Treasurer of State), Chad Ranney (State Budget Director), and Hope Tribble (State Board of Finance Appointee). Staci Schneider, Britton Stucker, and Jessica Nejad (Comptroller of State); Kevin Kerswick and Katherine Brothers (Crowe, LLP); Mike Nader (Barnes & Thornburg, Counsel to the Committee and the Administrator); Michael Burkhart, Kimberley Rumple, John Archer, Tammie Tucker and Sarah Carlo (Nationwide, Third-Party Administrator to the Plans); and Tiffany Spudich and Susan Somers (Capital Cities, L.L.C., Investment Consultant to the Committee) were also present.

II. Live-Streaming Disclaimer

The meeting was live-streamed. Ms. Somers, of Capital Cities, provided the disclaimer.

III. Approval of the Previous Minutes

State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2026 meeting. **Mr. Frick moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Ranney seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.**

IV. 2025 Audited Financial Report

Mr. Kerswick and Ms. Brothers, of Crowe, LLP, presented the 2025 Audited Financial Report. Mr. Kerswick discussed the auditing and testing process for internal controls. Ms. Brothers noted the positive change in financial position and the increase in investment income due to strong returns and market conditions. She also explained that the Financial Statement has been updated this year due to the implementation of new GASB Standards; however, the substance of the report is like what has been presented in previous years. Mr. Kerswick reiterated the responsibilities of auditors and noted appreciation for good communication throughout the audit. Crowe issued a clean audit opinion, with no instances of non-compliance, operational issues or adjustments. **Ms. Tribble motioned to approve the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended December 31, 2025. Mr. Frick seconded. The Audited Financial Statement was unanimously approved.**

V. Third-Party Administrator Report

Ms. Rumple, of Nationwide, reported that two new governmental agencies recently adopted the Hoosier START Plan. Webinar changes have been implemented, and there have been 42 webinars with approximately 2,000 participants enrolled. Kayleigh Moreau, of Nationwide, spoke with 600 employees at the DNR. Nationwide hired a new personal retirement consultant in late 2025, Justin Clapp, who has also been working to increase engagement. There are three open positions on the Nationwide team due to natural attrition.

Mr. Burkhart, of Nationwide, thanked Sarah Carlo for her work in providing information to Crowe for the annual audit. He also shared that they recently submitted Hoosier START for the National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators (NAGDCA) Leadership Award for participant communication and webinars, along with the significant increase in participation. In addition, Mr. Burkhart noted that the Comptroller's Office and Nationwide recently completed a four-year extension of the Nationwide contract. Mr. Burkhart expressed their appreciation of the partnership. As part of the renewal, Nationwide decreased their fee per participant from $48 to $42 per year, a 12.5% reduction.

Mr. Burkhart highlighted that 9,264 participants are utilizing the Roth option, an increase of 243 participants from the fourth quarter. Mr. Burkhart also noted an increase in rollovers and transfers during the first quarter. Mr. Burkhart indicated this is common, as rollovers tend to increase during tax season. Mr. Burkhart shared that 65% of participants receive their statements and other communications from the Plans via email notification. 68% of distributions that were processed were initiated online, creating a more seamless process. Currently, 41% of accounts have beneficiaries on file. Mr. Burkhart noted that upcoming enhancements to the website will prompt participants to set up beneficiary information. Mr. Burkhart reported that 302 participants enrolled online in the first quarter; this was 91% of enrollments (state employees are auto-enrolled). More participants are using the My Income & Retirement Planner to help them understand their retirement needs and how to reach their goals.

VI. Investment Consultant's Report

1Q26 Performance & Evaluation Report

Ms. Spudich, of Capital Cities, presented the Considerations/Observations page of the 1Q26 Performance and Evaluation Report. She shared that Capital Cities completes a custom project each quarter. This quarter, Capital Cities reviewed the Investment Policy Statement and made updates to the Appendices. Ms. Spudich mentioned that the Department of Labor recently issued a proposed fiduciary rule for selecting investment options, including those with alternatives. A sound, documented process has historically been utilized in the selection of the Hoosier START investment options; however, Capital Cities recommends reviewing and potentially updating the Investment Policy Statement guidelines once the rule is finalized. Mr. Nader, of Barnes & Thornburg, shared that while the Department of Labor (DOL) rules do not apply to the Hoosier START Plans, using the DOL guidance is viewed as best practices.

Ms. Spudich highlighted again that a four-year renewal was negotiated with Nationwide, which included a fee reduction for participants. There were also enhanced terms for staffing, outreach, and education commitments.

Ms. Spudich noted that the Committee has been very thoughtful in limiting exposure to China and Hong Kong. Capital Cities conducted due diligence with Fidelity about launching a new collective investment trust (CIT) vehicle that excludes China and Hong Kong from the Diversified International Fund's portfolio construction. Since the last Committee meeting, Fidelity's Board approved the new CIT, with no other changes to the portfolio manager, philosophy/process, or, notably, the fee. Ms. Nieshalla expressed her appreciation for Fidelity creating the new ex-China, ex-Hong Kong vehicle at no extra cost to Hoosier START participants. **Mr. Ranney motioned to approve transitioning to the new Fidelity Diversified International ex-China, ex-Hong Kong CIT. Mr. Frick seconded. The CIT was unanimously approved.**

Ms. Spudich gave an overview of market performance in the first quarter, noting that global markets were volatile at the end of the first quarter given the conflict in the Middle East. First quarter's performance was generally flat to negative across equities and fixed income.

Ms. Spudich highlighted that the Plans' assets stood at $2,375,177,203, as of March 31, 2026, with 26% of the assets in the Plans' default option, the State Street Target Retirement Funds. The remaining 74% of assets were in the Plans' individual options that allow participants to build their own diversified portfolios. Ms. Spudich also noted the performance of the State Street Target Retirement Funds ranged from -1.4% (2070 Fund) to 0.5% (Retirement Income) during the first quarter, and from 10% to 20% over the last one-year period.

Ms. Spudich provided a summary qualitative and quantitative review ("stoplight grid") of each of the investment options. All the options are in good to excellent standing per the Investment Policy Statement guidelines.

Investment Policy Statement

Ms. Somers highlighted that Capital Cities' quarterly fiduciary project was a review of the Investment Policy Statement. Ms. Somers stated that no updates were required to the Investment Policy Statement; however, the Appendices were updated. **Mr. Frick motioned to approve the Investment Policy Statement. Mr. Ranney seconded the motion. The Investment Policy Statement was unanimously approved.**

Mr. Nader suggested that the Committee authorize the Chairperson, State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla, to execute the Investment Policy Statement on behalf of the Committee. **Mr. Ranney moved to authorize the Chairperson to sign on behalf of the Committee. Ms. Tribble seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

VII. Old Business

None.

VIII. New Business

None.

IX. Adjournment

With no further business before the Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m. **Mr. Frick motioned for adjournment. Ms. Tribble seconded the motion.** The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2026.