Ms. Mummert opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and providing an overview of the day’s agenda. Ms. Mummert read the resignation email received from Edward “Tom” Jones and discussed updating the Retiree Connection Guidelines. While reviewing the current guidelines, member attendance was discussed and whether or not to remove frequently absent members from the group. Ms. Mummert will reach out to these members to find out their intent for future meetings. Ms. Mummert shared plans for promoting the current members in 2020, possible recruitment of new members in 2021 and reminded the group to continue considering requirements and qualifications needed to reflect current retiree demographics such as former agency, pension plan membership, age, geographic location, etc.

The group signed two Thank You cards. One for Tom Jones in recognition of his service to the Retiree Connection group, and one for Paul Fennewald in recognition of his participation as the main speaker during the 2019 Coffee Break season.

Ms. Mummert introduced Jamie Mullen to the members. Mr. Mullen is the new Assistant Benefits Officer and part of his duties include overseeing the retiree phone queue and fielding retiree questions. Mr. Mullen will continue participating in future Retiree Connection Meetings and attend at least one Coffee Break seminar each year.

Ms. Mummert turned the floor over to Andrea Binkley for a brief overview of the special Annual Term Life Insurance Review for all active employees (not including Conservation or University staff) with open enrollment from October 1 – 31, 2019. Mr. Kennedy asked about the new Travel Assistance provider for 2020 and requested more details about this program to be
published by MOSERS. Ms. Binkley stated she had already been in touch with The Standard and has a team assembled to work with the new provider to determine this information.

Ms. Mummert introduced the next speaker, Ronda Stegmann. Ms. Stegmann provided a review of the 2019 legislative session and of the interim committee established to study the MoDOT & Patrol Employees’ Retirement System (MPERS). At the last committee meeting, testimony was heard from both MPERS and MOSERS regarding the subject of MPERS/MOSERS consolidation and the meeting adjourned with no motions for further actions. Ms. Stegmann reminded everyone that pre-filing of bills begins December 2, 2019, for the 2020 legislative session. Ms. Stegmann also provided an update of MOSERS Board Meetings, including that the Board certified the contribution rate for fiscal year 2021 and that she will be meeting with the state budget director in October. Ms. Stegmann ended her session by showing the valuation reports on the website and previewing the new Benefit of Your Benefits video to the group.

Ms. Mummert introduced the next speakers, Brooke Rowden and Cindy Rehmeier, and their presentation titled “Retirement Income Spend-Down Strategies”. This presentation will be part of the Coffee Break program in 2020. After presenting their information, Ms. Rowden and Ms. Rehmeier opened the presentation to questions and feedback from the members.

The group broke for lunch and then reconvened for the afternoon session.

Ms. Mummert began the afternoon session by introducing Jody Tellman and her presentation titled “MCHCP Coverage for Medicare Eligible Members”. This presentation will be part of the Coffee Break program in 2020. After presenting her information, Ms. Tellman opened the presentation to questions and feedback from the members.

Ms. Mummert opened the rest of the meeting for discussion on the following topics:

- 2019 Coffee Break attendance and evaluations. The program experience an 84% overall attendance rate for the year. Feedback received from attendees was very positive.
- Tricia Kliethermes presented the 2020 Coffee Break schedule. Ms. Kliethermes stated that all but one location has been finalized and confirmed. A news article with the schedule will be released in the winter “RetireeNews”.
- The two presentations were discussed at length and Ms. Mummert will provide feedback to both regarding edits for next year’s presentations. Once the edits are complete, Ms. Mummert will notify the group and a decision will be made for an ad-hoc or online meeting for a second review process.

The meeting adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is May 29, 2020.