

# Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants

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

## Minutes of Meeting October 18,2021

The meeting was held by Zoom and was called to order by the Chair Bob Schaefer at 9:30 a.m.

**DIRECTORS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:** W. Backes, AFSCME 32; R. Beglinger, WFT-R; B. Bird, DOT; J. Blank, BLUE-R; S. Drew, SWIB; J. Grosklaus, West Allis; S. Haase, UWRA; B. Holmes, ESP; A. Knop, WEAC-R; R. Kratz, DOC; J. Lawton, ACE; J. Maydak, West Allis; G. Mitchell, AFSCME 52; E. Reiter, KM-R; B. Schaefer, SEA; R. Springman, WFT-R; J. Vreeland, Wauwatosa; C. Wren, WSAA.

**GUESTS:** J. Forester, T. Hunter, C. Preisler, J. Risch, J. Strohl, R. Wojciak.

**EXCUSED:** R. Brooks, J. Egan, J. Stangl.

**MINUTES** of the September meeting were approved as mailed (Adjournment time 10:54 a.m.).

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

Preliminary returns as of September 30, 2021, Core Fund 11.3% with a benchmark of 10.9% and the Variable Fund 12.1% with a benchmark of 12.3%. Stocks have been struggling with private equity and real estate doing well. Dollars under retirement management total \$141 billion.

The Board will be meeting on 10/27-28 with a major item being asset allocation.

Today SWIB's offices officially reopened. There will continue to be employees working remotely until the new building is ready.

SWIB received two Institutional Investor magazine awards.

"Team of the Year" award being recognized for agency performance, having added the most value to the WRS in more than a decade, adding a significant number of new talented professionals and moving forward with some key projects during an unstable year.

"Partnership of the Year" award was based on collaboration with several other large retirement systems with assets of \$9 trillion. SWIB was a founding partner with Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan, California Public Employees Retirement System, and the Ohio public employees retirement system creating the Global Peer Financing Association, a nonprofit partnership among asset owners.

Edwin Densen, CIO, has been nominated for two Chief Investment Officer magazine peer nominated innovation awards; CIO of Public Defined Benefits of over a \$100 billion and Risk Management. Institutional Investor link for Edwin Denson. <https://www.swib.state.wi.us/single-post/swib-s-edwin-denson-named-executive-director-chief-investment-officer>

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

Tarna and Jay Risch, SWIB, have teamed up and finished their orientation with freshman legislators educating them on the WRS. The acceptance and response was very positive.

There has not been any new legislation. The AB586 that was WiCOA members concern has been reviewed and is of no significance concern.

The annual It's Your Choice is open until October 22nd.

The return to office for ETF staff will be a transition during the next two months. If annuitants want a individual interview with staff arrangements may be made.

The modernization effort continues with participant data storage and insurance administration starting in November and lasting up to two years. Pension administration will follow giving WRS participants access to their accounts.

ETF released the Consolidated Annual Financial Report and the Legislative Audit Bureau has reviewed it with no material findings.

The ETF Board meeting of 12/9/21 will be in-person, Group Insurance Board 11/17, no decision, and Deferred Comp 11/4/21 and 12/10/21, no decision. (Tarna following the meeting informed us the ETF Board will meet in person)

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None

**OLD BUSINESS** - Annual Conference Committee will meet today following the meeting. If anyone has suggestions for presenters or conference charges, let the committee know. What are the issues that would be of interest?

- Bylaws Committee did not receive any suggestions for changes. Committee plans on meeting within the next couple of weeks by zoom. If you have any changes notify the committee.

**NEW BUSINESS** - None

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Check book balance \$8,864.51.

Dues will be mailed out today. We have 27 organizations. Try and pay by January 1, 2022.

Return one copy of the billing with your \$50 payment to John directly.

**NEXT MEETING:** November 15, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. Zoom

The meeting adjourned by 10:05 a.m.

Annual Conference Friday May ??, 2022

Submitted – Dick Kratz, Secretary

Upcoming meetings: ETF Board - 12/9 GIB 11/17 SWIB Board 12/14-15 Def Comp 11/4 & 12/10/21