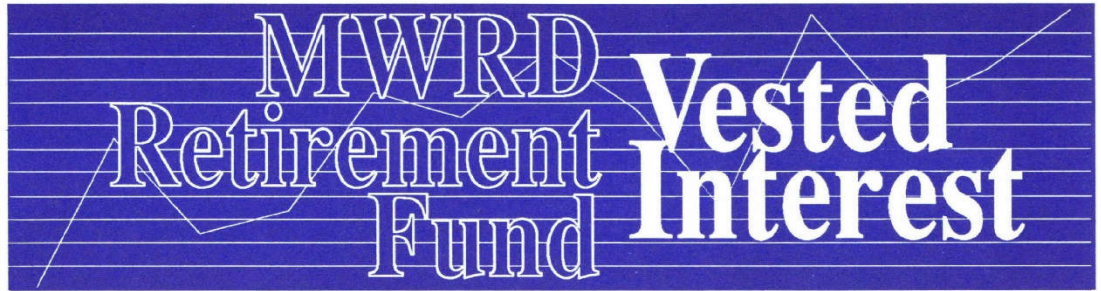


BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JOHN P. DALTON, JR
ROBERT T. REGAN
HON. MARIYANA T. SPYROPOULOS
HON. KIMBERLY DU BUCLET
BONNIE T. KENNEDY
KATHLEEN T. MEANY
KEVIN YOUNG



PROVIDING A FORUM FOR AN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

**VOLUME 28, ISSUE 1
SEPTEMBER 2020
IN THIS ISSUE:**



Board of Trustees
Election



Kennedy Appointed



Carmody Retires



Invested Assets
Review



Recent Retirees



Recently Deceased
Members



Fund Financial Reports
Online

VESTED INTEREST

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**MWRD
Retirement Fund**
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Chicago, IL 60611
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www.mwrdrf.org

Editors:
Retirement Fund Staff

Trustee Election

On October 2nd, election ballots will be mailed to eligible District employees to elect one employee member to the MWRD Retirement Fund Board of Trustees to serve a 4-year term beginning December 1, 2020. Incumbent Kevin Young's term of office expires on November 30, 2020. The required nominating petitions from the two candidates have been certified by the Judges of Election. The candidates are:



Kevin Young



Robert Quezada

Ballots must be sent to the Postal Lockbox in the self-addressed envelope provided. Only ballots received at the Postal Lockbox by 10:00 a.m. on October 20th will be counted. No ballots can be accepted by mail or in person at the Fund office.

Contact the Fund office (at x13229) if you do not receive a **complete** set of election materials by October 9th. Unfortunately, retirees are not eligible to vote.

The Retirement Fund encourages its active members to vote!



Bonnie Kennedy Selected to Complete Term

At its June 24, 2020 meeting, the Retirement Board, in accordance with State Law, selected Ms. Bonnie T. Kennedy to fill the vacancy left by Stephen J. Carmody upon his retirement from the District.



Ms. Kennedy has worked for the District for over 20 years, most recently as Principal Attorney. She brings over 20 years of legal experience from not only the District, but from Cook County and in private practice. Ms. Kennedy earned her Juris Doctorate at Loyola University and has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Illinois.

Bonnie and her husband, Ron, have four children and a rescue dog. In her free time, she coaches basketball and softball for both her daughters' and son's teams. She is a parent representative on the Edgebrook School's Local School Council. She also enjoys traveling and reading.

We extend a warm welcome to Ms. Kennedy and look forward to her contributions to the Board.

Trustee Stephen J. Carmody Retires

Effective May 1, 2020, Trustee Stephen J. Carmody retired from his District position as Engineer of Treatment Plant Operations, thereby concluding over 29 years with the District and over 11 years of selfless service as an employee Trustee of the Retirement Board. When asked for remarks on his service as Trustee, Steve recalled the challenges of navigating the Fund through the Great Recession of 2008 - 2009, and the accomplishment of negotiating increased funding to change the trajectory of the Fund's funding level.

Join us as we thank Steve for his service and wish him a long, healthy retirement.

Pictured to the right, retiree Steve Carmody and his wife, Amy.



Investment Update

The Fund's investment portfolio as of August 31, 2020 was \$1.41 billion compared to \$1.42 billion at the beginning of the year, and \$1.33 billion a year ago. Through the end of August, the Retirement Fund returned -0.3% (preliminary unaudited) for 2020. Over a ten-year period as of the end of the 2nd Quarter, we are proud to report the Fund's annualized return was 8.2%. This 10-year return ranked in the 31st percentile of the InvestorForce Public Defined Benefit Net of Fees Universe, outpacing 69% of our peers.

FUND PERFORMANCE REVIEW

FUND'S ASSETS AS OF 8/31/2020: \$1.41B

Fund performance as of	QTD	YTD	1 Yr.	3 Yr.	5 Yr.	10 Yr.
Total Fund (net of fees)	6.7%	-0.3%	7.4%	5.0%	6.7%	8.7%
Actuarial Rate	1.2%	4.8%	7.25%	7.25%	7.25%	7.25%

YEAR-TO-DATE FUND HIGHLIGHTS



The beginning of the year was a challenge for the Fund, as well as markets in general, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The first quarter saw the Fund decline over 20% by mid-late March before ending the quarter with a return of -17.2% (net of fees). For comparison purposes, the S&P 500 returned -19.6% in Q1 2020. The Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index, which is a broad-based benchmark that measures US investment grade taxable fixed income market, returned +3.1% in Q1 2020. The Fund has been able to recoup the majority of the declines seen in the early part of the year. As of the end of August, the Fund was essentially flat on the year with a YTD return of -0.3% (preliminary unaudited). It is important to remember the portfolio has been constructed with a long-term time horizon in mind. The key is to remain focused and disciplined in order to achieve long-term investment goals.

In early March, the District Board of Commissioners made the prudent decision to contribute an extra \$20 million into the Fund in order to help reduce the Fund's unfunded liability. The proceeds were invested based on the Fund's target asset allocation. We are pleased to report the capital infusion has grown to a value of approximately \$22 million at the end of August. The growth from the initial contribution through the end of August represents a return of approximately 10%.

Drilling down to the portfolio level, so far during 2020 the Fund Trustees approved motions to terminate three mandates. All terminations were based on underperformance relative to the manager's respective benchmarks over varying timeframes. These decisions are never easy due to the long-term relationships that develop with the managers. However, the Trustees acting as fiduciaries for the membership, felt the decisions were in the best interest of the Fund going forward. The three terminated mandates were in Domestic Large Cap Value, International Equity, and Domestic Small Cap Equity. The assets from the terminated managers were distributed to either existing passive mandates or to similar active manager mandates. The Trustees, along with staff and Fund consultant, will continue to monitor the portfolio and make changes when deemed appropriate.



RETIREES (Since September 2019)

Join us as we congratulate our recent retirees!

Ammons, Keefe	Ebers II, Earl	Horn, John	O'Bryant, Lucille	Simmons-Ramsey, Brenda
Andrade, Arnel	Esposito, Lisa	Ilagan, Cielita	Outlaw, Donald	Sopcak-Phelan, Sharon
Awad, Adel	Evans, Dianne	Jackson, Roger	Patel, Ghanyshyamb	Spizzirri, Francisco*
Banks, Frank	Feeney, Anthony	Jones, Hazel	Patel, Kirit	Stefanich, Tricia
Bozyk, James	Forde, James	Kattappurath, Mathew	Patel, Minaxiben	Stewart, Tarita
Brock, Kurt	Franklin, Eric	Kavanagh, Martin	Patel, Nisha	Svazas Jr., Charles
Caliban, Harry	Frederick, Tom	Kawa Jr., Stanley	Phillips, David	Taylor, Keith
Carmody, Stephen	Fugate, Howard	Kruse, Donald	Pokrewczynski, Brian	Ward, Verle
Cavanaugh, Paul	Gage, Harold	Kunetz, Thomas	Pray, Roger	Vogel, Michael
Cernick, John	Gately, Gregory	LaForte, Robert	Pyrcioch, Henry	Webb Jr., Lesley
Cesario, John	Gentry, Charles	Lewis, Baron	Reed, Debra	Whitehead, Steven
Collins, Joseph	Getahun, Deneke	Leyva, Arnulfo	Regan, James	Wilson, Dorothy
Conway, Thomas	Glavas, Matthew	March, Ronald	Rijal, Geeta	Wnek, Richard
Cunico, Ronald	Gliwa, Steven	Mayer, John	Rose, Rebecca	Wydra, Joseph
Davis, Hollee	Gregor, Bettina	McGhee-Bradley, Karen	Rzepecki, Mark	Yore, Michael
Derry, Robert	Halaska, Anthony	Merchant, Sharad	Santos, Exan	Yourell, Jeffrey
Donnelly, Paul	Halvorsen, Wayne	Miller, Thomas	Schaefer, James	Yourell, Peter
Donner, Excell	Hamilton, Lalita	Monaghan, Martin	Schultz, Thomas	Yurik Jr., James
Dressel, Mark	Herrera, Yomaira	Moran, Matthew	Shin, Joan	Zabel, James
Dring, Reed	Hicks, Kimberly	Neary, Michael		

* Retirement from a Reciprocal Fund

Total Retirees: 98



DECEASED EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES (since September 2019)

We thank them for their service and extend condolences to their families.

Adams, Brian	DeLeon, Ernesto	Hancock Jr., John	Macicari Jr., James	Seaberg, Scott*
Ambrosia, Victor	DeSalvo, James	Harrison, Carl	Macker, Alvin	Serbanescu, Gheorghe
Amin-Rasul, Eddie*	Diaz, George	Higgins, Estelle	Markowski, Robert	Settles, Charles
Bangs, Thomas	Drobitsch, Georgiann	Hopkins, Cherie	McGann, Gerald	Simmons, Lula
Behlim, Abdusammad	Englehorn, Gary	Johnson, Larry	Mehta, Nergish	Siska, John
Bernstein, Lewis	Fleming, Clifford	Jones, Charles*	Nalbandian, Michael	Smalley, J. Michael
Bertha, Warren	Franklin, Lloyd	Kawalko, Sheila	Nega, Lance	Smith, Roger
Burgess, Charlotte	Gage, Cherrie*	Kelly Sr., William	Parker Jr., Avon	Stone, George
Byczynski, Edward	Galik, John	Kent, William	Partington, Eugene	Tevis, Loretta
Calandrino, Sam	Gordon, Irene	Klindworth, Lloyd	Peslak, Richard	Thomas, Maurice*
Carbone, Ralph	Gossin, George	Krawchuk, James	Poczekaj, Raymond	Thompson, Clarkie
Cardwell Jr., Alfred	Gray, Herbert	Langhamer, Joseph	Porter, Delores	Turner, Christopher*
Cavanaugh, John*	Gregory, Edgar	Larmon, Michael	Quirk, John	Walters, William
Connors, Robert A.	Gulick, Michael	Long, Robert	Sam, Kai	Williams, Le Roy
Crane, Stanley	Haggerty, Judith	Louis, Albin	Samuelson, Frank	Wrobel, Jerome

* Death in service

MWRD RETIREMENT FUND
111 East Erie Street, Suite 330
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MWRDRF 2019 Financial Statements Available on Website

The MWRD Retirement Fund has posted its financial statements on its website, www.mwrdrf.org. Interested parties may review the Fund’s CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) and the annual Actuarial Report, as well as several historical financial reports. Reports may be found by clicking on “Financial and Investment Related” and selecting, “Financial and Investment Reports.” These reports provide very in-depth information about the Fund’s finances and a great deal of statistical information.

MWRD Retirement Fund Staff Directory

(312) 751-3222

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Contact us by...

- Phone** From District locations dial 1 + the underlined phone extension, above.
 From non-District locations, dial (312) 751 + the underlined phone extension above
- E-mail** Contact us via our e-mail addresses, shown above. Provide a phone number where you can be contacted on weekdays between 8:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Central time).
- U.S. mail** Refer to our mailing address above.