

**Minutes of Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**Arizona School Board Association Insurance Trust Of the**  
**Meeting Held January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026**  
**Phoenix, Arizona**

A public meeting of the Trustees of the Arizona School Boards Association Insurance Trust (ASBAIT) was convened on January 21st, 2026 at 10:02 am in the ASBA Office, 2100 N Central Ave #200, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Crystle Nehrmeyer, Chairperson; a quorum was present.

Trustees in attendance:

Chairperson Nehrmeyer Vice

Chair Dr. Ashley Hodge

Treasurer Ellen White

Troy Thygerson

Thomas Thurman

Laura Emslie

Joanne Conlin (virtually, 10:21am – 3:30pm) Mike

De LaO

Margot Jones

Chris Knutsen

Michael Tannehill

Others in attendance at the meeting were: Anthony Contente-Cuomo, (Legal Counsel, Sims Mackin), Leslie Schneider (Acrisure), Jeff Bloom (Acrisure), Peter Freska (Acrisure), Josh Axene (10:08am – 2:32pm) Eleanor Schroeder (Acrisure), Michelle Beal (Acrisure), Kristine Carlew (Acrisure), Rick Cajthaml (Meritain Health), Tanya Danjou (Meritain Health), Chuck Nelson (Meritain Health), Monica Zook (Meritain Health), Judy Herz (Meritain Health), Kris Kot (virtually, CBIZ), Dani Rodriguez (virtually, Vail), Jennifer Argon (virtually, CBIZ), Lily Lopez (Madison Unified School District), Brittany Brown (Nogales Unified School District), and Patrick Dittman (Gallagher)

Chairperson Nehrmeyer called the meeting to order at 10:02 am and began with Roll Call. The Board then moved onto Agenda Item III, Call to the Public, there was no call to the public.

Chairperson Nehrmeyer then proceeded to Agenda Item A: Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes from October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Mr. DeLaO motioned to approve the meeting minutes from October 15, 2025. Dr. Hodge seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. James Marta from James Marta, Mr. Michael Torcaso, and Ms. Jessica Anderson from Eide Bailly joined the meeting virtually at 10:05am.

The Board then moved on to Agenda Item B1, Reports and Updates, ASBAIT Financial & Investment Update. The Board reviewed the audit results presented by Mr. James Marta. The audit was performed as planned, and an unmodified opinion was issued, with no concerns identified. For the 2024 plan year, assets and liabilities increased. While expenses exceeded income, it was a significant improvement over the prior year and primarily due to increased claim costs. The audit was deemed successful, no questions were raised, and Mr. Marta, Mr. Torcaso, and Ms. Anderson all left the meeting at 10:12am.

The Board moved on to Agenda Item B2, Sales Activity Report, with Mr. Nelson noting 26 new meetings, three Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and 15 Requests for Quotes (RFQs). The active opportunities represent approximately 4,900 potential new members. Discussion included Request for Proposal timing, at-risk districts, charter school participation, plan design options, pricing review, and efforts to ensure profitability. The discussion further addressed the marketing needs to attract additional districts and ongoing sales efforts to promote ASBAIT benefits.

Ms. Zook then discussed Agenda Item B3, Marketing Activity Report, which included a recap of the ASPAA/ASBA conference, with Ms. Zook reporting that ASBAIT received the APAA Best Booth Award. Next, Monica shared the recently created ASBAIT commercial. It was noted that the commercial is available on YouTube and Meritain will work with Acrisure to post the video to the ASBAIT website, as well as with ASBA to post and distribute via additional communication channels through ASBA.

The Board then moved on to Agenda Item C, Sponsorships. The trustees reviewed several sponsorship funding requests, including Vail Pride Day, with an event sponsorship of \$2,500; Cave Creek "Rock the District," for which Ms. Zook recommended a \$2,000 sponsorship consistent with the prior year; Benson Schools Wellness Day, requesting \$2,100 to sponsor a staff lunch at the event, which includes a workshop focused on mental, physical, social and financial health and will include on-site biometric screenings; and the ASPAA Strikeforce bowling event, requesting \$2,500. Chairperson Nehrmeyer then made a

motion stating, “I move to approve the Vail Pride day at the \$2,250 amount, The Cave Creek Rock the District at \$2,000 amount, the Benson Schools Wellness Day full lunch payment of \$2,100, and ASPAA Strikeforce at \$2,500”, Mr. DeLaO seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Axene then discussed Agenda Item D, Fall 2025 Wellness Campaign Review and Spring 2026 Campaign, at approximately 10:48. Mr. Axene reported that more than 2,500 participants joined the Fall Wellness Campaign over a four-week period. He also noted that the Spring 2026 campaign will be Olympic-themed, with a participation goal of 3,000 individuals.

The Board moved on to Agenda Item E, ASBAIT Full-Time Staff Member Search, led by Ms. White. Ms. White provided an update on the search, noting limited responses from external search firms. Of those that responded, Ms. White noted that the proposed costs are in line with prior searches conducted by ASBA. Discussion among the Trustees included the use of a search firm versus an in-house recruitment approach, salary considerations search timeline expectations and the possible formation of a hiring committee. Further discussion on the topic will be revised at a future meeting.

The Board moved on to Agenda Item F, ASBAIT Branding in Conjunction with ASBA, as requested by Ms. Emslie, who led the discussion. It was agreed that Ms. White would work with the ASBA communications team to add the ASBAIT commercial, as well as additional information about ASBAIT on the ASBA website.

The Board moved on to Agenda Item G, Directors and Officers Insurance Policy Renewal Process, presented by Mr. Freska. Mr. Freska reviewed the current premium split between ASBA and ASBAIT, noting that ASBA owns the policy, and recommended changing the policy year to July 1 to better align with the organizations’ other renewals, with no additional cost anticipated. Following discussion regarding payment timing and confirmation that there would be no coverage gap or lapse. Chairperson Nehrmeyer stated, “I motion to approve the continued premium split of 75% and to pay ASBA this amount with the renewal.” Mr. DeLaO seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Board moved on to Agenda Item O, BOK Financial—Updates to ASBAIT Signature Card. Mr. Bloom noted recent changes in ASBAIT leadership, including the appointment of a new Treasurer and Vice Chair, and explained that although all payments are processed electronically through Bill.com, it was still recommended to update the BOK signature card. Mr. Thurman stated, “I Motion to update the signatories for all of ASBAIT’s BOK Financial bank accounts to include the ASBAIT Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer, maintain the Acrisure team and remove any non-active signatories.” Ms. Zuniga seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Board then moved on to Agenda Item P, AGRiP Recognition Update. Ms. Schroeder reported that the recognition application was submitted on December 30, 2025. She noted that a determination is expected within approximately three months and that recipients will be announced at the conference in March.

The Board then moved on to Agenda Item Q, International Medical Solutions (IMS) Tour Scheduling, presented by Ms. Schroeder. Ms. Schroeder noted that the February tour remains scheduled, with a possible rescheduling of an additional tour in April down to the Nogales facilities. Mr. Cajthaml added that representatives from Summerton may also attend. Mr. Freska commented that the tour provides a valuable and accessible overview of the facilities, including coordinated transportation logistics. Ms. Schroeder stated another scheduling survey will be distributed to the Trustees to help with rescheduling.

The Board then moved on to Agenda Item R, Special Meeting Scheduling. Discussion regarding a virtual special meeting in February to address additional topics, recommended that it be scheduled for 90 minutes to account for the expanded agenda. Taking into account scheduling constraints, the Board agreed to set the meeting for Tuesday, February 24 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom, with Ms. Schroeder to send the meeting invitation and block the time on calendars.

The Board motioned at 11:35am to convene into Executive Session. Chairperson Nehrmeyer, seconded by Dr. Hodge, stated "I motion to enter executive session for Item H pursuant to A(2) and A(4)." and it passed unanimously.

The Board left Executive Session at 11:57am.

The next motion referred to Agenda Items H1-H4, Second Level Appeals. Dr. Hodge stated, "I move to deny all four appeals in Agenda Item H." Mr. Thygeron seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Board took a break for lunch from 12:00pm to 12:35pm.

The Board reconvened and motioned at 12:35pm to convene into Executive Session. Chairperson Nehrmeyer, seconded by Dr. Hodge, stated "I motion to enter executive session for Items I,J,K,L,M, and N pursuant to A(3) and A(4)." and it passed unanimously.

The Board left Executive Session at 4:03pm.

Referring to Agenda Item M, Contract Status Updates, Chairperson Nehrmeyer made a motion stating, "I motion to direct Acrisure to engage outside legal counsel with a cap as described in executive session, to negotiate and finalize the Meritain Administrative Services Agreement and Sales and Marketing Agreements. Also to authorize our current legal counsel to share records with outside legal counsel to finalize these agreements" The motion was seconded by Dr. Hodge and passed unanimously.

Referring to Agenda Item N, ASBAIT Investment Policy and BOK Financial Services Contract Approval, Chairperson Nehrmeyer motioned to approve the Investment Policy, as of January 21, 2026 and BOK Financial Services contract using the Basis Point approach, effective February 1, 2026, as presented., Mr. Thygerson seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The Board then moved on to Agenda Item V, Future Agenda Items. Items identified for future discussion included Meritain contract resolution, as well as a request from Ms. White to continue discussions related to self-funding.

There were no additional announcements. At 4.10p.m., Mr. DeLaO motioned to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dr. Hodge. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

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