

**SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF  
THE PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF MISSOURI**

**AND  
THE PUBLIC EDUCATION EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF MISSOURI**

**March 20, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Aaron Zalis, Chair  
Jason Hoffman, Vice-Chair  
Yvonne Heath  
Scott Hunt  
Sharon Kissinger  
Beth Knes  
Jason Steliga

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Steve Yoakum, Exec. Director  
Dearld Snider, Asst. Exec. Dir., Oper.  
Craig Husting, Asst. Exec. Dir., Invest  
Sarah Swoboda, General Counsel  
Anita Brand, Chief Financial Officer  
Maria Walden, Legislative Director  
Nicole Hamler, Dir. of Member Serv.  
Omar Davis, Dir. of Employer Serv.  
Jeff Hyman, Director of Internal Audit  
Susan Wood, Communications Dir.  
Stacie Verslues, Dir. Admin Design

**Meeting Convened**

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees convened at 10:00 a.m. via teleconference (telephone access at 415-655-0002). In attendance were Board members Aaron Zalis, Jason Hoffman, Yvonne Heath, Scott Hunt, Sharon Kissinger, Beth Knes and Jason Steliga. Also present were Executive Director, M. Steve Yoakum; Assistant Executive Director, Investments, Craig Husting; Assistant Executive Director, Operations, Dearld Snider; General Counsel, Sarah Swoboda; Chief Financial Officer, Anita Brand; Director of Employer Services, Omar Davis; Director of Member Services, Nicole Hamler; Communications Director, Susan Wood; Director of Administrative Planning and Design, Stacie Verslues; and various other PSRS/PEERS staff members.

**Investments  
Asset Allocation**

Mr. Craig Husting from PSRS/PEERS recapped the Asset/Liability Study that was presented at the February 10, 2020 Board Meeting. In summary, the presentation included several asset allocation scenarios and a recommendation on the use of leverage at the Total Fund level. The Investment Policy currently allows for the use of leverage within several PSRS/PEERS' investment programs. Additionally, Staff currently has the ability to rebalance the portfolio. However, in markets where liquidity is coveted, staff is seeking the flexibility to utilize leverage to most effectively implement asset allocation decisions. Mr. Hunt moved to authorize the use of leverage up to a maximum of 10 percent of total plan assets (through futures,

PSRS4883  
PEERS3118

swaps, or other derivative instruments) to efficiently implement portfolio rebalancing and/or to apply modest leverage to total plan assets. Ms. Knes seconded the motion. Voting “Aye”—Zalis, Hoffman, Heath, Hunt, Kissinger, Knes, and Steliga; “Nay”—None. The motion carried unanimously.

**COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Steve Yoakum from PSRS/PEERS shared with the Board the actions that have been taken regarding COVID-19. Mr. Yoakum reiterated that our primary mission of providing retirement financial security remains at the forefront but at the same time, the safety of our Board, staff, members and general public is also important. At this time the following actions have taken place; the April 6, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting will be held in electronic format rather than in-person, we have suspended all business travel as well as prohibiting vendors from physically visiting our offices, informational meetings with members have been rescheduled as web meetings, and all in-person counseling is being offered as telephone or web-based sessions. Mr. Yoakum shared that because of our robust disaster recovery/business continuity plans we have been able to send roughly 70% of our staff home to telecommute and are able to function rather seamlessly. We will continue to update the Board as things progress.

**Adjournment**  
PSRS4884  
PEERS3119

Ms. Heath moved that the meeting adjourn. Mr. Steliga seconded the motion. Voting “Aye”—Zalis, Hoffman, Heath, Hunt, Kissinger, Knes and Steliga; “Nay”—None. The motion carried unanimously.