

## **Sunset Advisory Commission 2022 Board and Commission Questionnaire**

The Sunset Advisory Commission reviews every State board and commission and takes testimony regarding whether each board or commission should continue to operate or be eliminated and whether the powers and duties of any board or commission should be revised. Each board and commission has the burden of justifying its continued operation.

Please answer the following questions about the specific board or commission under review. If asked to testify before the Sunset Advisory Commission, please plan to provide concise recommendations regarding the continued operation of the board or commission under review and any revisions to its powers, duties, or membership.

1. In general, how often does the board and commission meet? Provide specific information on how often the board or commission has met in the past two fiscal years. Provide information on where agendas and minutes of meetings can be found.

VPIC meets 9-10 times each year and has done so for the past two years. Minutes, agendas, and other materials can be found on our website at the following link: [VPIC General Meetings - All Documents \(vermont.gov\)](https://www.vermont.gov/info/000001234).

2. Provide the names of members of the board or commission, their term length and expiration, their appointing authority, and the amount of any per diem they receive.

VPIC members and terms are listed in Attachment A to this questionnaire. Per diems are \$50.00 per meeting day. The Chairman is paid at a rate equal to one-third of the State Treasurer's salary.

3. Provide an overview of the board or commission's purpose.

VPIC's role is to manage the investments of the three statewide pension plans with the goal of maximizing investment returns within prudent levels of risk and liquidity.

4. Is that purpose still needed? What would happen if the board or commission no longer fulfilled that purpose?

Yes, VPIC is still needed as nearly \$6 billion in pension investments need to be managed for the long-term.

5. How well is the board or commission performing in executing that purpose? What evidence can you provide to substantiate that performance?

VPIC is performing well in executing its purpose, as reflected in our investment performance reports. Performance reports can be found at the following link: [Investment Performance Reports - All Documents \(vermont.gov\)](https://www.vermont.gov/info/000001234)

6. If the purpose is still needed, can State government be more effective and efficient if the purpose was executed in a different manner? ‘

We believe that executing VPIC's mission in a different manner would be neither more effective, nor more efficient. We do, however, see some opportunities to clarify VPIC's status as an "independent commission" as set forth in Section 522 of Title 3, Chapter 17. These include removing specific citations of "The Office of the State Treasurer" and clarifying VPIC's authority to engage legal counsel.

7. If the purpose is still needed, do any of your board or commission's functions overlap or duplicate those of another State board or commission or federal or State agency? If so, is your board or commission still the best entity to fulfill the purpose?

We are not aware of any overlap of VPIC functions with any other State board or commission or federal or State agency. We do, however, provide some assistance to the State Treasurer regarding the defined contribution and other investment programs under that Office's oversight.

8. Does the board or commission's enabling law continue to correctly reflect the purpose and activities of the board or commission?

Yes, the current enable law continues to correctly reflect the purpose and activities of the Commission, though we believe it could be strengthened and clarified in areas outlined above.

9. Provide a list of the board and commission's last fiscal year expenditures including staffing costs. How are these funded?

Fiscal year 2023 is our first budget year as an independent commission, therefore we are unable to provide a list of expenditures for any prior periods. Our fiscal year 2023 budget is included as Attachment B to this questionnaire

10. Is the board or commission required by law to prepare any reports or studies for the Legislature, the Governor, or any State agency or officer? If so, have those reports or studies been produced? Does the board or commission have ongoing reporting obligations?

VPIC is required to file an annual report with the Vermont legislature. That report can be found at the following link: [Legislative Reports - All Documents \(vermont.gov\)](https://legislative.vermont.gov/legislative-reports)

**ATTACHMENT A: VPIC Member Terms**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Commission Term Expiration</b>
Thomas Golonka	VPIC Chair	1/26/2016	6/30/2036
Elizabeth Pearce	Vermont State Treasurer	1/25/2011	Elected
Justin Norris	VSTRS Representative	6/30/2022	6/30/2025
Mary Alice McKenzie	Governor's Delegate	1/1/2019	6/30/2021
Kimberly Gleason	VMERS Representative	7/10/2017	6/30/2025
Robert Hooper	VSERS Representative	7/12/2005	6/30/2023
Lauren Wobby	Governor's Delegate	8/31/2021	6/30/2024
Jeff Briggs	VSERS Representative	10/3/2014	6/30/2023
Ronald Plante	Governor's Delegate	2/1/2020	6/30/2021
Chris Dube	VMERS Representative	6/8/2021	6/30/2025
Perry Lessing	VSTRS Representative	7/8/2021	6/30/2026
Steve Jeffrey	Municipal Employer	9/1/2022	6/30/2026
Jim Salsgiver	School Employer	6/8/2021	6/30/2023

## ATTACHMENT B: VPIC Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

Item	FY 2023	FY 2023 Final Budget	Subtotal
<b>Administrative</b>			
	Administrative Support (Gross Staff Pay)	352,348.65	
	New Position	0.00	
	Board Chair Salary	42,551.60	
	IT Hardware/Software/Supplies	1,530.00	
	Startup Costs	0.00	
	ADS Allocated Charges	7,340.44	
		1,000.00	
	Postage/Printing/Binding/Communications/Advertising		
	Fee for Space	21,740.00	
	Other Rentals	5,000.00	
	Office Supplies	2,900.00	
	FMS/HRMS/VISION Assessment	0.00	
		14,100.00	
	Dues/Subscriptions		
	Staff Education & Travel	50,000.00	
	Office Equipment	15,000.00	
	VPIC Meeting Expenses	34,500.00	
	Commissioner Education and Travel	0.00	
	Annual In House Fiduciary Duty Training	11,000.00	
	Miscellaneous	15,000.00	
			574,010.69
<b>Benefits</b>			
	Staff Insurance/Health/Life/Taxes & Chair (Paid Leave)	174,189.69	
	New Position	0.00	
			174,189.69
<b>Studies</b>			
	Asset Liability Study	100,000.00	
	Compensation, Governance & Other Studies	50,000.00	
			150,000.00
<b>Agency Support</b>			
	Attorney General/Legal	85,868.00	
	Auditor of Accounts	66,000.00	
	Human Resources	0.00	
	AoA Financial Services Administrative Support	20,000.00	
	Office of the State Treasurer	35,000.00	
			206,868.00
<b>Vendors</b>			
	Investment Consultant	410,000.00	
	Custodian Bank	350,000.00	
	Proxy Voting & ESG Advisor	35,000.00	
	Investment Data Warehouse	162,500.00	
	Bloomberg Terminals	49,116.36	
		25,000.00	
	Actuary		
			1,031,616.36
			2,136,684.74
<b>Source of Funds</b>			0.037%
	Special Funds - State Retirement System		100%