



STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Employee Trust Funds
Robert J. Conlin
SECRETARY

Wisconsin Department
of Employee Trust Funds
PO Box 7931
Madison WI 53707-7931
1-877-533-5020 (toll free)
Fax 608-267-4549
etf.wi.gov

Correspondence Memorandum

Date: June 5, 2019

To: Employee Trust Funds Board
Teachers Retirement Board
Wisconsin Retirement Board

From: Cheryllynn Wilkins, Board Liaison
Office of the Secretary

Subject: Board Correspondence

This memo is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

The Department of Employee Trust Funds occasionally receives correspondence on behalf of the Employee Trust Funds (Board) regarding proposed or recent changes to the Wisconsin Retirement System and other benefits.

Since the March 21, 2019, Board meeting, the following communication has been submitted for the Board's consideration:

1. May 27, 2019 – Mail Correspondence – Morton

Correspondence for Board consideration is welcome via email to BoardFeedback@etf.wi.gov or postal mail to Department of Employee Trust Funds, c/o ETF Board Liaison, P.O. Box 7931, Madison, WI 53707-7931.

Staff will be at the Board meeting to answer any questions.

Reviewed and approved by Pamela Henning, Assistant Deputy Secretary

Electronically Signed 6/10/19

Board	Mtg Date	Item #
JM	6.20.19	4E

RECEIVED
EMPLOYEE TRUST FUND

2019 MAY 30 AM 9:33

Morton

6601 Piedmont Road
Madison WI 53711-4032
608-273-8334

May 27, 2019

Boards of Trustees
ETF and WRS
PO Box 7931
Madison WI 53707-7931

Dear Trustees,

In reading through the recent newsletter we were reminded of the request we received earlier this year to cast ballots for new trustees to serve on the ETF and WRS boards. We want to express our gratitude and thanks for the excellent management of ETF and WRS. Its truly one of the great things about Wisconsin and we are the envy of the nation in many respects.

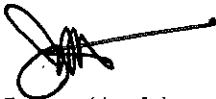
However, we are concerned about the apparent lack of gender and ethnic diversity represented by the nominees.

We appreciate and understand that it is important to that those nominated for trustees embody the technical and professional skills necessary to successfully fulfill responsibilities of the board. It is also important to us that the nominees (and boards as a whole) represent the gender and racial diversity of those they serve.

We hope you that future nominees to these boards are reflective of the gender and ethnic diversity of the ETF and WRS members.

Thank you for seriously considering this request. We are submitting this to you in good faith with the sincere intention of being helpful.

Sincerely yours,



James (Andy) and Karon Morton



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May 31, 2019

James and Karon Morton
6601 Piedmont Road
Madison, WI 53711-4032

Dear Mr. and Ms. Morton,

Thank you for your letter to the Employee Trust Funds Board dated May 27, 2019. It will be shared with the members of that board, as well as the Wisconsin Retirement and Teachers Retirement Boards.

The Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) and the boards share your concerns regarding the diversity of nominees that run for election to the three boards attached to the department that include elected members. We are aware of these concerns by Wisconsin Retirement System members as well and are working on ways to foster a more diverse slate of candidates in the future.

A challenge we face is that the candidates are self-selected. If a candidate fits the category for the seat (e.g., annuitant, public school teacher, etc.) and submits a valid nominating petition and candidate statement, the person may run for a seat. So, ETF and the boards have little control over who decides to participate. But, as stated above, we are working on any measures we can take to encourage more diversity in the candidates that go through the self-nomination process.

Thanks again for your thoughtful letter. We appreciate the feedback.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Lynn Wilkins
Board Liaison

Cc: Employee Trust Funds Board
Wisconsin Retirement Board
Teachers Retirement Board