CONTRA COSTA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

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July 25, 2012

The Board of Retirement met in special session at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 25, 2012 in the Conference Room of the Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association, 1355 Willow Way, Suite 221, Concord, CA.

Present:

Debora Allen, Terry Buck, Richard Cabral, Brian Hast, Jerry Holcombe, John Phillips,

Gabe Rodrigues, Jerry Telles, Maria Theresa Viramontes and Russell Watts

Absent:

John Gioia and Sharon Naramore

Staff:

Marilyn Leedom, Retirement Chief Executive Officer; Kurt Schneider, Retirement Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Tim Price, Retirement Chief Investment Officer, Karen Levy, General Counsel; and Vickie Kaplan, Retirement Accounting Manager

Outside Professional Support:

Representing:

Harvey Leiderman

Reed Smith LLP

Bob Helliesen

Milliman

Other Attendees:

Luz Casas

Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association (CCCERA) Staff

Chih-Chi Chu

CCCERA Staff

Karen Davis

CCCERA Staff

Christina Dunn

CCCERA Staff
CCCERA Staff

Tracy Kroll Joelle Luhn

CCCERA Staff

Marge Rosenberg

CCCERA Staff

Justine Rossini

CCCERA Staff

Todd Smithey

Central Contra Costa Sanitary District

Mike Sloan

CCCREA & RSG

George Greig

William Blair

John McLaughlin

William Blair

Wendy Malaspina

GMO

Tom Rosalanko

GMO

Jeffrey Van Harte

Delaware Investments
Delaware Investments

Daniel Prislin
Trevor Blum

Delaware Investments

Carolyn Margiotti

Robeco

David Pyle

Robeco

Scott Pyle

Robeco

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Rodrigues led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gabe Rodrigues, Deputy Sheriff and newly elected Trustee, introduced himself and gave a brief summary of his career and personal life.

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2. Recognition of Marge Rosenberg for 15 years of service

Viramontes recognized and congratulated Marge Rosenberg for her 15 years of service.

3. Public Comment

No members of the public offered comment.

4. Approve minutes from the June 13 and June 27, 2012 Board Meetings.

It was **M/S/C** to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2012 Board meeting. (Yes: Allen, Buck, Cabral, Hast, Phillips, Telles, Viramontes and Watts).

It was M/S/C to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2012 Board meeting with a correction to Item 6.(a) under Price's comment adding "Telles and Helliesen attended the onsite visits with GMO and Long Wharf" and Item 6.(c) adding Telles comments regarding the onsite visits under Trustees' Comments. (Yes: Allen, Buck, Cabral, Hast, Phillips, Telles, Viramontes and Watts).

5. Discussion with consultant regarding managers scheduled to present

Helliesen distributed a Flash Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2012 and reviewed the performance of the managers scheduled for presentations.

6. Manager Presentations:

William Blair - George Greig, John McLaughlin

McLaughlin gave an overview of the firm noting it was founded by William Blair in 1939 in Chicago. He gave a brief review of their international and global portfolio strategies stating they have \$13.3 billion in assets under management in the All Cap International Growth Fund. McLaughlin also stated that the product had closed to new assets in June 2012, though existing clients will be able to continue to allocate funds as needed.

Greig gave an overview of the international investment team noting there are 5 portfolio managers. He reviewed the fundamental research team stating it is divided by sector, global and systematic research. He also reviewed the trading team and their investment philosophy.

McLaughlin reviewed William Blair's International Growth CIT portfolio's performance noting the year to date return is up 8.33% compared to its benchmark, the MSCI AC World, which is 2.93%.

Greig reviewed the portfolio positioning noting they are overweight in insurance and underweight in banks. He also noted emerging markets have become more popular and there is less interest in developed markets, particularly in Europe.

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GMO - Wendy Malaspina, Tom Rosalanko

Malaspina reviewed CCCERA's performance, noting the international intrinsic value extended market strategy has added 88 basis points in alpha from inception to date.

Rosalanko reported that quality adjusted value, intrinsic value and momentum within value stocks have done well. He reviewed the top 5 contributors and the bottom 5 contributors to performance. He noted 3 of the best stocks were in pharmaceuticals and the worst 5 included banks and oil/energy companies.

Rosalanko reviewed country and sector allocation. He also reviewed the strategy vs. benchmark weights for country and region. The biggest underweight by sector is in financials while they are overweight in energy companies.

Malaspina reviewed European banks vs. Japanese banks. She also reviewed the attractiveness of owning undervalued stock noting that now is a good time for buying them.

Delaware Investments - Jeffrey Van Harte, Daniel Prislin, Trevor Blum

Blum gave a brief update on the firm, noting they had \$172 billion in assets under management as of March 31, 2012. He also gave an overview of the teams' operating structure which includes shared resources, aligned financial interests and synergistic opportunities for growth and distribution.

Van Harte reviewed the focus growth equity investment team, noting the average level of experience in the industry is 19 years. He also reviewed the team philosophy, noting they are growth investors who believe attractive returns can be realized by maintaining a concentrated portfolio of companies that have enhanced business models.

Prislin reviewed the top five contributors and bottom five contributors to relative performance noting wireless and mobile have been top performers. Van Harte reviewed the portfolio construction, stating it is a concentrated portfolio with a consistent turnover rate of 20-30%.

Prislin reviewed CCCERA's relationship with Delaware Investments. Blum noted that Delaware settled a Wells Notice with the SEC (without admitting any wrongdoing). This related to another Delaware affiliate and did not directly impact Delaware Investments.

Robeco - David Pyle, Carolyn Margiotti

Margiotti gave an overview of the firm's structure, noting Robeco Investment Management is a subsidiary of Robeco which is owned by Rabobank. Rabobank is in the process of selling Robeco as a whole and expects prospective bidders in August. She will keep the Board up to date on the sale.

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Pyle reviewed CCCERA's investment performance through June 30, 2012, noting we have reached the benchmark in most years. He reviewed performance for the second quarter 2012 noting returns trailed largely due to being underweight in utilities, telecom stocks and REITS, which had significant positive returns.

Pyle reviewed the three characteristics used in selecting stock; valuation, business fundamentals, and catalyst for change. He noted portfolios with all three characteristics tend to outperform over time. He also reviewed how the characteristics have worked for CCCERA's portfolio. He reviewed CCCERA's portfolio characteristics and portfolio holdings as of June 30, 2012 as well as the performance attribution for a one year period ending June 30, 2012.

It was the consensus of the Board to move to Item 8.

8. Miscellaneous

(a) Staff Report -

<u>Leedom</u> reported she received the signed amended Employer Termination Agreement from the City of Pittsburg.

She reported there will be an educational presentation on GASB 67 and GASB 68 by The Segal Company at the August 29, 2012 Board meeting.

Leedom reported a section in Board Regulations deals with an employer's reportable payroll level dropping below 70% of its payroll during the same period of the preceding year and states the Board may investigate the cause and determine if the employer needs to make additional contributions to pay its share of unfunded liability. Leedom noted that staff will review this issue and will send a letter to the East Contra Costa Fire District to inform them we are looking into the matter.

The pre-payment contribution for the County is between \$155-157 million. The re-balancing report will be presented at the August 8, 2012 Board meeting.

Leedom reported on a situation where a member named her son as her beneficiary in 1982. The member passed away in 1993. The members' file was inadvertently labeled inactive and destroyed with no money paid to the beneficiary, as staff was unable to locate the beneficiary. The son has claimed the funds and it appears he is owed the money retroactive. It was the consensus of the Board to handle the matter administratively.

She reported during another retirement system's committee meeting, it was publicly discussed that they were advised by their counsel to not include the COLA in their calculations for optional settlements at retirement.

Leedom reported the five year projection of contribution rates will be presented at a meeting in August. Contribution rates effective July 1, 2013 will be on the agenda for adoption at the August 8, 2012 Board meeting.

<u>Price</u> reported he will be completing the semi-annual rebalancing of the portfolio in accordance with the investment policy after the County and other employer's retirement contribution prepayments are received.

He also reported the CEO of LaSalle announced his retirement but it is not expected to impact the CCCERA investment.

He reported he met with Invesco regarding the Invesco Fund III product and informed Invesco we were not currently looking for another fund of this type.

- (b) Outside Professionals' Report None
- (c) Trustees' Comments -

<u>Phillips</u> reported he attended the SACRS Public Pension program and felt it was excellent. He reported there was discussion on interest rates, investing in hedge funds and reducing assumption rates.

<u>Allen</u> reported she attended Wharton's Conference on hedge funds and real estate investments and felt there was a very good discussion on alpha vs. beta. She also attended portfolio concepts and felt the first day was very basic but the conference was good overall.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board moved into Closed Session pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54956.9(a).

The Board moved into open session.

7. There was no reportable action taken related to Govt. Code Section 54956.9(a).

It was M/S/C to adjourn the meeting. (Yes: Allen, Buck, Cabral, Hast, Holcombe, Phillips, Telles,

Viramontes and Watts)

María Theresa Viramontes, Chairman

John Phillips, Secretary