Worcester Retirement Financial Board Meeting Minutes August 18th 2022

The Worcester Retirement Board met at 8:30 A.M. on Thursday August 18th, 2022 for their financial board meeting. E.Early, M.Wally, R. Stearns, and T.Cullen were in attendance. Meketa representatives S. MacLellan.

In regards to asset class returns. US Equity returns improved have improved, even though returns are still negative they have improved from prior reporting. Common market trends currently are that YTD Value Indexed are increasing and Growth is decreasing which is the opposite of what has happened in the past. Also Bonds have decreased due to increased interest rates. Overall all asset classes are still negative with the exception of commodities.

The Board will continue monitoring the portfolio's asset class ranges.

In regards to the portfolio as of June 30th 2022, the portfolio is at (8.3) YTD. When compared to the benchmarks (12.5) & (17.7) the system portfolio is outperforming. The portfolios current strongest assets are Real assets 10.2 YTD, Real Estate with 7.7 YTD, and Private Equity with 6.5 YTD. The most underperforming would be Domestic Equity (20.9) YTD and International Equity (20.8) YTD. In regards to PRIT the system out preformed with 10.2 YTD vs the benchmark at 7.7 and this is attributed to the portfolios diversity and individuality such as segments of the opportunistic investments.

Meketa discussed with the Board reasons why the Federal Reserve is rapidly increasing interest rates and what risks higher interest rates pose to businesses.

The Board adjourned at approximately 9:10 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Early, Elected Member, Chair
Matthew Wally, Appointed Member
Robert V. Stearns, Ex Officio Member <u>DNA</u>
John F. Mahan, Elected Member
Tamara Cullen, Fifth Member

Lisa M. Poske, Executive Secretary