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BEFORE  
THE RETIREMENT BOARD OF THE  
COUNTY EMPLOYEE AND FOREST PRESERVE  
DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had at  
the audio/video meeting of the above-entitled  
matter, held at 70 West Madison Street, Suite 230,  
in the City of Chicago, County of Cook, State of  
Illinois, on June 3, 2021, commencing at the hour  
of 9:30 a.m.

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APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS:

Lawrence L. Wilson, President  
Patrick McFadden, Vice-President  
John Blair  
Stephen Hughes  
Joseph Nevius  
Kevin Ochalla  
James M. O'Rourke  
Bill Kouruklis

ATTORNEYS FOR THE BOARD:

BURKE, BURNS AND PINELLI, LTD.  
BY: MS. MARY PATRICIA BURNS

ALSO PRESENT:

Regina Tuczak, Executive Director  
Margaret Fahrenbach, Legal Advisor  
Caroline Vullmahn, Deputy Executive Director  
Mike Maratea, Director of Finance  
Brent Lewandowski, Director of Member Services  
Gary LeDonne, Director of Benefits Administration  
Fernando Vinzon, Director of Investments  
Saron Tegegne, Comptroller  
Jodi Weinstein, IT Administration  
Martha Merrill, AFSCME  
Gar Chung, Financial Investment News  
Noureen Hashim, Board of Commissioners  
Joseph Evans, RSM US LLP  
Todd Muchnicki, RSM US LLP  
Hualin Liu, RSM US LLP  
William Sarb, RSM US LLP  
John McCabe, Legislative Liaison  
McCyril Espanol, Journalist  
Larry Langer, Cavanaugh MacDonald Consulting  
Wendy Ludbrook, Cavanaugh MacDonald Consulting  
Ryan Gunderson, Cavanaugh MacDonald Consulting

PRESIDENT WILSON: I hereby convene this

1 meeting of the Cook County and Forest Preserve  
2 District Annuity and Benefit Fund Board of Trustees  
3 for Thursday, June 3, 2021.

4 Because of the uncertainty surrounding  
5 the COVID-19 pandemic, the board is adhering to the  
6 guidance provided most recently by the Governor's  
7 May 28, 2021 Disaster Proclamation, the Governor's  
8 Executive Order Number 2021-11, as well as provisions  
9 of Public Act 101-0640. There may not be a quorum  
10 of Trustees physically present at the meeting  
11 location. Some Trustees, however, are present at  
12 the meeting location as well as is the Executive  
13 Director and Fund counsel. Remaining Trustees will  
14 participate by videoconference as allowed by the  
15 Governor's Executive Orders.

16 For the record, the public received  
17 notice of this meeting and of their ability to  
18 participate by videoconference or to be physically  
19 present at the meeting. In addition, the Fund is  
20 recording this meeting and a transcript of the  
21 proceedings will, after future approval by the  
22 Board, be made available on the Fund's website.

23 Peggy, please call the roll.

24 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

1 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Here.

2 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

3 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Here.

4 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

5 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Here.

6 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

7 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Here.

8 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

9 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Here.

10 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

11 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Here.

12 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

13 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Here.

14 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

15 PRESIDENT WILSON: Here.

16 Thank you. We have a quorum for today's  
17 meeting.

18 Public Comment. Consistent with Public  
19 Act 91-0715 and reasonable constraints determined  
20 by the Board of Trustees, at each meeting of the  
21 board members of the public may request a brief  
22 time to address the Board on relevant matters  
23 within its jurisdiction.

24 Are there any requests for public comment

1 today? If any member of the public wants to speak,  
2 please identify yourself for the record.

3 Hearing none, we will proceed with the  
4 public business matters. The next item on the  
5 agenda is review and consideration of the May 6,  
6 2021 board meeting minutes and the May 6, 2021 open  
7 meeting video transcripts.

8 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Move approval.

9 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Second.

10 PRESIDENT WILSON: It was moved by  
11 Trustee McFadden and seconded by Trustee Blair.

12 Peggy, please call the roll.

13 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

14 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

15 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

16 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

17 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

18 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

19 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

20 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

21 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

22 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

23 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

24 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

1 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

2 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

3 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

4 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

5 The minutes and transcript have been  
6 approved.

7 Review and consideration of Bills,  
8 Payroll Records, Annuities, Spouse and Child  
9 Annuities, and Refunds, Ordinary and Duty  
10 Disabilities.

11 May I have a motion to approve the Bills  
12 and Payroll Records incurred in May, 2021 that have  
13 already been paid and those presented for payment,  
14 based on the Fund's staff confirmation that said  
15 payments are consistent with the 2021  
16 Administrative Budget?

17 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Move.

18 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Second.

19 PRESIDENT WILSON: Moved by Trustee  
20 Blair. Seconded by Trustee O'Rourke.

21 Any discussion on the motion?

22 Roll call please, Peggy.

23 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

24 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

1 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.  
2 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.  
3 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.  
4 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.  
5 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.  
6 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.  
7 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.  
8 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.  
9 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.  
10 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.  
11 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.  
12 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.  
13 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.  
14 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.  
15 Bills and Payroll Records have been  
16 approved.  
17 May I have a motion to approve all  
18 Annuities, Spouse and Child Annuities and Refund?  
19 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Move.  
20 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Second.  
21 PRESIDENT WILSON: It has been moved by  
22 Trustee Nevius and seconded by Trustee Blair.  
23 Is there any discussion?  
24 Peggy, please call the roll.

1 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

2 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

3 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

4 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

5 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

6 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

7 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

8 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

9 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

10 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

11 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

12 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

13 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

14 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

15 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

16 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

17 The Annuities, Spouse and Child

18 Annuities, and Refunds have been approved.

19 May I have a motion to approve all

20 Ordinary and Duty Disabilities?

21 TRUSTEE BLAIR: So moved.

22 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Second.

23 PRESIDENT WILSON: It has been moved by

24 Trustee Blair. Seconded by Trustee Hughes.



1 Any discussion?

2 Roll call, please.

3 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

4 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

5 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

6 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

7 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

8 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

9 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

10 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

11 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

12 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

13 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

14 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

15 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

16 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

17 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

18 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

19 The Ordinary and Duty Disabilities have  
20 been approved.

21 The next item on the agenda is the  
22 presentation of the 2020 draft Financial  
23 Statements. This includes presentation of the  
24 statements for Cook County as well as the Forest

1 Preserve District.

2 Gina, do you want to lead us through  
3 this, please?

4 MS. TUCZAK: Certainly. So you may  
5 recall that we have retained different auditors  
6 this year. RSM is the auditor for the 2020  
7 Financial Statements for the Forest Preserve and  
8 for Cook County.

9 They have prepared a presentation for  
10 you, which is in your materials behind tab 3.  
11 Also, behind the presentation are the draft  
12 financials. But what they are going to do is go  
13 through their audit results and some Financial  
14 Statement highlights. And, if you have any  
15 questions, please feel free to ask them at any  
16 time.

17 We do have four different representatives  
18 from RSM virtually present and I am going to have  
19 them introduce themselves and begin the  
20 presentation of the 2020 Financials.

21 I will note that these are draft. There  
22 are a few things that they are wrapping up. If  
23 there are any significant changes, of course, I  
24 will let you know. But the intention is these will

1 be issued in the next few days and submitted to the  
2 County with the IGA materials that are required by  
3 June 14th.

4 So with that, if it is okay, I am going  
5 to turn it over to RSM.

6 MR. EVANS: Thank you. This is Joe  
7 Evans, partner.

8 So just to begin, I just want to thank  
9 you for your business. We appreciate it.

10 We spend a lot of time working in the  
11 public sector, especially with pension funds, and  
12 we serve the County as well so we appreciate your  
13 business.

14 I just want to introduce my team today.  
15 I am a partner and the Regional Government Leader  
16 for RSM in the area. I have extensive experience  
17 working with governments and pension funds.

18 Along with me today is Bill Sarb, a  
19 Senior Manager. Bill is the key contact with the  
20 pension fund. Bill also has extensive experience  
21 and works in this space very often.

22 Our manager on the engagement, Hualin  
23 Liu, is also on the call.

24 And then Todd Muchnicki is our Actuarial

1 Specialist. He will be making a few comments about  
2 the actuarial review.

3 If you want to follow along, we have  
4 prepared a presentation and I am actually on Page 3  
5 of the presentation.

6 Just a few comments I want to make about  
7 the changing world that we are in. Much of our  
8 firm and much of our work has been done remotely  
9 this past year and our audit of the Fund was done  
10 both remotely and with some onsite procedures.

11 Our plan going forward is to get back to  
12 more onsite procedures and get back to more of a  
13 normal routine and we will follow the guidance of  
14 the State but for now we are working partially  
15 remotely and partially onsite.

16 I'd like to turn it over to Bill to talk  
17 about our scope of services and the results of the  
18 audit.

19 MR. SARB: Thank you Joe.

20 As mentioned by both Gina and Joe, we are  
21 the Fund's new external auditor. We're in the  
22 process of auditing the County and Forest  
23 Preserve's basic Financial Statements. These  
24 statements are the basis for the financial section

1 which ends up in the comprehensive annual financial  
2 report which is submitted to the GFOA annually.

3 In addition to the Fund's Financial  
4 Statements, we will also perform audits over the  
5 schedule of employer pension amounts and the  
6 schedule of employer OPEB amounts for both the  
7 County and Forest Preserve District.

8 This is for those entities and their  
9 auditors as they work to report the pension and  
10 OPEB liabilities as well as some of the other  
11 information.

12 I want to start with some financial  
13 highlights. Some highlights of the County Fund are  
14 as follows.

15 The net position of the Fund increased  
16 nearly \$1.2 billion or 10 percent in 2020 compared  
17 to 2019. This resulted in an ending net position  
18 of \$12.6 billion.

19 MS. TUCZAK: Just for reference, he is on  
20 Slide 5.

21 MR. SARB: Thanks, Gina.

22 The largest reason for this increase is  
23 the positive investment returns that the Fund  
24 reported during the year.

1           The overall rate of return reported by  
2           the Fund was 12.74 percent. This is a really good  
3           rate considering some of the volatility that the  
4           market saw during the year.

5           I know about a year ago when the pandemic  
6           first hit we saw a lot of market volatility.  
7           Things stabilized and the markets corrected  
8           thankfully and by year end it was a positive  
9           investment year for the Fund.

10           In addition to the assets on the benefit  
11           side, both pension and OPEB benefits increased to  
12           \$950 million from \$890 million in the prior year.

13           The increase in benefits is largely due  
14           to the annual 3 percent annuitant increase as well  
15           as an overall increase in current retired members.

16           Continuing with the County Fund,  
17           contributions to the plan during the year were \$509  
18           million from the County, which is a slight decrease  
19           of \$17 million compared to prior years. This  
20           decrease appears to be due mostly to a decrease in  
21           supplemental contributions based on the IGA.

22           As far as employee contributions, these  
23           remained relatively flat in 2020 compared to 2019  
24           with only a slight decrease. This is consistent

1 with the number of active members which also  
2 slightly decreased this year.

3 Switching gears a bit. Some other  
4 information that is reported in the Fund's  
5 Financial Statements in the notes is the pension  
6 and the OPEB liabilities.

7 These amounts ultimately end up being  
8 recorded by the County and the pension liability  
9 increased by \$1.4 billion in 2020 to a total of \$15  
10 billion. The net OPEB liability also increased by  
11 a smaller number \$204 million and ultimately ended  
12 up around \$2.1 billion in total.

13 The increase in both of these liabilities  
14 is mostly attributed to the decrease in the  
15 discount rates used to value the liabilities.

16 These discount rates are both tied to the public  
17 markets, specifically the Municipal Bond Index  
18 Rate. And as some of you may know, the interest  
19 rates these days are very low, which impacts  
20 everything. And the 2020 rate for the Municipal  
21 Bond Index was at 2.12 percent compared to 2.75  
22 percent in the prior year, which is the largest  
23 driver for the reason for these increases.

24 Moving now to the Forest Fund. Net

1 position for the Forest Fund increased by nearly  
2 \$10 million or almost 5 percent in 2020 compared to  
3 2019 resulting in a total net position of \$221  
4 million.

5           Again, similar to the County Fund, the  
6 Forest Fund's increase in net position was largely  
7 due to the positive market returns. The investment  
8 rate of return for the Forest Fund was 11.38  
9 percent. Pension and OPEB benefits increased to  
10 \$20 million from \$19.3 million in the prior year.  
11 These increases are mostly due to the annual  
12 3 percent annuitant increase as overall retired  
13 members remained relatively stable.

14           On the contributions side, overall  
15 employer contributions from the Forest Preserve  
16 District decreased from the prior year by \$350,000  
17 to \$4 million.

18           These contributions are statutorily set  
19 and based on a formula of 1.3 times the employee  
20 contributions collected two years prior.

21           For member contributions, there was a  
22 slight increase in 2020 of roughly 5.7 percent to  
23 nearly \$3.2 million.

24           This increase appears to be due to



1 several members seeking permissive service  
2 purchases in 2020.

3 MS. TUCZAK: Bill, you're fading out. We  
4 can't hear you.

5 MR. SARB: Can you hear me?

6 MS. TUCZAK: You are back in. You faded  
7 out for a couple of seconds.

8 MR. SARB: I will quickly go back to the  
9 Forest Fund contributions. Where did I leave off  
10 or where did you last hear me?

11 MS. TUCZAK: I think that's fine. Slide  
12 9, Employee Contributions for Forest Preserve.

13 MR. SARB: Employee contributions for the  
14 Forest Preserve District Fund increased to \$3.2  
15 million in 2020 or roughly 5.7 percent.

16 This increase appears to be due to  
17 several members seeking permissive service  
18 purchases during 2020.

19 As mentioned with the County Fund, the  
20 Forest Fund's actuarial valuations also resulted in  
21 a net pension liability increase of nearly \$40  
22 million to a total of \$325 million in 2020.

23 The net OPEB liability also increased by  
24 nearly \$5.5 million to a total of \$49.2 million.

1           Similar to the County's valuations, the  
2           increases are tied to the Municipal Bond Index  
3           Rate, which ultimately lead to decreases in the  
4           overall discount rates used to value the  
5           liabilities.

6           I am going to shift gears here to the  
7           audit results but before I do I just want to stop  
8           and ask if anyone has any questions on the  
9           financial highlights or results of the Financial  
10          Statements?

11          Hearing none, I am going to go ahead and  
12          turn it over to the topic regarding more of the  
13          audit side.

14          I want to remind everyone the  
15          responsibility of the external auditor. Our  
16          responsibilities were included in our arrangement  
17          letter dated April 6, 2021.

18          Those responsibilities include that we  
19          express an opinion on the total fund and the  
20          combined Financial Statements prepared by Fund  
21          management and recorded within the County and  
22          Forest Fund's basic statements.

23          To do so, we have obtained evidence about  
24          the amounts reported within those statements as

1 well as the disclosures included in the notes to  
2 the statements.

3 In addition, we have planned and  
4 performed our audit to obtain reasonable assurance  
5 about whether those statements are free from  
6 material misstatements.

7 Moving to results. Results of our audit  
8 to-date lead us to believe that we will be able to  
9 issue unmodified clean auditor's opinions on both  
10 the County and Forest Fund Financial Statements in  
11 the near future. These are the best opinions that  
12 an audit firm provides and an entity can get.

13 Based on our audit procedures, we did not  
14 identify any material --

15 MS. TUCZAK: We have a question from a  
16 Trustee.

17 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I'm sorry, I missed  
18 that. Did you find any or were there any material  
19 findings or significant findings that are in the  
20 report?

21 MR. SARB: We are not aware and have not  
22 found any material or significant findings to-date.

23 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I am asking if you  
24 did. I'm serious. Okay, I am done.

1 MR. SARB: Absolutely. We understand.  
2 And, obviously, going into these audits our goal is  
3 to keep our professional scepticism level high and  
4 turnover stones and find what we can find.

5 PRESIDENT WILSON: Let me jump in. Just  
6 because all of us don't speak "auditor-leez" so  
7 would you just for the group give the definitions  
8 of a material weakness so that we all understand  
9 what that means?

10 And then, also, if you would comment on  
11 areas that you may see that require an improvement  
12 but don't rise to the level of being a required  
13 disclosure.

14 MR. SARB: Absolutely. So a material  
15 weakness would be a deficiency or combination of  
16 control deficiencies that would result in us having  
17 found material audit adjustments or leading us to  
18 believe that there could be material audit  
19 adjustments due to a lack of controls in place  
20 overall.

21 So, ultimately, we did not find anything  
22 that leads us to believe that there are any major  
23 issues or concerns with the numbers or information  
24 being reported by the funds.

1                   PRESIDENT WILSON: I'm sorry to interrupt  
2 you. I thought, but correct me, that a material  
3 weakness also meant that you have not only found  
4 material adjustments but the system is not able to  
5 detect them on its own so that those would have  
6 gone uncorrected.

7                   MR. SARB: Correct. Good point.

8                   PRESIDENT WILSON: Thank you.

9                   MR. SARB: Underneath material  
10 weaknesses, we have what is called a significant  
11 deficiency. This would be a deficiency in control  
12 that does not rise to the level of being material.

13                   Obviously, that term material is  
14 relative. I talked a lot about it. We talked  
15 about the definition.

16                   Just to give you a little background, we  
17 do perform our audit with a dollar materiality  
18 amount in mind. You have to do that to base it on  
19 something. That is based on a formula that our  
20 firm has developed and used, depending on the  
21 activity of each of our clients, but there are  
22 qualitative factors as well. It is not just black  
23 or white.

24                   Lawrence, as you mentioned, whether or

1 not we end up finding material issues, the ultimate  
2 issue with control deficiencies is whether the  
3 audit adjustment exists or not; are there  
4 weaknesses in the controls that could lead to an  
5 adjustment that could be out there that would not  
6 be found as you mentioned. That is part of this  
7 and that is really where things get a little more  
8 gray and where qualitative factors come in.

9 As we mentioned, to this point we have  
10 not found anything that is significant or material.

11 I will get into one specific issue that  
12 we did identify and that is related to the census  
13 data used by the actuary.

14 So we perform testing on the census data  
15 used by the actuary at the employer level. So we  
16 worked with the County audit team, coincidentally  
17 with the same firm, to do testing over active  
18 members at the County level.

19 In addition, we collaborated with the  
20 auditor of the Forest Preserve District, which is a  
21 different firm, to also perform testing over the  
22 active employees at the Forest Preserve.

23 Also, our team specifically did testing  
24 over benefit recipients and inactive members for

1 the Funds.

2 As far as our issue or our finding, we  
3 did not identify any significant issues with active  
4 or benefit recipients.

5 We did identify some gaps relating to  
6 information being available on inactive vested  
7 members.

8 During our testing of inactive vested  
9 members, we attempted to trace out certain  
10 demographic information to supporting documents at  
11 the fund level and for several members there was no  
12 documentation on file to support the information  
13 that is in the fund's system collecting and  
14 providing data to the actuary.

15 That does not mean that the data is  
16 wrong. It means that currently the Fund doesn't  
17 have anything on file to support the information,  
18 other than what they received from the County or  
19 the Forest Preserve District while that person was  
20 active.

21 The pension fund's data is very reliant  
22 on the payroll files received from both employers,  
23 which is great for actives and works really well  
24 because it really keeps things up-to-date, provides

1 the most recent information that the employers have  
2 on file and gives the pension funds something to  
3 base things off of.

4           However, once an employee goes inactive,  
5 they are no longer on those payroll files but they  
6 are still potentially owed something from the plan.  
7 Now, what are they owed? It depends on their  
8 service time.

9           So an inactive non-vested member is  
10 probably only owed a refund of contributions.  
11 Overall it might be an amount significant to them  
12 but not significant to the overall fund.

13           An inactive vested member, someone who  
14 has over ten years of service credit, they are owed  
15 a pension benefit and they are very important to  
16 the actuarial valuation.

17           Now overall the amount of inactive vested  
18 members to the amount of active and benefit  
19 recipients is a very small percentage but we do  
20 have some concerns regarding that issue.

21           Now, as we worked through these concerns  
22 with management, we did come to find out that  
23 within the last year management has created a  
24 position at the Fund that is dedicated to



1 communicating with inactive vested members.

2 Obviously, this is a slow process, being  
3 that it is a large amount of people and a large  
4 amount of data and a lot of these people may have  
5 been inactive for a long period of time so the  
6 contact information may not be up-to-date so there  
7 is a lot that goes into this. But we were very  
8 interested to hear what the Fund has done to this  
9 point and at the end of the day everything we found  
10 is consistent with the other findings that we have  
11 seen in our other pension plan audits.

12 Ultimately, the active members, the  
13 controls over them are generally better because  
14 they are current and the employers are also  
15 providing information on them. And then,  
16 obviously, for the benefit recipients the controls  
17 over them are very strong because they are actually  
18 currently receiving payments.

19 A few minutes ago during this meeting you  
20 approved payments to recipients for annuitants and  
21 other refunds, et cetera. So that is an ongoing  
22 process and communication is moving forward, that  
23 is great to see.

24 It is the inactive group where we see a

1 slight risk and that is the main issue that we have  
2 noted in our audit.

3 TRUSTEE BLAIR: I just have a quick  
4 question. So is the process that the Fund follows  
5 is it foundational enough to be able to manage and  
6 identify and track those who are eligible for  
7 payment at a later date?

8 MR. SARB: I believe the tracking is  
9 proper. I believe the identification of those who  
10 have a vested benefit is proper.

11 We didn't identify anything that would  
12 lead us to believe that there are vested members  
13 who are not truly vested.

14 There is enough information in the system  
15 to test that they are on employer payroll files and  
16 we did not identify any non-vested members who  
17 should be vested based on our test.

18 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Thank you.

19 MR. SARB: Are there questions? Hearing  
20 none, should I go back to where I was?

21 MS. TUCZAK: Sure, that sounds great.  
22 You were on Page 12, right, of the PowerPoint  
23 presentation, Bill?

24 MR. SARB: Yes.

1 MS. TUCZAK: Thank you.

2 PRESIDENT WILSON: Thank you, Bill.

3 MR. SARB: No problem.

4 As mentioned, we did not identify any  
5 material weaknesses. We also wanted to followup on  
6 the audit risks that were previously identified  
7 during our planning process.

8 There are two automatic risks in all of  
9 our audits. Those are management override and  
10 fraudulent revenue recognition.

11 Our firm's policies and procedures  
12 include procedures that were specifically designed  
13 to look for items associated with these risks.

14 During our testing, we did not identify  
15 any issues. We did not identify any instances of  
16 management override or fraud or fraudulent revenue  
17 recognition during the audit.

18 In addition to risks specific to the  
19 Financial Statements of the funds, we also  
20 identified two other risks which were both related  
21 to the valuation of accounting estimates.  
22 Specifically estimation uncertainty around  
23 actuarially measured amounts, like the pension and  
24 OPEB liabilities, and also the complexity of the

1 valuation of alternative investments. Such as  
2 private equity funds, hedge funds, real estate  
3 funds.

4 I am going to turn it over to our  
5 Actuarial Specialist Todd Muchnicki, who is going  
6 to go over the process used to evaluate the pension  
7 and OPEB actuarial valuations.

8 MR. MUCHNICKI: Thanks, Bill.

9 Good morning, everyone.

10 Our process really is to insure that the  
11 obligations are fairly presented. Our review is to  
12 look at the four actuarial reports prepared by  
13 Cavanaugh MacDonald. We have a pension and an OPEB  
14 report for the County Fund as well as the Forest  
15 Fund.

16 Our focus is really two-fold. It is to  
17 confirm that all the actuarial assumptions and  
18 methods are acceptable and reasonable.

19 One way we do that is we look at the  
20 Actuarial Standards of Practice that govern pension  
21 and OPEB actuarial calculations to insure that  
22 those Actuarial Standards are being followed. And,  
23 secondly, that the calculations that are actually  
24 being performed are done in accordance with the

1 relevant GASB standards.

2 So we found no issues in that regard.  
3 The actuarial valuations are comprehensive,  
4 complete and materially accurate in our opinion.

5 I would mention one thing regarding  
6 actuarial assumptions in general. The assumptions  
7 used in these valuations are based on an Experience  
8 Study that was done covering the period 2013  
9 through 2016 and then first used in the 2017  
10 actuarial valuation.

11 I note that the CavMac reports do  
12 recommend that that assumption review, that  
13 Experience Study, be refreshed. We would certainly  
14 concur with that and we think that is a prudent and  
15 best practice. So I just highlight that as  
16 something that is potentially around the corner at  
17 some point here to review those assumptions and  
18 again either revise or confirm them through an  
19 updated Experience Study.

20 PRESIDENT WILSON: The question is are  
21 you and/or our independent actuary in agreement on  
22 the frequency of refreshing assumptions or does it  
23 vary on the type of assumption?

24 MR. MUCHNICKI: No, I would say I agree

1 with CavMac's proposal. Again, a three to five  
2 year period is sort of your -- I will call it the  
3 sweet spot, if you will, of when you would want to  
4 update an Experience Study so there is some  
5 flexibility there.

6 It is really more about what is the  
7 process that you have adopted and then follow  
8 through on some consistent basis. We would prefer  
9 to see that.

10 So, again, the CavMac reports mention  
11 that and do recommend that an updated Experience  
12 Study be performed. And we, certainly, again,  
13 agree with that and we would find that to be  
14 acceptable.

15 PRESIDENT WILSON: Great, thanks.

16 TRUSTEE HUGHES: One quick question. Is  
17 that an additional engagement that you would have  
18 with CavMac to do an update of those assumptions?

19 MS. TUCZAK: Yes, it would be an  
20 additional engagement. It is budgeted for this  
21 year. It is budgeted but I was going to bring that  
22 up at the next board meeting after the 2020  
23 Financial Statements are completely concluded and  
24 issued and out the door.

1 MR. MUCHNICKI: I am certainly open to  
2 entertain any questions. Otherwise, Bill, I would  
3 turn it back to you.

4 I am on Slide 13 by the way. There is  
5 the final bullet on that slide about census data  
6 but Bill already touched on that.

7 MR. SARB: Right, right.

8 This is where I was going to speak to the  
9 issue we already discussed so I will turn it over  
10 now to my colleague Hualin Liu, who will talk about  
11 our audit of the investments and some of the other  
12 audit procedures we performed. I am on Slide 14  
13 now.

14 MR. LIU: Thanks, Bill.

15 Hello, everyone. This is Hualin Liu.

16 So, on Slide 14 and the next couple of  
17 slides, I will walk through our audit procedures,  
18 over investments, as well as other significant  
19 testing areas.

20 The procedures were applied to both the  
21 Cook and the Forest Funds.

22 Starting with the investments, we  
23 confirmed 100 percent of the Fund's investment  
24 portfolio directly with BNY Mellon, the asset

1       custodian.

2                   And, in addition to that, for alternative  
3       investments, such as private equities, real estate  
4       and hedge funds, we also send out confirmations to  
5       the investment managers to confirm the holdings  
6       directly with them.

7                   In addition to confirmation procedures,  
8       we perform additional testing over transactions,  
9       pending trades that were settled after the  
10      year-end, as well as security lending testing.  
11      Including confirming the collaterals and making  
12      sure that the collateralization level was  
13      appropriate for those securities on loan.

14                  In the next slide, I will talk about our  
15      audit approach over the investment valuation  
16      testing.

17                  We are on slide number 15.

18                  When it comes to the valuation testing,  
19      for those Level I and Level 2 securities, which  
20      include mostly commonly traded stocks, bonds and  
21      other fixed income and equity securities as well as  
22      the non-cash collateral holdings under security  
23      lending, we tested a representative sample by each  
24      asset type and we utilized our RSM valuation team



1 for independent pricing. And, based on our  
2 testing, there were no significant or material  
3 exceptions identified.

4 For alternative investments, there is one  
5 unique aspect of the valuation of those alternative  
6 investments, which is that the year-end price or  
7 so-called net asset value is usually calculated in  
8 the subsequent period following the year-end.  
9 Therefore, the market value reported by the  
10 custodian as of 12-31 was based off an earlier  
11 date. In other words, we call it a valuation lag.

12 For this reason, the fund management used  
13 the fund managers' reported values and audited  
14 statements that were made available after year-end  
15 to continue updating the market values of those  
16 alternative investments through April and those  
17 updated values are what is reported on the  
18 financials and subject to our test.

19 To the actual testing of alternative  
20 investments, we also selected a representative  
21 sample by the fund types and compare the  
22 management's recorded value to the audited Fund  
23 statements.

24 Based on the testing, we determined that

1 the reported balance was reasonable at year-end and  
2 no audit adjustment was necessary.

3 Moving to slide number 16. So besides  
4 investments, the other significant testing areas in  
5 which we perform audit procedures, include member  
6 and employer contributions, benefit distributions  
7 including retirement annuity, survivor annuity,  
8 disability benefits as well as the health claims  
9 and member premiums associated with those claims  
10 were done to a detailed testing as well.

11 And based on the testing, there were no  
12 significant or material exceptions to report.

13 And one thing I do want to mention is  
14 that those testings were performed onsite due to  
15 the confidential nature of member and annuitant  
16 information.

17 And I also want to give thanks to Gina  
18 and her team for coordinating with us and helping  
19 us get through those testing.

20 Any questions on the testing areas and  
21 procedures before I turn it back over to Bill?

22 Okay, I will turn it back over to Bill to  
23 go over the required communications.

24 MR. SARB: Before I jump to the next

1 slide, I just want to also kind of talk about  
2 benefit testing.

3 Specific to the annuitant and survivor  
4 benefits, one thing that I wanted to bring up, that  
5 I didn't include in the slide, was when we do our  
6 testing there we focus it on taking the population  
7 and stratifying it to cut it and look at the new  
8 benefits and focus a sample in that area. So  
9 people who receive a new benefit, a new annuitant,  
10 a new survivor during the year and we go from  
11 scratch on that. We test to make sure and we  
12 recalculate that those expenses and those amounts  
13 are done and calculated as defined in statute. We  
14 make sure all the inputs are correct.

15 And then we also then look at a sample of  
16 payments so these are the amounts where people have  
17 been retired or receiving a benefit for a number of  
18 years and we test the changes in those payments, if  
19 any, just to give you a little breakdown of the  
20 focuses of some of those testings.

21 We provided a lot today. Before we wrap  
22 up, I want to make sure that we address our  
23 required communications.

24 These communications will also be

1 finalized and reported in a formal board report,  
2 which will be issued at the completion of our  
3 audits. Drafts of those formal board reports were  
4 included in the board packet.

5 To summarize, we did not identify any  
6 significant unusual transactions during the audit.  
7 There were no audit adjustments or no non-audit  
8 adjustments made to the original trial balance  
9 presented to us.

10 We did not identify any uncorrected or  
11 passed adjustments, which were greater than our  
12 diminishable thresholds.

13 Management appears to be reporting the  
14 appropriate and preferred accounting policies for a  
15 governmental pension fund and we did not identify  
16 any alternative treatment within GAAP that they are  
17 using.

18 We did not encounter any disagreements  
19 with management during the audit, nor are we aware  
20 of any consultations that management had with other  
21 accountants relating to our audit.

22 Ultimately, we did not find any  
23 significant issues, other than what we talked about  
24 on the inactive census data members and we had no

1 difficulties in performing our procedures.

2 A summary of written communications  
3 include the arrangement letter, which was dated  
4 April 6th. And then also the management  
5 representation letter, which will be finalized on  
6 our report date which is pending. I did include a  
7 draft of the letter which was attached in the board  
8 packet as well as part of the formal board report.

9 Finally, one last topic that has nothing  
10 specific to do with our audit of the Fund but is  
11 just a very important topic in the world today that  
12 we just wanted to bring to everyone's attention and  
13 talk about briefly.

14 Cyber security and the risks associated  
15 with it. Ultimately, our firm has partnered with  
16 the United States Chamber of Commerce to perform an  
17 analysis of cyber security risk and its impact on  
18 the middle market.

19 We want to encourage everyone to take a  
20 look and read through that report's findings. I  
21 included a link in the board presentation. If you  
22 don't have it electronically, it is on our website  
23 and I can provide a link to it through email, if  
24 necessary.

1           Any questions on anything that we have  
2 talked about? Cyber security or our overall  
3 presentation, our audit process, we're happy to  
4 take at this time.

5           TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I have a question. It  
6 may be -- I am disappointed that we're looking at a  
7 draft. Are you fellows like the CPAs that can  
8 never get it done April 15th and their busy month  
9 is October? And I am not being snotty, I am just  
10 asking.

11           Why can't we get this in front of us one  
12 time and it is final, unless it's impossible, then  
13 that is my question and the only one.

14           MS. TUCZAK: I think we can work harder  
15 to get information and the close process  
16 accelerated and certainly work with the auditors to  
17 have everything be final for this meeting, that  
18 would be something that we can work on.

19           TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: We will shoot to meet  
20 the June meeting.

21           MS. TUCZAK: Final reports with no open  
22 items, that would be for next year. And the  
23 financial reporting team will have to make sure  
24 that can be accomplished. They should be able to

1 do that.

2 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Thank you.

3 MR. SARB: Thanks, Gina.

4 I guess to expand on that. I know it is  
5 not ideal to present drafts. We agree with you on  
6 that. We would prefer to present a final.

7 This year we didn't get there but we will  
8 work with management and we will work on the  
9 schedule. We have already had conversations  
10 specific to this and specific to ideas to change  
11 the timing of some of our procedures to have  
12 certain areas at different times throughout the  
13 process. We will work with management and the  
14 changes to complete it.

15 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: That wasn't a  
16 criticism of mine coming from me, that was just a  
17 request.

18 MR. SARB: I get it.

19 MS. BURNS: If I may, as fiduciary  
20 counsel, just because you are going to take action  
21 on the drafts, it is understood that if anything  
22 changes between now and the final report, you will  
23 report back to the Board with respect to those  
24 material changes?

1 MR. SARB: Yes.

2 MS. BURNS: Thank you.

3 PRESIDENT WILSON: Just to help, the  
4 auditors define material but the numbers are not  
5 expected to change, correct?

6 MR. SARB: Correct. We have no  
7 indication numbers will change.

8 PRESIDENT WILSON: Okay.

9 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I didn't know that.  
10 If it wasn't a draft then I wouldn't even concern  
11 myself with it.

12 MR. SARB: Very true.

13 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Thanks.

14 MS. TUCZAK: There are some miscellaneous  
15 items.

16 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I am sure there is.

17 MS. TUCZAK: The numbers are not expected  
18 to change.

19 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Just a thought, that  
20 was all I was doing.

21 MS. TUCZAK: Yes.

22 PRESIDENT WILSON: Anything else?

23 MR. SARB: We appreciate everyone's time  
24 today. Thank you, very much, for having us.



1                   PRESIDENT WILSON: Thank you, very much.  
2                   We appreciate the efforts in your first year.  
3                   Typically we might expect that it would take longer  
4                   in the first year or something but we are glad that  
5                   you had such positive results and we look forward  
6                   to a continuing relationship. Thank you.

7                   MR. SARB: Thank you.

8                   PRESIDENT WILSON: May I have a motion to  
9                   accept and file the draft fiscal year 2020  
10                  Financial Statements for the Cook County and Forest  
11                  Preserve District Funds as presented?

12                  TRUSTEE HUGHES: Motion.

13                  TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Second.

14                  PRESIDENT WILSON: It has been moved by  
15                  Trustee Hughes. Seconded by Trustee McFadden.

16                  Any discussion on the motion?

17                  Hearing none, Peggy, please call the  
18                  roll.

19                  MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

20                  TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

21                  MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

22                  TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

23                  MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

24                  TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

1 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

2 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

3 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

4 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

5 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

6 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

7 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

8 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

9 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

10 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

11 The motion passes. The record will  
12 reflect that the draft fiscal year 2020 Financial  
13 Statements have been accepted and filed.

14 The next item on our agenda is the  
15 presentation of the fiscal year 2020 actuarial  
16 valuations, Gina.

17 MS. TUCZAK: Thank you. So at this time  
18 of year, in addition to the Financial Statements  
19 audit, we also have the actuarial valuations  
20 performed and completed. The results of which are  
21 included in the Financial Statements and in  
22 connection with that there are also some  
23 calculations that are done for the  
24 intragovernmental agreement between us and the

1 County government. So those materials have been  
2 completed and there is a presentation by  
3 representatives from Cavanaugh MacDonald to  
4 walkthrough those actuarial results.

5 Those that are online this is beginning  
6 on Page 274 of the PDF in BoardEffect. But with  
7 that, I would turn it over to the Cavanaugh  
8 MacDonald representatives. They have a PowerPoint  
9 presentation and then we have also provided just as  
10 handouts the Cook and Forest Preserve combined  
11 reports. In BoardEffect are all six valuations  
12 because in addition to the combined, there is a  
13 GASB 74/75 report, a GASB 67/68 report, for each  
14 Fund so there are six valuations. I know it's been  
15 reflected in the past.

16 There will be final bound versions made  
17 available to the Trustees for you to have at a  
18 later date but for now we have got these drafts,  
19 which I believe are final, and we will turn it over  
20 to Larry Langer of Cavanaugh MacDonald to introduce  
21 your team and begin your presentation.

22 MR. LANGER: Thank you, Gina. Members of  
23 the Board, Larry Langer from Cavanaugh MacDonald  
24 Consulting. With me today is Wendy Ludbrook and

1 Ryan Gunderson.

2 We are here to go through the results of  
3 the December 31, 2020 actuarial valuations.

4 Before we get too deep, we always  
5 appreciate the efforts of the staff to get us this  
6 information. It is a lot of information to collect  
7 to get these valuations out in a reasonably timely  
8 fashion and we do appreciate their efforts and  
9 their input in this process.

10 I trust you all have in front of you, it  
11 is a title page, "Results of the December 31, 2020  
12 Actuarial Valuations of the Cook County Pension  
13 Funds" dated June 3, 2021 and I will give you page  
14 numbers as we go through it.

15 So, on Slide 2 of the presentation, we  
16 have the purpose of the actuarial valuation.  
17 Actuarial valuations are a core piece of having a  
18 pension plan in the public world.

19 At Cavanaugh MacDonald, we do dozens and  
20 dozens of pension valuations only for public sector  
21 plans across the U.S. This is what we do. This is  
22 what we do best.

23 So the purpose of this annual valuation  
24 you have already heard the input into the

1        accounting side of the house and we provide  
2        information for them. We estimate liabilities of  
3        the Fund. We determine actuarial contributions  
4        both on the statutory basis but also on the IGA  
5        basis for the County Pension Fund.

6                We also like to talk about these. Every  
7        year we come in with a new valuation and for those  
8        who remember what the valuation process entails, we  
9        have to make use of a lot of assumptions and  
10       estimates as to what we think will happen in the  
11       future.

12               Common practice is to polish these up  
13       every year, perform a new valuation. Replace the  
14       information that we estimated during 2020 with what  
15       actually happened during 2020 and then we comment  
16       on the differences that occurred and how that moved  
17       the results within the plan.

18               Sadly, that last bullet point, in Cook  
19       County, we also do a projection to determine when  
20       the Funds are going to run out of money, based upon  
21       the statutory contribution.

22               Just a reminder, this is -- I don't know  
23       if we serve this purpose anywhere else for any  
24       other public sector funds.

1           The IGA certainly helped. I know there  
2 is legislation being bandied about to try and  
3 correct that so that these benefits are funded in  
4 an appropriate way and the members benefits are  
5 secure.

6           During 2020, a couple of things are of  
7 note from an actuarial basis. On the funding of  
8 the plans, for Cook County pension benefits, this  
9 marks year number five in a row, the  
10 intragovernmental agreement has been in place.  
11 Supplemental contributions about \$309 million  
12 occurred during 2020 in addition to the 200 some  
13 odd million in statutory contributions and about  
14 \$130 some odd million in member contributions.

15           We are expecting more during 2021. Part  
16 of that has already been paid in December.

17           MS. TUCZAK: Larry, you froze there for a  
18 second. You are back, go ahead.

19           MR. LANGER: Thank you. So the IGA, we  
20 will talk about it, certainly helps the funding of  
21 the plan. Only for Cook County pension. Funding  
22 for retiree health benefits is still on the pay as  
23 you go basis. The Forest Preserve is only on the  
24 statutory basis and contributions are insufficient

1 for both pension and retiree health benefits. No  
2 change there.

3 Investment returns during 2020 were  
4 greater than assumed. Salaries were a bit lower  
5 than expected. More people died than expected.  
6 Those two things helped to cause liabilities to be  
7 a little bit smaller. More members retired with  
8 greater benefits than anticipated, that caused  
9 liabilities to be a little bit higher.

10 Change in assumptions. This is for the  
11 GASB purposes and the auditors went through that  
12 nicely.

13 Change in benefit provisions, there were  
14 multiple. Like every year, multiple changes in the  
15 fund provisions for retiree health insurance to try  
16 and keep those costs in check.

17 The Levin case. This was late breaking  
18 news last year and we have been waiting to see how  
19 this is panning out.

20 As of the date of the report, or actually  
21 as of date of the report, as of the valuation, no  
22 new people reenrolled or enrolled in the Forest  
23 Preserve and a limited amount came under the Cook  
24 County Fund. I guess somewhere around seven.

1           It doesn't look like that is going to be  
2 a big deal. Obviously, it is a fluid thing and we  
3 will continue to monitor it but we have not  
4 included any additional liabilities due to the  
5 Levin case, other than those people already in the  
6 plan.

7           On Slide 4, we go over a high level  
8 summary of some of the results. Wendy and Ryan are  
9 going to cover these in more detail.

10           We have a comparison of the current  
11 year's valuation under December 31, 2020. The  
12 prior year's under 2019.

13           And a couple of things to note here, we  
14 see a dip in the active membership, a slight dip,  
15 that seems to be a continuing trend.

16           Retirees and beneficiaries, we do  
17 anticipate that number to grow for the foreseeable  
18 future. We baked that into our valuation results.

19           Inactive members. Mr. Sarb went through  
20 this a bit and the term vested and folks of that  
21 nature.

22           You can see that is a large number. It  
23 is almost as large as the other two categories.  
24 They makeup a very small portion of the liability,



1       however. They don't account for one-third of the  
2       liability. They are like maybe around 5 percent.  
3       So I agree with his comments. I mean, this is a  
4       rather common deal for funds, particularly medium  
5       to large size funds.

6               Investment returns. You have to go back  
7       during -- I think back to December 31, 2020. Fair  
8       value basis, we had a 12.74 percent and actuarial  
9       results of 10 percent. That actuarial value is an  
10      average value over the past five years that we used  
11      for the calculations. In particular, the IGA and  
12      the funded ratio.

13              Funded ratio. This is again combined  
14      between pension and OPEB. You should have about  
15      \$18.4 billion in the trust. You have \$11.7 in the  
16      trust. That means the funded ratio is around 63.87  
17      percent. The funded ratio has increased over the  
18      last year somewhat due to investment performance.  
19      Supplemental contributions of the IGA continues to  
20      draw the Fund's ratio higher.

21              Retired health insurance changes. You  
22      keep nudging the -- bending the curve downward and  
23      that helps results somewhat as well.

24              Here, on Slide 5, we show the required

1 actual contribution broken up into a couple of  
2 different pieces.

3 So the first element there is the  
4 employer normal cost and some of these terms used  
5 are common and actuarial. Normal costs, employer  
6 normal cost, is the employer's portion of the  
7 benefits accruing during the year. This nets out  
8 the member contributions of \$133 million. The  
9 total cost of benefits accruing every year is  
10 somewhere around \$220 million a year.

11 Amortization of the unfunded liability.  
12 This is for combined plans, both pension and OPEB.  
13 It is \$530 million. It dipped down a bit because  
14 the unfunded liability is a little bit smaller.  
15 That leaves us with what we refer to as the  
16 employer actuarial required contribution of \$622  
17 million. Again, a little bit of a dip from last  
18 year.

19 The statutory contributions remain rather  
20 level. It is based upon the multiplier of 1.54 and  
21 it is around \$200 million. Supplemental  
22 contributions \$341 million for year ended December  
23 31, 2021.

24 Now the amount by which this statutory

1 contributions falls shy of the employer actuarial  
2 contribution, again, that dipped a little bit but  
3 it is shy by about about \$421 million this year.

4           Insolvency date is hedged out a little  
5 bit. Much of this is due to the IGA.

6           Investment returns have been good but we  
7 did a quick calculation. In order for you to fully  
8 fund the plan by 2047, you would need returns  
9 somewhere 10 to 11 percent every year until that  
10 date. You're obviously not going to get that.

11           The thing that moves the needle is the  
12 IGA is moving the needle. We saw it increase from  
13 2043 to 2047.

14           Forest Preserve results. The story is a  
15 little bit different here because we don't have the  
16 the IGA here but here we have a summary of the  
17 results. A few lower head counts on the active  
18 side of the house. A few more retirees.

19 Investment return, again, close to the -- between  
20 11 and 12 percent. Similar to Cook County. Then  
21 we have the funded status of the plan has dipped  
22 and you will continue to see that dip for the  
23 foreseeable futures absent any change in  
24 contribution amounts.

1                   Forest Preserve summary results Page 7.  
2           We see here we have the development of employer  
3           actuarial required contributions for both pension  
4           and healthcare is a little bit higher. \$13.9  
5           million but the statutory amount follows far shy of  
6           that \$3.8 million.

7                   Insolvency date has gotten a year closer  
8           from 2042 to 2041. We anticipate that date to stay  
9           around the same absent changing in the funding that  
10          comes in and depending upon returns and other  
11          demographic events that happen over the course of  
12          time. We would anticipate that insolvency date to  
13          be in that area. It shouldn't increase or decrease  
14          significantly like we saw in Cook County.

15                   I will hand things off to Wendy real  
16          quick on Slide 8. Before I do that, Slide 8, you  
17          will see up on the left-hand side, this little  
18          schematic that says "Inputs and Results".

19                   It sort of walks through our valuation  
20          process. The inputs are things that go into our  
21          model and that little box around it will show you  
22          where we are at in the process. Inputs drive the  
23          results of the plan. Results would go through the  
24          various results of the plan.

1           So with that, I am going to hand it off  
2 to Wendy.

3           MS. LUDBROOK: I am Wendy Ludbrook. Nice  
4 to see everybody virtually.

5           As Larry said, looking at the little  
6 schematic over on the left-hand side, I am going to  
7 talk about the inputs.

8           Typically, we gather information about  
9 what we know as of the valuation date, which in  
10 this case is December 31, 2020. And that includes  
11 the first three items on that list, which is the  
12 membership data, the asset data and the benefit  
13 provisions. Those are things that we know.

14           Then once we collect all that information  
15 and we are going to estimate what we think is going  
16 to happen in the future and that is the assumption  
17 section and then we are going to find a way to  
18 systematically pay it off and that is the funding  
19 methodology.

20           These next set of slides will sort of  
21 walkthrough each of those inputs. The first three;  
22 the membership data, asset data and benefit  
23 provisions, we will have a slide for the County and  
24 a slide for Forest Preserve. And then the

1 assumptions and methodology are very similar for  
2 each of the plans. We will talk about those all  
3 together.

4 So Slides 8 and 9 are going to focus on  
5 the membership data. First for the County and then  
6 Slide 9 will have the Forest Preserve.

7 The membership data makes up the core  
8 portion of the process. As Larry mentioned  
9 earlier, we receive the data from the staff who  
10 does most of the heavy lifting here and we're very  
11 grateful for that.

12 It is a snapshot as of 12-31-2020 so that  
13 means wherever any of the plan members, what  
14 status, what we call their status was on that date,  
15 is how we value them for this year. Anything that  
16 happened between then and now is not recognized in  
17 the data.

18 So we get a record for each member. As  
19 you can see, there is thousands and thousands of  
20 records that we receive with the pertinent  
21 information, depending on if you are actively  
22 working or you're retired and in pay status. For  
23 actives, we get pay. We get how much service they  
24 have got, that kind of information.

1           For people who are retired or no longer  
2 working but are due a benefit in the future, we get  
3 information about the amount of the benefit they  
4 are owed, when their benefits are going to start  
5 being paid or when they started being paid and  
6 things like that.

7           The charts on Slides 8 and 9 focus  
8 primarily on the active population. These are the  
9 members that were actively working for the County  
10 and the Forest Preserve as of 12-31-2020.

11           And as Larry also mentioned earlier, this  
12 is looking back over the last decade. You can see  
13 the number, the active population, has been  
14 diminishing consistently throughout this period and  
15 then payroll growth also has been less than  
16 expected.

17           So while you say, well, lower payroll  
18 growth, lower accounts, lower your liabilities, but  
19 because of the statutory funding policy it also  
20 lowers the contributions that are coming in. So  
21 they are offsetting but generally the contributions  
22 are not keeping up with the benefits.

23           If you flip over onto Slide 9, same chart  
24 for Forest Preserve. You can see for them that

1 payroll has increased more than expected this past  
2 year.

3 MS. TUCZAK: You are frozen, Wendy.

4 MS. LUDBROOK: Similarly with the head  
5 counts, there was a big increase in the head counts  
6 in 2013, which helped not only increase liabilities  
7 but it also helped increase the amount of  
8 contributions in the plan which helped the funded  
9 ratio.

10 However, it stayed relatively level up in  
11 this higher level since then but we did see a dip  
12 in 2020, that would also tend to factor into the  
13 lower contribution level that we experienced during  
14 2020.

15 And then just the last comment in the  
16 box, you will see the contribution levels are not  
17 sufficient to fully fund the Forest Preserve Plan  
18 and short of them not having an IGA sort of  
19 arrangement.

20 We flip over to Slides 10 and 11. This  
21 is our second input, second known piece of  
22 information, which is the asset data. For both  
23 plans, the investment rate of return for the year  
24 was above -- we assumed 7 and a quarter percent. I



1 believe it was about 12.7 percent for the County  
2 and 11.4 percent for the Forest Preserve.

3 A little bit later Ryan will talk about  
4 the impact that this has on the plan, on the funded  
5 ratio and things like that.

6 For these two slides, really we are just  
7 looking at the cash flows that are related to  
8 benefit payments going out compared to the amount  
9 of contributions coming in.

10 For the County, you can see that the IGA  
11 has had a significant impact on closing the gap  
12 between the benefit payments and contributions  
13 starting back at 12-31-16.

14 While we have seen the gap widen a little  
15 bit here in the last two years, we do anticipate  
16 that in our models, and then that comes through in  
17 our recommended contributions, that we recommend  
18 going forward.

19 On Slide 11 is the same information for  
20 the Forest Preserve and you can see that their  
21 negative cash flow has been more significant and  
22 pretty consistently around 11 to 12 million here in  
23 the past eight to ten years just due to the  
24 insufficient contributions and not having an IGA

1 contribution boost. They have hovered around a  
2 negative 5 percent net cash flow percentage. Where  
3 if you look back on Slide 10, the County plan is  
4 down to about negative 2 percent and that is  
5 primarily due to the IGA.

6 On Slides 12 and 13, we look at the  
7 benefit provisions. This is our final known piece  
8 of information as of the valuation date. And  
9 benefit provisions are the biggest driver of the  
10 the long-term cost of the plan. I know everybody  
11 kind of thinks investment return is the thing but  
12 the provisions determine what the value of benefits  
13 are. You know, what the benefits are going to be.

14 There have been no changes to the benefit  
15 provisions for the pension side. On the health  
16 care side, Larry mentioned earlier there were  
17 changes related to subsidies and copays and  
18 deductibles and things like that.

19 These two charts, though, on Slide 12 and  
20 13 more specifically we're really just kind of  
21 taking a look at illustrating the affect the  
22 growing Tier 2 population is having on the plan.

23 Tier 2 benefits were introduced almost a  
24 decade ago. So anyone hired after that date

1 received a different benefit formula, a smaller  
2 contribution or smaller percentage of pay. And  
3 then going forward all new members now in the plan  
4 are receiving the Tier 2 benefits.

5 Now that we have had about ten years of  
6 it, it is becoming a more significant part of the  
7 plan.

8 You can see that in the middle of the  
9 page here, the normal cost rate, which is sort of  
10 the percent of pay for the Tier 2 people, that will  
11 cover the benefits that are going to accrue in this  
12 next year, is about 10.33 percent. That same  
13 metric for the Tier 1 people who have the bigger  
14 benefits is 16.23 percent. So the Tier 2 benefit  
15 provisions have about 64 percent of the value of  
16 the Tier 1 benefits. And then you can see in  
17 total, if you combine everybody together, that same  
18 metric is about 14.29 percent. That number is  
19 going to start moving closer and closer to that  
20 Tier 2 10 percent as the Tier 1 members retire and  
21 are replaced with more Tier 2 members.

22 And then if you flip over onto Slide 13,  
23 it is very similar metrics for the Forest Preserve,  
24 with about -- their benefits are about 61 percent

1 of the -- Tier 2 benefits about 61 percent of the  
2 value of the Tier 1 benefits for this group and  
3 same. They are at about 14.9 percent right now and  
4 that percentage will start moving towards the 11  
5 percent as we grow the Tier 2 population.

6 Flipping over to Slide 14 then, now we  
7 are at our assumptions. So this is how we estimate  
8 what we think is going to happen in the future. It  
9 bridges the gap between what we know. So, we know  
10 the assets, the membership data and the benefit  
11 provisions, and now where do we think we are going?

12 Actuaries tend to divide the assumptions  
13 into two categories. We have demographic  
14 assumptions, which are future events related to  
15 people. That is things like when are people going  
16 to retire? When are they going to terminate? When  
17 are people going to die?

18 And then economic assumptions, which are  
19 future events that are related to money. So that  
20 is our rate of return on our assets, which is 7 and  
21 a quarter percent is the assumption currently. It  
22 is lower for the GASB accounting.

23 Inflation assumption. What is payroll  
24 going to grow at? What is the salary scale going

1 to be?

2 The assumptions are consistent with the  
3 previous valuation and then after this valuation is  
4 completed, as RSM mentioned earlier, we also  
5 recommend doing what is called an Experience Study.  
6 Where we take all the assumptions that we make and  
7 we sort of kick the tires on all of them and see  
8 how they have performed in the past, especially  
9 related to the plan population. Have people been  
10 retiring at the rate that we are assuming they are?  
11 Or has the mortality, have people been dying at a  
12 similar rate that we think. And then make  
13 adjustments to better tie back to what's been  
14 happening. And then also reflect any changes in  
15 the economic environment from -- the last time we  
16 looked at this was in 20 -- I guess probably during  
17 2017. What has changed since then and what are the  
18 new forecasts and things like that.

19 Typically they are done every four years  
20 and really it's just -- for us, it is -- we don't  
21 want to react to year to year changes because that  
22 builds volatility into the funding and things like  
23 that and actuaries don't like volatility.

24 One thing of note, if we do this study,

1 new mortality tables have been introduced in the  
2 interim here. So, since 12-31-17, a new set of  
3 mortality tables called the Pub-2010 tables have  
4 become available by the Society of Actuaries and  
5 that they are based specifically on public sector  
6 plan experience. Which is the first time that  
7 mortality tables have ever been made for public  
8 sector workers and the tables actually are even  
9 divided up even further to be specific to different  
10 groups of public sector employees like safety  
11 employees or teachers, things like that. You can  
12 really kind of drill down and try to match them  
13 better to your plan population. So that will be  
14 something that we will be looking to talk with  
15 staff with here after this valuation is completed.

16 I will note, though, there is a chance  
17 that you kind of don't know what you're going to  
18 get when you do the Experience Study. You could  
19 have a cost increase because of it or you could  
20 have a cost decrease.

21 We have seen, with recent experience,  
22 costs have tended to creep up a little bit but it's  
23 one of those things you don't really know until you  
24 jump in it.

1                   Finally, on Slide 15, it would be our  
2 funding methodology.

3                   PRESIDENT WILSON: Question, Wendy. What  
4 have you seen in the industry in terms of funds and  
5 their interest rate assumptions? What tends to be  
6 the norm?

7                   At one point it seemed like it was too  
8 high and there was a move for people to lower it.

9                   Where do you see the range of the norm  
10 nowadays?

11                   MS. LUDBROOK: I will quote Larry on  
12 this. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's  
13 investment return assumptions. But we definitely  
14 have seen a trend downward, you know, in the  
15 assumptions from the last couple of years.

16                   I know the last few systems that we have  
17 looked at, we have had one of them stayed the same,  
18 one of them moved down but definitely there has  
19 been a trend recently for them to move down.

20                   I think currently the current average is  
21 around -- is it around 7 and a quarter or 7?

22                   MR. LANGER: There is a National  
23 Association of State Retirement Administrators that  
24 publish surveys on large statewide systems. And

1 that survey, if you looked at it, the median return  
2 assumption was 8 percent in the early 2000s. In  
3 the past two weeks, the median return is at 7  
4 percent.

5 But as Wendy said, as she quoted from the  
6 book of Larry, God bless her for that, we are going  
7 to look at your experience explicitly. We will  
8 work with Callan and their anticipations and see if  
9 the 7 and a quarter is reasonable. We don't know  
10 enough.

11 But investment return assumption when you  
12 lower it, it does have an impact on the  
13 contributions. You know, specifically IGA, and  
14 liabilities, it does tend to increase it. Less  
15 investment return means you have a greater need for  
16 contributions. But, again, we will wait and see.

17 Does that answer your question, Trustee  
18 Wilson?

19 PRESIDENT WILSON: Yes, thank you.

20 MR. LANGER: Alright, good.

21 MS. LUDBROOK: Just back on Slide 15, to  
22 kind of wrap up the input section, the last piece  
23 of the funding methodology. And, Larry, is going  
24 to probably get into this a little bit later when



1 he talks about the IGA, but the funding policy is  
2 just the mechanism that is used to systematically  
3 payoff the cost of the plan.

4 I am sure you know funding is an issue  
5 for the Funds. Frankly, most of the funds in  
6 Illinois. We do not recommend non-actuarial  
7 funding or what we call Illinois math as we have  
8 described below in our Slide 15.

9 Non-actuarial funding is just not based  
10 on the actual needs of the Fund and can result in  
11 insolvency and also in higher GASB liabilities,  
12 which in the statutory contribution policy is this  
13 type of policy.

14 Illinois math uses actuarial funding,  
15 however, with inappropriate parameters. Instead of  
16 targeting to try to get to be 100 percent funded,  
17 they will target to be 90 percent funded. We  
18 recommend more of an actuarial approach designed to  
19 fund the benefits based on during the course of  
20 their career so no additional contributions are  
21 needed once they retire.

22 And then an example of this is the IGA,  
23 which has been a very positive -- has had a very  
24 positive impact on the County plan over these last

1 five or six years.

2 There is a link here that goes through  
3 the GFOAs kind of overview of funding policies and  
4 the things to consider when you are setting your  
5 policy.

6 With that, we have made it through the  
7 input section and I am going to turn it over to  
8 Ryan who is going to talk about the results.

9 MR. GUNDERSON: Thanks, Wendy.

10 If you look on the left side of Slide 16,  
11 you will see the results section. We take those  
12 inputs that Wendy just went over and we run them  
13 through our valuation software that models the  
14 provisions of the plan. Of course, these  
15 provisions are governed by the Illinois Pension  
16 Code.

17 Using the valuation software, we are able  
18 to produce these results. We categorize these  
19 results and the categories are shown here on the  
20 left.

21 First the actuarial value of assets, the  
22 actuarial accrued liability, the funded ratio,  
23 unfunded actuarial accrued liability, the net  
24 actuarial gain or loss, employer contributions, and

1 projections.

2 Starting on Slides 16 and 17, we have the  
3 actuarial value of assets for Cook County first and  
4 on 17 we have them for Forest Preserve.

5 The actuarial value of assets are used in  
6 the funding valuation to determine the unfunded  
7 liabilities, so the amount of assets that aren't on  
8 hand to cover the accrued liabilities. And they  
9 are used to determine the funded ratio and they are  
10 also used to determine the employer contribution  
11 requirement, the actuarial employer contribution  
12 requirement, thus the IGA as well.

13 Whereas, in a GASB valuation, we are  
14 using the straight market value of assets. So why  
15 do we use the actuarial value of assets for  
16 funding? The main reason is to reduce volatility  
17 in the contribution amount and to reduce volatility  
18 in the funded ratio on a year to year basis.

19 The Board has adopted a five-year  
20 smoothing of investment gains and losses.  
21 Essentially, this actuarial value of assets are a  
22 smooth market value of assets. But we recognize an  
23 investment gain or loss in the year and level  
24 amounts over a five-year period and that reduces

1 the volatility as if you were just using a straight  
2 market value return.

3 Looking at Slide 16, you will see Cook  
4 returned fantastic market value investment return  
5 of 12.74. We are assuming a 7.25 percent return  
6 for the year so it was well above that. But if you  
7 look at Item 12, you will see that the actuarial  
8 value of assets returned a 10.06 percent.

9 The reason for the difference between the  
10 two is that we are recognizing, as you will see in  
11 Item 10, all those investment gains and losses in  
12 equal amounts each year. We still have an  
13 investment loss in 2018 that we are recognizing so  
14 that is going to lower our actuarial value return  
15 compared to the market return.

16 Item 1 shows you the beginning of year  
17 value of assets, actuarial value of assets, and  
18 that is \$10.89 billion. Item 11 shows the end of  
19 year, the 12-31-2020, actuarial value of assets  
20 \$11.77 billion.

21 There is about a \$800 million increase in  
22 the actuarial value of assets, which is about 7.1  
23 percent of the beginning year value, which is  
24 really good.

1 Slide 16, we have Forest Preserve  
2 actuarial value of assets and the beginning of year  
3 value was \$203 million. The end of year value in  
4 Item 11 was \$210 million. So we saw about a \$7  
5 million increase or about a 3 percent beginning of  
6 year value increase.

7 The market value return again was above  
8 the assumed rate of 7 and a quarter at 11.38  
9 percent. And the actuarial value of assets  
10 recognizing those five years of smooth investment  
11 gains and losses returned 9.28 percent, which is  
12 still above the 7 and a quarter assumed rate of  
13 return.

14 I am going to turn over to Slides 18 and  
15 19 where we are going over both funds actuarial  
16 accrued liability and the actuarial value of assets  
17 over the past ten years.

18 On the left side of this table on Slide  
19 18, we show the accrued liability for active and  
20 deferred vested members broken out by employee and  
21 employer portion of the liability and we also show  
22 the accrued liability for members receiving  
23 benefits during the year.

24 So if you look at the portion of accrued

1 liabilities covered by assets, it shows a one in  
2 the header up there. Item 1, active and inactive  
3 member accumulated contributions, well, they are  
4 100 percent covered by assets.

5 And then Item 2, members currently  
6 receiving benefits, they are at 91 percent in 2020,  
7 which is an increase from 88 percent the year  
8 before.

9 And then, finally, active and inactive  
10 members of the employer portion of the benefits,  
11 those not covered by accumulated contributions,  
12 those are not funded.

13 While this doesn't pose an immediate  
14 problem, insolvency will result if the statutory  
15 funding policies continue and an actuarial math, a  
16 funding of the normal costs plus amortization of  
17 the unfunded liability. An actuarial math  
18 contribution, if that's not accepted, the Fund  
19 could possibly become insolvent and that is what we  
20 are projecting for Forest Preserve. And if the IGA  
21 remains in place for Cook County, we are expecting  
22 it to be 100 percent funded in 2046 or 2047.  
23 Somewhere around there.

24 We will see a similar fate for Forest

1 Preserve on Slide 19. 100 percent of the active  
2 and inactive accumulated contributions are covered.  
3 78.09 percent of the current members receiving  
4 benefits are covered and zero percent of the  
5 employer portion of the active and inactive  
6 members.

7 On Slide 20, we take a look at the  
8 historical look at the funded ratio and the  
9 unfunded actuarially accrued liability of the  
10 funds.

11 Just to refresh, the funded ratio is the  
12 amount of actuarial value of assets on hand to  
13 cover the actuarial accrued liability. And the  
14 unfunded liability is the portion of accrued  
15 liability that is not covered by assets.

16 Taking a look at Cook County, you will  
17 see in 2011 the funded ratio was 57 percent. By  
18 December 31, 2015 it decreased to 55.39 percent.  
19 The reason why this year is significant is because  
20 during that five-year period the statutory funding  
21 policy was in place as an employer multiple of 1.54  
22 percent of employee contributions from two years  
23 prior.

24 With that insufficient contribution, you

1 will see the unfunded liability, actuarial accrued  
2 liability, increased from \$5.8 million in 2011 to  
3 \$7.2 million in 2015.

4 If we look at the next five years, you  
5 will see when the IGA was in place, you will see  
6 the funded ratio increased from 55 percent to 63.87  
7 percent in 2020 and the unfunded accrued liability  
8 decreased from \$7.2 billion to \$6.7 billion, which  
9 is significant.

10 It just shows the good work that the  
11 County and the Board have done together to  
12 implement this IGA. We estimate that if the IGA  
13 wasn't in place, the funded ratio would be 10 to 11  
14 percent lower than what it currently is now.

15 Under the IGA, as mentioned earlier, the  
16 funded ratio is going to trend to 100 percent  
17 between 2046/2047. We show that in our projections  
18 with the IGA.

19 We see something similar with Forest  
20 Preserve. We see the funding ratio decrease with  
21 Forest Preserve. There is no IGA in place. So we  
22 are just basing the employer contribution on a  
23 multiple of 1.3 times the employee contributions  
24 from two years prior. You're going to see a steady



1 decline in the funded ratio until the Fund becomes  
2 insolvent. I think we're projecting 2043 in this  
3 case. The funded ratio goes from 61.57 in 2011 to  
4 decrease to 59.05 ten years late.

5 You will see that unfunded liability  
6 creep up from \$111 million in 2011 to \$145.4  
7 million in 2020.

8 Slides 22 and 23, we discuss the net  
9 actuarial gain or loss for the funding reports for  
10 Cook County and Forest Preserve. This section is  
11 what tells you why did the unfunded liability  
12 change from the beginning of year to end of year.  
13 What were the major sources that contributed to it.

14 As Wendy mentioned earlier, in a  
15 valuation we estimate liabilities and costs based  
16 on a set of assumptions. When is someone going to  
17 retire? When are they going to terminate? What is  
18 the probability that they are going to die? What  
19 do we need to discount future benefit payments at?  
20 What will assets increase in the future? What is  
21 the investment return rate going to be? How are  
22 salaries going to increase each year?

23 These are all the assumptions that we  
24 looked at and that we have to predict in order to

1       come up with these costs and liabilities. And as  
2       long as we are updating these assumptions, in this  
3       case it is every four years, and to reflect actual  
4       experience, we expect these gains and losses each  
5       year to net out.

6               The next Experience Study scheduled to  
7       occur this fall when we expect to implement updated  
8       assumptions for the next valuation so the December  
9       31, 2021 valuation.

10              So you will see item one for Cook County  
11       the beginning of your unfunded liability was  
12       \$6.96 or \$6.97 billion. The end of year unfunded  
13       liability was \$6.66 billion. So we saw a decrease  
14       of about \$311 million which is good. We want to  
15       see that unfunded liability decrease.

16              Well that decrease is a result of a net  
17       gain to the Fund which was also comprised of some  
18       losses.

19              Item 7 is that first loss. The unfunded  
20       liability increased \$49 million. That's due to the  
21       employer contribution being less than the normal  
22       cost, plus interest, on the beginning of year  
23       unfunded liability.

24              Item 8-A, you will see is the unfunded

1 liability decreased \$304 million because the  
2 investment return during 2020 was much higher than  
3 assumed. 10.06 on the actuarial basis versus  
4 7.25 percent assumed rate of return. There was a  
5 \$49 million decrease in the unfunded liability due  
6 to salary increases during the year being lower  
7 than what was assumed.

8           There were no assumption changes during  
9 the year. There were plan changes on the retiree  
10 healthcare side.

11           I should preface that these results  
12 include the retiree healthcare liability, which is  
13 with the contribution on a pay as you go basis.

14           The plan changes to the retiree  
15 healthcare side, which is the retiree healthcare  
16 premium contributions, were increased and there  
17 were some increases to the plan deductibles for the  
18 Choice Plus plan. There was also some increases to  
19 the 30 and 90-day supply for prescription benefits  
20 and there was also a medical necessity provision or  
21 prior authorization provision included. The net  
22 effect of those plan changes decreased the total  
23 unfunded liability by \$38 million.

24           This last item, 8-E, Other Sources. It

1 is kind of a catchall but what it is the net affect  
2 of retirements, terminations, deaths during the  
3 year, any change in data that was unexpected, any  
4 change in COLA amounts that was unexpected. All  
5 that is kind of lumped together. That increased  
6 the liability by \$30 million.

7 On Slide 23, we have a similar exhibit  
8 for Forest Preserve. With the effect not being as  
9 large because the fund is not as large. We had an  
10 unfunded accrued liability of about \$140 million at  
11 the beginning of year. It increased \$7.5 million  
12 in Item 7 due to the statutory contribution being  
13 less than interest on the unfunded liability plus  
14 the normal costs for the year. Investment return  
15 was higher than assumed. 9.28 percent versus 7 and  
16 a quarter so that decreased unfunded by \$4 million.

17 Salary increases for Forest were slightly  
18 higher than expected. It increased the unfunded  
19 liability by about \$600,000. There were no  
20 assumption changes.

21 The same plan changes for retiree  
22 healthcare applied to Forest Preserve, that  
23 decreased the unfunded liability by about a  
24 million. And then those other sources, the net

1     affect of retirement, termination, death, not  
2     coming in as assumed increased the unfunded  
3     liability by about \$2.3 million.

4             On Slides 25 and 26, we go over the net  
5     actual gain or loss again but this is under the  
6     GASB standards. A couple of big differences for  
7     accounting valuations versus the funding  
8     valuations.

9             Number one is the discount rate used to  
10    discount projected benefit payments to determine  
11    your accrued liability.

12            First and foremost, I should mention in a  
13    funding report or a funding valuation, your  
14    unfunded liability is the result of the actuarial  
15    value of assets versus the accrued liability. So  
16    it is the amount that is not covered by the  
17    actuarial value of assets.

18            In GASB, we call it something else. On  
19    the pension side, we call it the Net Pension  
20    Liability. That essentially is the unfunded  
21    liability just in GASB terms.

22            On the retiree healthcare side, we call  
23    it the Net OPEB Liability. That is the unfunded  
24    liability for a retiree healthcare plan just with a

1 more fancy term.

2 With that, that is one change. Another  
3 change that GASB accounting valuation results have  
4 are the discount rate which I mentioned earlier.

5 If a plan is projected to become  
6 insolvent, which Cook County and Forest Preserve  
7 are, under the statutory funding policy, we need to  
8 provide a different discount rate to the benefits  
9 that are not covered by assets.

10 So, in Cook County's case, under the  
11 statutory funding policy, the Fund is projected to  
12 become insolvent in 2047.

13 So in order to determine this blended  
14 discount rate used for the valuation from 2020  
15 through 2047, we have enough assets to cover  
16 current member benefits and expenses. So we can  
17 use the long-term expected rate of return of 7 and  
18 a quarter to discount those benefit payments.

19 But from 2047 on when assets are zero, we  
20 have to recognize or discount those benefits at a  
21 risk free rate of return. In this case we used the  
22 Municipal Bond Index closest to the valuation date,  
23 which was 2.12 percent. Combining those for the  
24 full stream of benefit payments would give us a

1 blended discount rate of 3.68.

2           The bottom where it says interest rates  
3 beginning and interest rates ending, those are last  
4 year's values so we need to move them over one.  
5 And in 2020 the interest rate beginning should be  
6 3.77 and the interest rate ending should be --  
7 Wait, wait. I am on 24. The 4.98 beginning should  
8 be 4.14 and the interest rate ending should be  
9 3.68. On the OPEB side, the interest rate  
10 beginning in 2020 was 2.75 and the interest rate  
11 ending was 2.12 percent.

12           Looking at a similar analysis on the  
13 Forest Preserve side, you will see the pension  
14 liability and the OPEB liability are significantly  
15 higher than what is in the funding reports. That  
16 is because, again, the discount rate used to  
17 measure these liabilities.

18           On Slides 26 and 27, we have the employer  
19 contribution results. As Wendy mentioned before in  
20 Item 9, the employer actuarial required  
21 contribution, that is based on actuarial math and  
22 includes healthcare liabilities. What actuarial  
23 math is it pays the interest on the beginning of  
24 your unfunded liability. We amortize it over a 30

1 year period. We also pay the cost of benefits that  
2 accrued during the year or the normal cost with  
3 administrative expenses. That amount decreased  
4 from December 31, 2021 of \$650.5 million to \$622.7  
5 million.

6 The main reason for the decrease in the  
7 contribution or the actuarial contribution was  
8 investment experience was greater than assumed,  
9 favorable demographic experience, and those  
10 healthcare plan changes because assumed does  
11 include healthcare.

12 And then Item 10 is the statutory  
13 contribution based on the multiple of 1.54 for 2022  
14 and then 2021 this is the IGA, the supplemental  
15 contribution, of \$342 million, along with the  
16 projected actual statutory contribution.

17 Finally, Item 11, that required tax  
18 multiple for employer actuarial required  
19 contributions. That is the amount the tax multiple  
20 would need in order to fund that \$623 million for  
21 2022 so we would need a multiple 4.76 instead of  
22 1.54. And in 2021 we need a multiple of 5 to fund  
23 that \$650.5 million instead of 1.54.

24 A same analysis is done for Forest



1 Preserve on Slide 27. You will see employer  
2 actuarial contribution on an actuarial math basis  
3 increased from \$13.5 million to \$13.9 million and  
4 the statutory amount -- there is no IGA for this so  
5 the statutory amount decreased from \$3.9 million to  
6 \$3.8 million. That is a result of the declining  
7 population and payroll for Forest Preserve.

8 The required tax multiple needed to fund  
9 that actuarial required contribution is 4.74  
10 compared to 1.3 in 2022 and it is 4.47 compared to  
11 1.3 in 2021.

12 The next set of the results are  
13 projections and I believe, Larry, you were going to  
14 go over those.

15 MR. LANGER: Yes. Frankly, I don't want  
16 to diminish anything we have said over the first 27  
17 slides, but I think Slides 28 and 29 provide the  
18 current reality of the funds.

19 We provide projections for the Fund and  
20 the projections show, one, the plan is projected to  
21 run out of money, based upon the current statutory  
22 contributions.

23 On Slide 28, you can see we are projected  
24 to run out of money somewhere in 2047. For the

1 County Fund that amount has been nudging out.  
2 Before the IGA that insolvency date was 2040. Most  
3 of the reason that it has nudged out is due to the  
4 additional contributions under the IGA. We will  
5 get into this when we get into the IGA contribution  
6 letter, which I think is next on the agenda.

7 This is in contrast to fully funding  
8 pensions by 2045 under the current IGA schedule.

9 Slide 29, we do the same thing for Forest  
10 Preserve. Forest Preserve, that insolvency date  
11 has remained around 2040/2041 for the past few  
12 years. It goes up and down a little bit. Absent  
13 any changes, this is where we are headed without  
14 appropriately legislated funding.

15 So my takeaway here is that while  
16 short-term the benefits are rather secure  
17 short-term, longer term the benefit security of  
18 your membership is not looking good.

19 Certification. These are our standard  
20 comments that we have. This is an estimate going  
21 into the future of things. Obviously, things will  
22 be different from what we're projecting but we  
23 think we're making use of a decent set of  
24 assumptions. Obviously, we are going to take a

1 look at the assumptions hopefully before the next  
2 valuation. And we meet the qualification standards  
3 to render these actuarial opinions.

4 That is the prepared comments that we  
5 have. We are delighted to take any other questions  
6 or move on. I think the IGA letter is next.

7 PRESIDENT WILSON: Any questions or  
8 comments for our actuaries?

9 Still absorbing all that information.

10 MS. TUCZAK: I will make one comment that  
11 I think this is the year, the crossover, where the  
12 annuitants exceed the actives for both plans.

13 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Can you repeat that?  
14 I didn't hear it.

15 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: More retirees than  
16 employees.

17 MS. TUCZAK: A crossover. Like the  
18 active participation line and the annuitant  
19 participation line. So up until now we have always  
20 had more active members, active employees, than  
21 retirees. 2020 is the crossover where we now have  
22 more annuitants than active members for both plans.

23 PRESIDENT WILSON: Just one question, we  
24 have this down as draft so what is expected to

1 change?

2 MR. LANGER: Nothing. I think the reason  
3 that we provide a draft is -- and it is a mixed  
4 policy from system to system that we serve, is that  
5 we provide drafts so that the board can take a look  
6 at them and approve them. Very rarely do we get  
7 comments from a board, where it is like, oh, this  
8 needs to change. But just in case you have any  
9 input on the reports but we don't anticipate  
10 anything changing in these.

11 PRESIDENT WILSON: Okay. Understood.  
12 Thank you.

13 May I have a motion to accept and file  
14 the draft fiscal year 2020 actuarial valuations and  
15 I am going to combine these two motion for the Cook  
16 County and the Forest Preserve District Funds as  
17 presented?

18 TRUSTEE HUGHES: So moved.

19 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Second.

20 PRESIDENT WILSON: It's been moved by  
21 Trustee Hughes and seconded by Trustee Nevius.

22 Is there any discussion?

23 Peggy, please call the roll hearing  
24 none.

1 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

2 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

3 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

4 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

5 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

6 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

7 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

8 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

9 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

10 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

11 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

12 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

13 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

14 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

15 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

16 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

17 The record will reflect that the draft  
18 fiscal year 2020 actuarial valuations, which are  
19 not expected to change, have been accepted and will  
20 be finalized and filed.

21 The next item relates to the Board's  
22 obligation under the Pension Code to submit a tax  
23 levy request to the County and Forest Preserve  
24 District in addition to the requirement for the

1 fiscal year 2021 intragovernmental agreement  
2 providing additional funding calculations to Cook  
3 County.

4 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Move approval.

5 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Second.

6 PRESIDENT WILSON: Is there any  
7 discussion on the motion?

8 Hearing none, Peggy, please call the  
9 roll.

10 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

11 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

12 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

13 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

14 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

15 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

16 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

17 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

18 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

19 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

20 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

21 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

22 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

23 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

24 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

1                   PRESIDENT WILSON:   Aye.

2                   Let the record reflect that the motion  
3 was made by Trustee McFadden and the second was  
4 made by Trustee Blair.

5                   TRUSTEE MCFADDEN:   Can I make a comment?  
6 The reason I moved approval so promptly is that the  
7 tax levy resolution are dictated by statute and it  
8 is pretty simple arithmetic.

9                   And I think our figure for the County  
10 corporate is 157, when I looked it up in the state  
11 statutes, that has been since 1983.   So what is  
12 that, 47, 48?   That's my thought.

13                  PRESIDENT WILSON:   That's fine.   Just to  
14 be clear, we might have gotten lost in three  
15 separate motions.   The first one is to approve --  
16 can you restate that motion because I didn't get a  
17 chance to finish reading.   So the first motion that  
18 we moved was for the actuarial projections for the  
19 Cook County Fund consistent with the  
20 intragovernmental agreement.

21                  MS. FAHRENBACH:   Correct.

22                  MS. BURNS:   That is the motion that was  
23 made and it passed.   Now you might want to do the  
24 tax levy separate because that is a separate

1 statutory obligation.

2 PRESIDENT WILSON: Correct.

3 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: May I move the tax  
4 levy request?

5 PRESIDENT WILSON: Yes.

6 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: And just for the  
7 County Fund.

8 PRESIDENT WILSON: We have a motion to  
9 approve the fiscal year 2022 tax levy resolution  
10 for the Cook County Fund. Moved by Trustee  
11 McFadden and a second?

12 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Second.

13 PRESIDENT WILSON: Second by Trustee  
14 Blair.

15 Any discussion?

16 TRUSTEE HUGHES: I have one question.  
17 When does the letter go to the County with regard  
18 to the IGA?

19 MS. TUCZAK: Thank you. So the first  
20 item here is the IGA letter, that is required to be  
21 submitted by June 14th. That is the intention to  
22 submit that on or about that date, along with the  
23 Financial Statements and the Actuarial Valuation.

24 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Thank you.



1 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I thought the process  
2 was that we are providing our audit records from  
3 last year; and that letter transmits the Financial  
4 Statements for last year to the County.

5 MS. TUCZAK: It does.

6 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I am just thinking it  
7 really wasn't a letter requesting it like called  
8 for by the statute for the levies. It's simply a  
9 transmittal letter that they require at this time  
10 of year so they can anticipate next year.

11 MS. TUCZAK: I thought his question was  
12 on the IGA letter for the Cook County for the  
13 supplemental. Your matter on the resolution, there  
14 is all of those things, will go by June 14th.

15 MS. BURNS: Trustee McFadden, to clarify,  
16 the IGA has set forth, and it is not statutory, a  
17 process that has to be followed every year, which  
18 requires this Fund to send to the County by June  
19 14th actuarial projections, along with Financial  
20 Statements and Actuarial Reports.

21 You just approved the Financial  
22 Statements, the Actuarial Reports, and you just now  
23 approved the projections for next year's IGA  
24 contribution.

1                   Now you are going to look at the  
2                   statutory obligation to approve separate tax levies  
3                   for each fund and you made the motion, Trustee  
4                   Blair, made the second on the Cook County tax levy.  
5                   Does that make sense?

6                   PRESIDENT WILSON:   Yes.

7                   Any other discussion on the motion?

8                   Thank you.   Now we will go back to the  
9                   prior motion, assuming that is the common  
10                  consensus.

11                  Peggy, please call the roll.

12                  TRUSTEE BLAIR:   Is this on the levy?

13                  PRESIDENT WILSON:   On the levy, yes, for  
14                  Cook County, the 2022 levy.

15                  MS. FAHRENBACH:   Trustee Blair.

16                  TRUSTEE BLAIR:   Aye.

17                  MS. FAHRENBACH:   Trustee Hughes.

18                  TRUSTEE HUGHES:   Aye.

19                  MS. FAHRENBACH:   Trustee Kouruklis.

20                  TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS:   Aye.

21                  MS. FAHRENBACH:   Trustee McFadden.

22                  TRUSTEE MCFADDEN:   Aye.

23                  MS. FAHRENBACH:   Trustee Nevius.

24                  TRUSTEE NEVIUS:   Aye.

1 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

2 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

3 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

4 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

5 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

6 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

7 The fiscal year 2022 tax levy resolution  
8 for the Cook County Fund is approved.

9 Now I believe with leave Trustee McFadden  
10 moves and Trustee Blair seconds the motion to  
11 approve the fiscal year 2022 tax levy resolution  
12 for the Forest Preserve District Fund.

13 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Yes.

14 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN FORTUNA: Any discussion?

16 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Yes. I think it is very  
17 clear from the presentation that we just had that  
18 the Forest Preserve Fund is regressing. And due to  
19 the IGA with the County, the County Fund has been  
20 progressing, which is very commendable and very  
21 helpful. But I think we need to address how are we  
22 going to fix the Forest Preserve Fund and it seems  
23 like we need to get -- and we have I think for the  
24 past ten years or so submitted legislation for

1       actuarial funding for both funds and that has not  
2       met with the support that we need to get it  
3       through.

4               So at some point we need to, and  
5       hopefully with the help of our legislative  
6       consultants, address perhaps just looking at the  
7       Forest Preserve funding and not including  
8       everything that we want on our wish list, just  
9       looking at that funding alone.

10              I am not sure if an IGA with the Forest  
11       Preserve District would work. I don't know if the  
12       Forest Preserve has funds that they could use other  
13       than the tax levy. And, maybe, Stephen can answer  
14       that. I don't want to put you on the spot.

15              But that is my opinion. I certainly  
16       support the resolution that we have in front of us  
17       but have to, in good conscience, say that it is  
18       lacking in terms of giving adequate support to the  
19       Fund.

20              TRUSTEE HUGHES: I support the comments  
21       made.

22              PRESIDENT WILSON: Any other comments on  
23       the motion?

24              Thank you, Joe.

1 Peggy, please call the roll.

2 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

3 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

4 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

5 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

6 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

7 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

8 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

9 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

10 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

11 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

12 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

13 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

14 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

15 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

16 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

17 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

18 Thank you. The fiscal year 2022 tax levy  
19 resolution for the Forest Preserve District is  
20 approved.

21 That concludes our actuarial valuations  
22 and funding review. We are now moving on to the  
23 review and consideration of the Investment  
24 Committee recommendations.

1           The Investment Committee met on May 25,  
2           2021 and several recommendations were made by the  
3           committee.

4           The first item involves the  
5           recommendation to release a RFP for a real estate  
6           equity/debt emerging manager.

7           Gina, please present this item.

8           MS. TUCZAK: Yes, thank you.

9           You were provided a copy of the draft RFP  
10          for the real estate emerging manager debt equity  
11          mandate. Both were approved by the Investment  
12          Committee. We have made a few modifications,  
13          including adding a draft side-letter agreement to  
14          the RFP, to facilitate the legal review process on  
15          the end.

16          If the Board is so inclined to approve  
17          this, the plan is that it will be posted as early  
18          as tomorrow.

19          I do remind everybody that once the RFP  
20          is posted the quiet period and all related  
21          obligations begin.

22          PRESIDENT WILSON: Okay. May I have a  
23          motion to approve the recommendations of the  
24          Investment Committee to release an RFP for real

1 estate equity/debt emerging manager as presented?

2 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: So moved.

3 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Second.

4 PRESIDENT WILSON: It has been moved by  
5 Trustee O'Rourke. Seconded by Trustee Blair.  
6 Is there any discussion?  
7 Hearing none, Peggy, please call the  
8 roll.

9 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

10 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

11 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

12 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

13 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

14 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

15 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

16 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

17 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

18 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

19 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

20 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

21 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

22 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

23 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

24 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

1           The motion passes and I note for the  
2 record again, as Gina mentioned, we are now in a  
3 quiet period with respect to this procurement.

4           The remaining recommendations from the  
5 Investment Committee can be adopted by a common  
6 resolution, if that is acceptable to the Trustees.

7           It appears it is.

8           Gina, please, present these matters.

9           MS. TUCZAK: Certainly. There is a memo  
10 behind tab six that just summarizes all of the  
11 issues that were thoroughly discussed at the  
12 Investment Committee meeting last week.

13           There are no changes from what the  
14 Committee recommended. In essence, there is a  
15 rebalancing for the core real estate program for  
16 the Forest Preserve and Cook County that was  
17 discussed.

18           There is a one-year extension to the  
19 LaSalle Income and Growth Fund 6 Agreement.

20           There is a fee reduction that has been  
21 proposed by BNY Mellon on the fixed income product  
22 in which the Cook County Fund invests.

23           There is a Wells Fargo acquisition and  
24 assignment consent letter that was presented and



1 reviewed that is ready to be approved.

2 And, last, there were two matters with  
3 respect to the Blackstone alternative asset  
4 management hedge fund portfolio. One is with  
5 respect to a specific investment of about two and a  
6 half million. And the second is to change the  
7 investment guidelines for this particular product  
8 to allow intermediate entities and affiliated funds  
9 to be 20 to 40 percent of the mandate.

10 Those were all discussed at the meeting.  
11 There has been no changes to that. Hopefully, that  
12 is enough information but I am happy to provide  
13 more.

14 On many of these matters, Callan also  
15 provided their opinion and that documentation has  
16 been provided.

17 PRESIDENT WILSON: May I have a motion to  
18 approve the recommendations set forth in the agenda  
19 as Items 6.B through G by consent?

20 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: So moved.

21 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Second.

22 PRESIDENT WILSON: Moved by Trustee  
23 Nevius. Seconded by Trustee Blair.

24 Is there any discussion?

1 Peggy, please call the roll.

2 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

3 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

4 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

5 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

6 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

7 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

8 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

9 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

10 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

11 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

12 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

13 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

14 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

15 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

16 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

17 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

18 The motion passes and those

19 recommendations by the Investment Committee are

20 adopted by the Board.

21 Next item is Health Benefits Committee

22 recommendation.

23 Gina, please present this matter.

24 MS. TUCZAK: This matter was discussed at

1 the Health Benefits Committee meeting on May 18th,  
2 which was discussed at the end of the meeting.

3 There is a new specialty drug called  
4 Imcivree, which is the first approved therapy  
5 indicated for weight obesity due to three very rare  
6 genetic conditions.

7 CVS has indicated that maybe there is 150  
8 to 2000 U.S. residents that have this condition.

9 The drug is a new drug that was approved  
10 by the FDA in November. The cost is about \$360,000  
11 per person per year.

12 Based on the information presented, and I  
13 may add that this is a new therapeutic class of  
14 drug, which is why CVS reached out to us on  
15 inclusion or not inclusion in the prescription  
16 pharmacy benefit plan.

17 Based on the information that we have,  
18 including the limited number of people with this  
19 condition, the high cost of the medication and the  
20 limited history of the drug, at this time the  
21 Committee recommended to the Board that this  
22 specialty drug not be included in the pharmacy  
23 benefit program.

24 CVS has indicated that at the end of the

1 year or at some future time they can provide the  
2 information of any requests for this drug and that  
3 combined with additional information that might be  
4 available on its usage, this decision certainly can  
5 be re-evaluated at a later date. But at this time  
6 with the information that we have, the  
7 recommendation was to not include this drug in the  
8 pharmacy benefits program.

9 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I will so move.

10 PRESIDENT WILSON: Is there a second on  
11 the motion to approve the Health Benefits  
12 Committee's recommendation not to include this  
13 specialty drug, Incivree, in the Fund's pharmacy  
14 benefits?

15 TRUSTEE BLAIR: I will second it.

16 PRESIDENT WILSON: It has been moved by  
17 Trustee McFadden and seconded by Trustee Blair.

18 Is there any discussion on the motion?

19 Peggy, please call the roll.

20 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

21 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

22 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

23 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

24 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

1 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

2 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

3 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

4 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

5 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

6 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

7 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

8 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

9 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

10 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

11 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

12 The motion passes and the recommendation  
13 is adopted by the Board.

14 Next item is legislative matters and  
15 update from legislative liaison and communication  
16 regarding funding legislation.

17 Gina, please present these matters.

18 MS. TUCZAK: Sure. Behind tab eight,  
19 there is a report that was provided by the Fund's  
20 legislative consultant John McCabe.

21 As I think as you probably are all aware  
22 the spring session concluded on Monday May 31st.

23 There is a handout, if you would like, a  
24 summary of all the bills that can be found on the

1 back shelf. The binder was getting full so we  
2 stopped putting things in there but that summary is  
3 available, if you want to take a copy of it with  
4 you. There is also a summary memo provided by the  
5 consultant. We weren't going to really discuss  
6 that further but rather kind of launch into the  
7 next item which is communication with the County  
8 and the draft legislation that was provided and  
9 discussed at the Special Board Meeting, if that is  
10 okay, moving to that item.

11 PRESIDENT WILSON: Yes, carry on.

12 MS. TUCZAK: Moving on to Item 8.B, you  
13 all have in front of you the letter that was sent  
14 by Mr. Rizki with respect to the legislation that  
15 the County proposed.

16 What we plan to do -- and just to take a  
17 step back, in addition to the call that we had with  
18 Senator Martwick prior to the Special meeting on  
19 May 18th, there was a subsequent call that was held  
20 with Senator Martwick. I participated in that  
21 call, as did Trustee Kouruklis, along with some  
22 members of Cook County Government.

23 There was discussion on the bill that had  
24 been received by us from our lobbyist. We never

1 got that bill directly from the County but we did  
2 have discussion on that. There was a lot of  
3 discussion about the Forest Preserve funding and  
4 this Board's concern with that and the exclusion  
5 from the bill that the County submitted.

6 There was also some discussion on the  
7 healthcare obligation and a couple of other matters  
8 on Tier 2.

9 In summary, in my opinion it was clear to  
10 Senator Martwick that there are issues to be  
11 hammered out. This isn't a simple matter that can  
12 just be moved forward. So the matter was deferred  
13 and did not get approval at the conclusion of the  
14 general legislative session.

15 So what we would like to do, and I have  
16 talked to fiduciary counsel about this, is we are  
17 going to sit down, myself and Mary Pat and staff,  
18 and workout some dates that we would provide to you  
19 at the Legislative Committee meeting next week when  
20 Mary Pat and I and staff will work on the bill that  
21 we have from the County and suggest some  
22 modifications to that based on what we have  
23 discussed here, along with other considerations,  
24 and provide that to you. And then at the July 1st

1 meeting, we have a very early July board meeting,  
2 July 1st, we can provide you that draft legislation  
3 with modifications for your review and discuss  
4 action steps. So that is our current plan that we  
5 have.

6 TRUSTEE BLAIR: I am okay with that as  
7 long as you have a defined course of action.

8 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Can I add to that?

9 MS. TUCZAK: Of course.

10 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: I think it was  
11 apparent with our second meeting with Senator  
12 Martwick that he was unfamiliar with a lot of the  
13 language that addressed these issues, which  
14 includes Forest Preserve funding, healthcare and --  
15 not Tier 2 but at least those two items. And we  
16 made that abundantly clear to him that we had that  
17 in our bill that was never introduced. So he was  
18 unaware of our bill as far as how far it reached to  
19 help the funding of this fund.

20 There was some talk about the actuarial  
21 funding going to 90 percent instead of 100 percent.  
22 I think that was an accomodation that we did awhile  
23 ago because we got push back from the President's  
24 office when we set funding at 100 Percent.



1           I think we can hopefully get somewhere on  
2 that issue. I think the President's letter from  
3 their Chief Financial Officer is inaccurate. The  
4 letter states that we -- that they have given us  
5 the proposal to work on. We never received a  
6 proposal prior to it being submitted as a draft to  
7 Springfield.

8           It does not include the Forest Preserve  
9 funding so they omitted that completely, which I  
10 think we just had a discussion about and a  
11 presentation from our actuaries that say in 20  
12 years that Fund is going to be insolvent.

13           It also really didn't address a lot of  
14 the labor issues that they brought up. I want to  
15 also thank everybody on this Board because we all  
16 work together with labor. It was really a nice  
17 sign of cooperation and we continue to do that.

18           SEIU, Teamsters, of course the CFL, all  
19 rallied around our bill and our issues. So I think  
20 we need to continue down that path even if the  
21 President's office is not being cooperative with  
22 providing us ahead of time, their bill. We should  
23 continue to provide good communication downstream  
24 to all parties, including the President's office.

1 I think that is the only way we are going to get  
2 somewhere.

3 I think Senator Martwick made it very  
4 clear that in November we are going to have a bill  
5 passed. He made that clear so we need to work  
6 through these issues. I think discussion with how  
7 the funding is going to workout on the Forest  
8 Preserve side and working with our actuary  
9 hopefully will get us to a happy medium. So that  
10 is all I have.

11 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Did you say that our  
12 bill is in or isn't in?

13 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Our bill never got in  
14 with Senator Martwick and it was in the --

15 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: I thought that was  
16 what we asked of the lobbyist months ago.

17 MR. MCCABE: I gave that language to  
18 Senator Martwick when it was brought up --

19 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: The language or the  
20 bill?

21 MR. MCCABE: The language. We never had  
22 an original bill in time to be introduced so I gave  
23 him the language and asked him to introduce it as  
24 an amendment.

1           It was brought up at the March 20th  
2 meeting. His response at that time was it is not  
3 critical for our purposes for ours to be actually  
4 introduced. And, if you look at all the pension  
5 bills that are introduced and how many of them end  
6 up on the trash heap on never moving, it is not  
7 critical as long as it is part of the negotiations,  
8 which it clearly is.

9           TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: All due respect, that  
10 is really irrelevant because when we asked for our  
11 bill to be filed, we asked for a bill to be filed,  
12 not that it wouldn't be read into or assigned to a  
13 sponsor. I don't know how many sponsors you  
14 approached but you could have went to others. Our  
15 goal is to submit legislation every year and that  
16 is what we have been doing.

17           When I brought that up specifically to  
18 Senator Martwick, he did say that, well, let's not  
19 get too hung up on it. But from our perspective,  
20 it is important because we spent a lot of time and  
21 money putting it together and it wasn't addressed.

22           So I am very hopeful, though. I think we  
23 are going to get something this November. I  
24 reached out to Senator Martwick myself and thanked

1 him for his leadership. I thought he did a great  
2 job hearing both sides, allowing us to present our  
3 issues, allowing us to express the needs of the  
4 Fund. Gina did a great job, all staff did. And  
5 let's look forward to getting some funding in  
6 Springfield so we are not looking at 20 years of  
7 problems so thank you.

8 TRUSTEE HUGHES: A question. Are we  
9 reaching out to the County to keep the dialogue  
10 going and see if we can keep the ball moving?

11 MR. MCCABE: I talked to Senator Martwick  
12 this morning and he said that he is a little tired  
13 from the session and not quickly going to be  
14 setting up meetings, but that he envisions  
15 something like biweekly meetings through the  
16 summer, to go through items and agenda items and  
17 try to get something well in advance of the  
18 October/November veto session.

19 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Is the recommendation  
20 that he lead these discussions or should we be  
21 talking to the County beforehand?

22 MR. MCCABE: At the May 20th meeting, his  
23 suggestion was we would be meeting I assume in his  
24 law office.

1           You know, obviously, we should be getting  
2 together and develop strategies and arguments with  
3 the County and I am sure the County will be doing  
4 the same.

5           MS. TUCZAK: What staff had planned to do  
6 at this point is we had this Legislative meeting  
7 next Thursday, which was set to discuss the  
8 election, which we will get to that very briefly.  
9 What we thought is that at that meeting we would  
10 have kind of a schedule.

11           I think the first thing that we want to  
12 do, this is something that Mary Pat and I had  
13 talked about, is kind of look at their language and  
14 perhaps provide some suggestions and then discuss  
15 with your approval to start discussions with the  
16 County.

17           TRUSTEE HUGHES: Thank you.

18           TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Gina, for that meeting  
19 next Thursday, please set up a virtual meeting  
20 because I have to be in court as well.

21           MS. TUCZAK: Absolutely, yes, we will.  
22 It is going to be a Legislative Meeting, open  
23 meeting, so all of the same provisions will apply.  
24 If the Trustees like, we will have this room and

1 continue in that venue for now.

2 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Thank you.

3 MS. TUCZAK: No problem.

4 That is all that I have on Item 8 on  
5 Legislation.

6 MR. MCCABE: I would like to point out in  
7 my memo, it was brought up by Trustee Hughes, that  
8 the language that we had submitted that would allow  
9 any source funding, we were using it as a vehicle  
10 bill. That bill and the other language that we had  
11 submitted that involved disability, review of  
12 disability claims, both of those bills have passed  
13 both chambers and will be sent to the Governor.

14 So the first thing that we had to address  
15 where you could take money from any source instead  
16 of just the property tax that language has passed  
17 the General Assembly. It is not as good as an IGA  
18 but we are not there yet.

19 PRESIDENT WILSON: Okay. Is there  
20 anything else on legislative matters?

21 If not, let's move on to Administrative  
22 matters.

23 Legislature Committee Meeting on June 10,  
24 2021, and the Executive Director's Report.

1           Gina, you have the floor.

2           MS. TUCZAK: So Item 9.A, we have the  
3           Legislative Committee meeting next Thursday at  
4           9:30.

5           I know that will conclude the fourth week  
6           of a meeting a week for you. I really appreciate  
7           your dedication to the Fund.

8           We will discuss the election, along with  
9           some of the legislative matters that we just  
10          brought to your attention.

11          If I may, I will go on to my Executive  
12          Director's Report.

13          PRESIDENT WILSON: Please.

14          MS. TUCZAK: Item 9-B. The first matter  
15          is the intragovernmental agreement with Cook  
16          County. We talked about this a little bit earlier.

17          We have been receiving the \$28 million a  
18          month from Cook County starting in December. I  
19          want to make sure that that is noted.

20          The agreement does require that various  
21          information is submitted to the Cook County Board  
22          President by June 14th.

23          So what I've got here is kind of an  
24          outline of what I am going to be providing to them.

1 The combined valuations that you have copies of  
2 those, the audited financials, the tax levy  
3 resolutions that we just approved, and the IGA  
4 calculation letter that was also in your packet  
5 behind Item 5.A.

6 With that, there is a cover letter that I  
7 put together as Exhibit A. It is similar to what I  
8 have sent last year. It just goes through some of  
9 our highlighted results with respect to changes in  
10 funding, investment returns. It is a very brief  
11 letter.

12 Last year this letter, along with all the  
13 attachments, was sent via an email to the Cook  
14 County Board President, all the Commissioners,  
15 Superintendent Randall, and then the CFO of Cook  
16 County. This year we will also include the CFO of  
17 the Forest Preserve. That all will be sent via  
18 email and we can make available hard copies to  
19 those that want them.

20 This is kind of a FYI and one of the main  
21 reasons we have these presentations at this meeting  
22 is so that you are aware of the information that  
23 will be provided to them.

24 With that, I also want to mention that



1 somebody from Commissioner Gainer's office emailed  
2 me late yesterday suggesting that we typically have  
3 a July meeting, a July presentation to the County  
4 Board of Commissioners Pensions Committee. And I  
5 responded immediately to say, sure, love to connect  
6 on when that date that might be. Once I have that,  
7 I will let you know of that date.

8 Second item on my Executive Director  
9 Report is we talked about the signature  
10 verification project at the May board meeting. I  
11 am very pleased to report that we have started  
12 sending out those letters. We have sent out over  
13 thousand.

14 As of this week, all of the Forest  
15 Preserve annuitants have received or we have sent  
16 letters to all the Forest Preserve annuitants and  
17 we have sent out these letters to all the Cook  
18 County annuitants over the age of 92, which is  
19 great. We're going to continue. There is about  
20 another 4,000 to get us to our first stage group,  
21 which is all annuitants over 80. Those should be  
22 going out within the next week or two to get this  
23 project continuing forward.

24 Last item I just want to mention is that

1 Caroline Vullmahn, the Deputy Executive Director,  
2 did resign her position. She's going to move into  
3 a nongovernment industry role as a CFO. Her last  
4 day with the Fund is Friday and I thank her for her  
5 service and her assistance with the financial  
6 statement audit and financial reporting process.

7 PRESIDENT WILSON: Thank you, Gina.

8 Any questions, comments?

9 If not, let's move on to legal matters.

10 May have I have a motion to go into  
11 closed session pursuant to Section 2(c)11 of the  
12 Open Meetings Act to discuss pending or threatened  
13 legal matters.

14 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Move.

15 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Second.

16 PRESIDENT WILSON: It has moved by  
17 Trustee McFadden and seconded by Trustee Blair.

18 Any discussion?

19 Peggy, please call the roll.

20 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Blair.

21 TRUSTEE BLAIR: Aye.

22 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Hughes.

23 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Aye.

24 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Kouruklis.

1 TRUSTEE KOURUKLIS: Aye.

2 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee McFadden.

3 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Aye.

4 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Nevius.

5 TRUSTEE NEVIUS: Aye.

6 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Ochalla.

7 TRUSTEE OCHALLA: Aye.

8 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee O'Rourke.

9 TRUSTEE O'ROURKE: Aye.

10 MS. FAHRENBACH: Trustee Wilson.

11 PRESIDENT WILSON: Aye.

12 (Whereupon, the Board went into

13 Executive Session off the record.

14 No action was taken in Executive

15 Session.)

16 PRESIDENT WILSON: Anything else?

17 Is there a motion to adjourn today's

18 meeting?

19 TRUSTEE MCFADDEN: Move.

20 TRUSTEE HUGHES: Second.

21 PRESIDENT WILSON: Moved by Trustee

22 McFadden and seconded by Trustee Hughes.

23 All in favor please say "Aye".

24 (Chorus of ayes.)

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PRESIDENT WILSON: Opposed?

Hearing none, motion carries.

The June 3, 2021 Board of Trustees  
meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

(WHICH WERE ALL THE PROCEEDINGS  
IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED MEETING  
AT THIS DATE AND TIME.)

1       STATE OF ILLINOIS    )  
   ) SS.  
 2       COUNTY OF DU PAGE )

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6                       DEBORAH TYRRELL, being a Certified Shorthand  
 7       Reporter, on oath says that she is a court reporter  
 8       doing business in the County of DuPage and State of  
 9       Illinois, that she reported in shorthand the  
 10       proceedings given at the taking of said cause and  
 11       that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript  
 12       of her shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid; and  
 13       contains all the proceedings given at said cause.

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 18   DEBBIE TYRRELL, CSR  
 License No. 084-001078

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