

# Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants

[www.wicoa.org](http://www.wicoa.org)

## Minutes of Meeting September 16, 2019

The meeting was held at the Wisconsin Education Association Council, Media Room, 33 Nob Hill, Madison, and was called to order by the Chair Sandy Drewat 9:30 a.m.

**DIRECTORS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:** W. Backes, AFSCME 32; R. Beglinger, WFT-R; J. Blank, BLUE-R; B. Brooks, CWCR; S. Drew, SWIB; E. Frank, DNR; S. Haase, UWRA; B. Holmes, ESP; A. Knop, WEAC-R; R. Kratz, DOC; J. Lawton, ACE; J. Maydak, West Allis; J. Miller, DNR; E. Reiter, KM-R; B. Schaefer, SEA; T. Speranza, RPPFW; R. Springman, WFT-R; J. Stangl, DCAREA; S. Sweet, BAREA; J. Thiel, ACE; J. Vreeland, Wauwatosa; C. Welch, BAREA; D. Wilcenski, WREA.

**GUESTS:** J. Forester, T. Hunter, A. Larson, C. Preisler, J. Risch, P. Smelser, R. Wojciak.

**EXCUSED:** J. Egan, J. Grosklous.

**MINUTES** of the August meeting were approved as mailed.

### **GUEST: Chris Preisler, Communications Specialist, SWIB.**

Preliminary returns as of August 31, 2019, Core Fund 13.1% with a benchmark of 12.8% and Variable Fund at 15.3% with a benchmark of 15.3%. Core fund is \$103.1 billion, the Variable \$7.8 billion for a total of \$110.9 billion in management.

Portfolio returns are positive. Hedge funds and leverage are performing the way they were expected. The S&P and Russell 3000 are doing well and total investments are positive heading into the homestretch.

There has not been a replacement hired for Chuck Carpenter who was responsible for Alpha production in Private Equity, Real Estate, and Hedge Funds.

Trustee Esther Ancel has been committee approved and will move on for Senate approval. There is still one trustee vacancy.

SWIB is in the process of finding a new physical location, need additional space. They have been considering three locations in downtown Madison.

The Board of Trustees has been nominated for an award as an Institutional Investors Board of the year. Dave Villa has been named as one of the top 30 chief investment officer's for 2019.

### **GUEST: Tarna Hunter, Director of Strategic Engagement and Government Relations, ETF.**

There has been minimal activity with the legislature. Several bills have been reviewed with no further action.

### **GUEST: Arlene Larson, ETF Office of Strategic Health Policy, Federal Health Programs and Policy Manager (Medicare Advantage Program).**

A handout provided a review of Medicare offerings. Part A hospital care, part B doctor care, part C optional Medicare Advantage and part D pharmacy benefit. Also reviewed were the 10 health plans offered by ETF and Medicare Advantage offered by United Healthcare. The WEA trust health plan is a supplemental to Medicare. It's Your Choice will be available beginning September 30 through October 25. Be sure to use the ETF website. <https://etf.wi.gov>

News: Retiree medicare rates for pharmacy are going down, using the surplus that had been built up when the State was considering self insurance which did not get approval.

Security health plan is no longer available, affecting approximate 8,000 participants. Other plans are expanding their coverage areas.

ETF's website - Give "Alex" a try for answering any questions.

Medicare Advantage - Enrollment 4,300 retirees, with spouses 6,500 members. High rate of satisfaction, 97%, with few complaints. For 2020 medicare advantage retired members with a spouse not medicare eligible will be able to select a second plan. Check the Its Your Choice rate plans.

With a life-changing event, such as retirement, insurance coverage may be changed within 30 days of the event and not required to wait until open enrollment.

Dental Insurance through Delta Dental is a supplemental benefit for **all** retirees. There are various plans for those enrolled in the State Group Health Insurance programs and those not enrolled. Benefits and rates vary. There was discussion regarding costs. (following the meeting it was reported that rate increases are not as high as was mentioned at the meeting.)  
[https://etf.wi.gov/search?search\\_api\\_fulltext=Dental&page=1](https://etf.wi.gov/search?search_api_fulltext=Dental&page=1)

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None

**OLD BUSINESS** -Bylaws committee shared their suggested revisions. A copy was provided for individual review and further discussion at our October meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS** - Nominating Committee: Bob Beglinger, Chair; Allen Knop, Shirley Sweet.

- WCOA should update our WICOA power point to describe the annuity adjustment process.
- A representative of Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare would like to meet with WRS annuitants for an informal sharing. Contact Sandy if willing to participate.
- American Family will be contacted to reserve Friday May 15, 2020 for the WCOA Annual Conference.
- The WCOA trifold was revised by Gerry. Review and share any changes at next meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Checkbook balance \$9,802.25. No activity. Treasurer report accepted as presented

**NEXT MEETING:** October 21, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. Wisconsin Education Association Council, Media Room, 33 Nob Hill, Madison, WI.

The meeting adjourned by 11:15 a.m.

Annual Conference Friday May 15, 2020.

Respectfully submitted – Dick Kratz