

DRAFT

MINUTES

December 10, 2020

Wisconsin Retirement Board

State of Wisconsin



Location:

Department of Employee Trust Funds
This meeting was held via teleconference.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John David, Chair
Steven Wilding, Vice Chair
Julie Wathke, Secretary

Mark Afable
Wayne Koessl
Herbert Stinski
Mary Von Ruden

PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEE TRUST FUNDS (ETF) STAFF:

Office of the Secretary:
Bob Conlin, Secretary
John Voelker, Deputy Secretary
Cheryllynn Wilkins, Board Liaison

Division of Retirement Services:
Matt Stohr, Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT:

ETF Division of Management Services:
Patrick Hughes, Kadi Mbanefo
ETF Division of Retirement Services:
Anne Boudreau, Roger Fletcher, Jim
Guidry
ETF Office of Legal Services: Diana
Felsmann, Dan Hayes

ETF Office of the Secretary: Lisa Gurley,
Pam Henning, Tarna Hunter
ETF Board Member: Katy Lounsbury

Mr. David, Chair, Wisconsin Retirement Board (Board), called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Board	Mtg Date	Item #
WR	2.11.21	2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Stohr provided an update about the governing board redesign proposal, which was approved by the retirement boards and included in ETF's state budget request. The chairs of the three retirement boards also sent a letter to the Governor asking him to include the proposal in his budget. The Governor is set to deliver his budget address on February 16, 2021.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION: Mr. Wilding moved to approve the September 17, 2020, open and closed session minutes of the Wisconsin Retirement Board meeting, as submitted by the Board Liaison. Mr. Koessl seconded the motion, which passed unanimously on a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

State of Wisconsin Investment Board (SWIB) Appointee Annual Update

Mr. Conlin presented an update as the WR Board appointee on the SWIB Board of Trustees. The market was down in March but has improved since then and preliminary returns for the Core Fund are slightly over 11% through November. SWIB is making minor asset allocation changes since there may be opportunities in equities, but SWIB does not believe it needs to make big changes in 2021.

The Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) released management audit of SWIB. The report noted that SWIB's investment expenses continue to go up. This is due in part to having more assets under management and to having those assets managed externally. SWIB is also hiring more staff so it can bring more of those externally managed assets in-house.

Next week will be Secretary Conlin's last SWIB meeting. Kristi Palmer will be stepping into Mr. Conlin's position as the SWIB Audit Committee chair. ETF may call an extra meeting of the WR Board to appoint a new person to SWIB.

The staff at SWIB had a good year and took advantage of market conditions.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Mr. Stohr summarized the Legal Case Update. (Ref. WR | 12.10.20 | 4G), which involves a 40.63 disability case. The Dane County Circuit Court dismissed the employer's appeal with prejudice, due to a defect in the filing of the petition for review. The member will receive the benefit.

Future items

Mr. Stohr gave an update on the March Board meetings and the Retired Lives Actuarial Report that is normally presented at the Joint Meeting. It has not yet been decided if there will be a Joint Meeting of the Retirement Boards.

Mr. Conlin discussed the ETF Bounce Back plan and not having staff working in the building before April 2021. This date could be extended. All ETF governing Board meetings will be virtual through at least March 2021. ETF will keep the Board informed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Von Ruden moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Afable seconded the motion, which passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Date Approved: _____

Signed: _____

Julie Wathke Secretary
Wisconsin Retirement Board