

Transcript Prepared By the Clerk of the Legislature
Transcriber's Office

Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee
March 13, 2012

[CONFIRMATION]

The Committee on Nebraska Retirement Systems met at 12:10 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, in Room 1525 of the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on gubernatorial appointments. Senators present: Jeremy Nordquist, Chairperson; Russ Karpisek; R. Paul Lambert; and Heath Mello. Senators absent: LeRoy Loudon, Vice Chairperson; and Lavon Heidemann.

SENATOR NORDQUIST: Good afternoon and welcome to the Retirement Systems Committee. I'm state Senator Jeremy Nordquist from District 7. We have one confirmation appointment to hear today. We'll go around and do introductions. First, I'll do the staff. To my far right is Laurie Vollertsen, our committee clerk. To my left is Kate Allen, our committee counsel. Page today is Justin, and we'll start here with...to my right with senator introductions.

SENATOR MELLO: Senator Heath Mello, District 5, south Omaha and midtown.

SENATOR KARPISEK: Russ Karpisek, District 32, from Wilber.

SENATOR LAMBERT: Senator Paul Lambert, District 2, portions of Otoe, Sarpy, and all of Cass County.

SENATOR NORDQUIST: And Senator Loudon and Senator Heidemann are not able to join us at this time. We will go ahead and welcome Ron Ecklund up to the podium for...and to tell us a little bit about himself. Welcome. [CONFIRMATION]

RON ECKLUND: Thank you. Again, my name is Ron Ecklund. I am a practicing CPA in Lincoln, where I...I came to Lincoln in 1968 as a college student and have just never left. We started our firm in 1974 and I have been with the same firm since then. And we're a local firm, obviously. We had four people when we started. We're now approaching 40 people in our firm. I have retired recently as a partner, but I continue to work. They will let me work as much as I want to, which as the years go by, that's less and less. But I've had a good career in public accounting. I see a lot of 1099-Rs from the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System, as I do tax returns. And I have been involved in the Lincoln community extensively throughout...over the years, with the Lincoln Foundation, with the Lincoln Independent Business Association, with the Lincoln Electric System Board of Directors, and other entities, but this would be my first venture into a state appointment. [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR NORDQUIST: Great, great. Well, thank you. Thank you for your interest in serving on the PERB. Any questions from the committee? All right, seeing none, thank you. [CONFIRMATION]

Transcript Prepared By the Clerk of the Legislature
Transcriber's Office

Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee
March 13, 2012

RON ECKLUND: That was pretty easy, thank you. (Laughter) [CONFIRMATION]

SENATOR NORDQUIST: Any testimony, open testimony here, on this appointment?
Seeing none, that will conclude our hearing. Thank you. [CONFIRMATION]