

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

## JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting  
March 31, 2023  
9:00 A.M., SHR 109

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2023031125>

### Members Present:

Senator Sonny Borrelli, Chair 2023  
Senator Eva Diaz  
Senator David C. Farnsworth  
Senator Anthony Kern  
Senator Juan Mendez

Representative Matt Gress, Chair 2024  
Representative Timothy M. Dunn  
Representative Alma Hernandez  
Representative Marcelino Quiñonez

### Members Excused:

Senator Warren Petersen, Ex-officio

Representative Beverly Pingerelli  
Representative Ben Toma, Ex-officio

### Staff:

Anna Nguyen, Senate Research Staff  
Cecelia Sicklebower, Senate Research Intern  
Joel Hobbins, House Research Staff  
Isabella Garbero, House Research Intern

Chairman Borrelli called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. and attendance was noted.

### Arizona Auditor General's (Office) statutory responsibilities

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, distributed a booklet entitled "Joint Legislative Audit Committee - March 31, 2023 - 9:00 a.m." (Attachment A). Ms. Perry gave an overview of the Office of the Auditor General's responsibilities (Attachment A, Tab 1) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kern offered comments.

Ms. Perry offered comments.

Senator Farnsworth offered comments.

Senator Kern offered additional comments.

Senator Farnsworth offered additional comments.

Ms. Perry answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

## **OFFICE PRESENTATIONS**

### **Special report on Arizona K-12 education COVID-19 federal relief spending in fiscal year 2022 and in total through June 30, 2022**

**Meghan Hieger, Director, Accountability Services Division, Auditor General's Office**, gave an overview of the total spending by K-12 schools using COVID-19 federal relief monies as described on the Arizona Auditor General's website ([https://www.azauditor.gov/District\\_charter\\_ADE\\_COVID-19\\_spending\\_special\\_report\\_FY\\_2022](https://www.azauditor.gov/District_charter_ADE_COVID-19_spending_special_report_FY_2022)). Ms. Hieger answered questions posed by the Committee.

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Hieger continued presenting the overview of total spending described on the website ([https://www.azauditor.gov/District\\_charter\\_ADE\\_COVID-19\\_spending\\_special\\_report\\_FY\\_2022](https://www.azauditor.gov/District_charter_ADE_COVID-19_spending_special_report_FY_2022)) and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress offered comments.

Ms. Perry answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Hieger explained the interactive dashboard found on the Arizona Auditor General's website ([https://www.azauditor.gov/District\\_charter\\_ADE\\_COVID-19\\_spending\\_special\\_report\\_FY\\_2022](https://www.azauditor.gov/District_charter_ADE_COVID-19_spending_special_report_FY_2022)), explaining the spending which is broken down by various demographics and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Perry answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Hieger continued explaining the dashboard and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress offered additional comments.

Ms. Hieger answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress offered additional comments.

Ms. Hieger continued explaining the dashboard and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Borrelli offered comments.

## **Arizona School District Spending Analysis - Fiscal Year 2022**

**Scott Swagerty, Director, Division of School Audits, Auditor General's Office,** introduced Alexa Tavasci, Manager, Division of School Audits.

**Alexa Tavasci, Manager, Division of School Audits, Auditor General's Office,** shared a link for the "School district spending analysis - Fiscal year 2022" interactive dashboard (<https://sdspending.azauditor.gov>) and explained a spending analysis for Arizona School Districts for Fiscal Year 2022. Ms. Tavasci answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Tavasci continued presenting the dashboard (<https://sdspending.azauditor.gov>) and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

**Meghan Hieger, Director, Accountability Services Division, Auditor General's Office,** answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Tavasci answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress offered comments.

Ms. Tavasci answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Ms. Tavasci continued presenting the dashboard (<https://sdspending.azauditor.gov>) and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered additional comments.

Ms. Tavasci continued presenting the dashboard (<https://sdspending.azauditor.gov>) and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

## **Arizona Board of Regents - Commercial Real Estate: 36-month follow-up report**

**Jeff Gove, Director, Performance Audit Division, Auditor General's Office,** explained the section, "A Performance Audit of the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) - Commercial Real Estate" (Attachment A, Tab 4) from October 2019. Mr. Gove distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Board of Regents - Commercial Real Estate" (Attachment B) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kern offered comments.

Mr. Gove continued with the PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B) and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Mr. Gove continued with the PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B) and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered additional comments.

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Quiñonez, Senator Borrelli and Representative Dunn offered comments.

Ms. Perry offered comments.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF AUDITOR GENERAL REAPPOINTMENT PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1)**

The Committee recessed to Executive Session at 11:52 a.m.

### **RECESS**

At 11:52 a.m. the Chairman recessed the meeting to the sound of the gavel.

### **RECONVENE**

At 12:02 the Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Committee reconvened at 12:19 p.m.

### **RECONVENE FOR CONSIDERATION AND VOTE ON AUDITOR GENERAL REAPPOINTMENT**

**Representative Gress moved that the Joint Legislative Audit Committee appoint Lindsey Perry as the Auditor General of the State of Arizona for the next 5 years, subject to approval by the Legislature. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.**

### **NEXT JLAC MEETING**

Senator Borrelli announced that the next JLAC meeting would be in June.

Senators Farnworth and Borrelli offered comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Dickey  
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)