



December 6, 2023

Board of Trustees  
Kentucky Public Pensions Authority  
Perimeter Park West  
1260 Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601

**Re: GASB 67 Reporting – Actuarial Information**

Dear Members of the Board:

The reports provided herein contain certain information for the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), the Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS), and the State Police Retirement System (SPRS) in connection with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67, “Financial Reporting for Pension Plans” for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. Separate reports will be provided at a later date with additional accounting information determined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 68, “Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions”.

Basis of Calculations

The liability calculations presented in the reports were performed for the purpose of satisfying the requirements of GASB No. 67 and are not applicable for other purposes, such as determining the plans’ funding requirements. The plans’ liability for other purposes may produce significantly different results.

The total pension liability, net pension liability, and sensitivity information are based on an actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2022. The total pension liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date to the plan’s fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 using generally accepted actuarial principles.

Assumptions

The County Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees and the Kentucky Retirement Systems Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on May 9, 2023 and June 5, 2023, respectively. These assumptions are documented in the reports titled “2022 Actuarial Experience Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2022”. The Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2023 is determined using these updated assumptions.

Plan Provisions

House Bill 506 passed during the 2023 legislative session and reinstated the Partial Lump-Sum Optional Form of payment for members who retire on and after January 1, 2024, with the lump-sum payment options expanded to include to 48 or 60 times the member’s monthly retirement allowance.

Since this optional form of payment results in a reduced, actuarial equivalent, monthly retirement allowance for members who elect a partial lump-sum option, this provision does not have a fiscal impact to the total pension liability of any of the plans.

House Bill 506 also adjusted the minimum required separation period before a retiree may become reemployed and continue to receive their retirement allowance to one month for all circumstances for each plan. This is a minimal change for members in the KERS hazardous, CERS hazardous, and SPRS plans, as the minimum separation period is currently one month for members who become reemployed on a full-time basis in a hazardous position. The requirement was previously three months only for members who become reemployed on a part-time basis or in any non-hazardous position. We believe this provision of House Bill 506 will have an insignificant impact on the retirement pattern of hazardous members and therefore have reflected no fiscal impact to the total pension liability of the KERS hazardous, CERS hazardous, or SPRS plans.

Similarly, this is a relatively small change for future retirees in the KERS and CERS non-hazardous plans. But as the minimum separation period was previously three months in almost every circumstance, we have assumed that there would be a 1.0% increase in the rate of retirement for each of the first two years a non-hazardous member becomes retirement eligible under the age of 65, in order to reflect a shift in the retirement pattern. The total pension liability as of June 30, 2023 for the KERS non-hazardous and CERS non-hazardous plans is determined using these updated benefit provisions.

There have been no other plan provision changes that would materially impact the total pension liability since June 30, 2022. It is our opinion that these procedures for determining the information contained in these reports are reasonable, appropriate, and comply with applicable requirements under GASB No. 67.

#### Discount Rates

A single discount rate of 5.25% was used for the KERS Non-Hazardous pension plan and SPRS pension plan, a single discount rate of 6.25% was used for the KERS Hazardous pension plan, and a single discount rate of 6.50% was used for the CERS Non-Hazardous pension plan and CERS Hazardous pension plan to measure the total pension liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. These single discount rates were based on the expected rate of return on pension plan investments. Based on the stated assumptions and the projection of cash flows as of each fiscal year ending, the pension plan's fiduciary net position and future contributions were projected to be sufficient to finance all the future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of the projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate must include an assumption regarding actual employer contributions made each future year. Except where noted below, future contributions are projected assuming that the entire actuarially determined employer contribution is received by each plan each future year, calculated in accordance with the current funding policy. The assumed future employer contributions for the CERS plans reflect the provisions of House Bill 362 (passed during the 2018 legislative session) which limit the increases to the employer contribution rates to 12% over the prior fiscal year through June 30, 2028.



401(h) Subaccount

Based on guidance issued by GASB in connection with GASB Statement No. 74, the 1% of pay member contributions for Tier 2 and Tier 3 members to a 401(h) subaccount is considered an OPEB asset. As a result, the reported fiduciary net positions as of June 30, 2017 and later are net of the 401(h) asset balance.

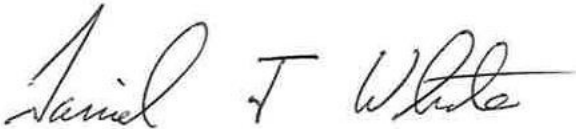
Additional Disclosures

These reports are based upon information, furnished to us by the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority (KPPA), which includes benefit provisions, membership information, and financial data. We did not audit this data and information, but we did apply a number of tests and concluded that it was reasonable and consistent. GRS is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by KPPA. Please see the "Actuarial Valuation Report as of June 30, 2022" for each system and the reports titled "2022 Actuarial Experience Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2022" for additional discussion of the nature of the actuarial calculations and more information related to participant data, economic and demographic assumptions, and benefit provisions. These reports should be considered together as a complete report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

To the best of our knowledge, these reports are complete and accurate and are in accordance with generally recognized actuarial practices and methods. Mr. White and Ms. Shaw are Enrolled Actuaries. All of the undersigned are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet all of the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion herein. In addition, all three are independent of KPPA and are experienced in performing valuations for large public retirement systems. This communication shall not be construed to provide tax advice, legal advice or investment advice.

Sincerely,

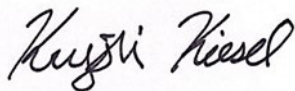
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