

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT

for the Year Ended December 31, 2012

#### RETIREMENT COMMISSION MEMBERS

Jeffrey Cyphert, Chairperson
John Mandelaris, Vice-Chairperson
Mark Young
Keith Francis
John Northrup
Dan Russell

Elected Retiree Representative
Ex-Officio Commissioner
Ex-Officio Commissioner
Ex-Officio Commissioner
Ex-Officio Commissioner

Vickie Hall Elected Employee Representative
Marcia Franks Elected Employee Representative
Warren Vyvyan Elected Employee Representative

WHERE TO WRITE FOR INFORMATION: Genesee County Employees' Retirement System

Retirement Services Administrator

1101 Beach Street Flint, MI 48502

Telephone: (810) 257-2626 or (800) 949-2627

Fax: (810) 768-7097

Email: <a href="mailto:retirement@co.genesee.mi.us">retirement@co.genesee.mi.us</a>

Web site: www.gc4me.com

#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

Plante & Moran, PLLC

#### **ACTUARY**

Rodwan Consulting Company

#### INVESTMENT MANAGERS

AEW Value Investors, LP
Alidade Capital
Bedrock Advisors, LLC
BlackRock
Bloomfield Capital
Blue Crest
EARNEST Partners
First Eagle Investment Management
GAM Ltd.
INTECH Investment Management, LLC
Lazard Asset Management, LLC
MacKay Shields, LLC
Prudential Investments (PRISA)

#### **COMMISSION RECAPTURE FIRMS**

BNY-Convergex Russell Implementation Services

#### CONSULTING SERVICES/EVALUATIONS/MANAGER SEARCHES

Asset Strategies Portfolio Services, Inc.

#### **CUSTODIAL BANK & SECURITIES LENDING AGENT**

Comerica Bank

#### **ATTORNEYS**

VanOverbeke, Michaud & Timmony, PC Labaton Sucharow, LLP Faruqi & Faruqi, LLP

#### **MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Consulting Physicians, P.C.

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# I. INTRODUCTORY SECTION

### **The Introductory Section Contains:**

- > Secretary's Letter
- > Organization Chart
- > Sources and Disbursements of Revenue
- > Summary of Benefits



Retirement System Members and Interested Citizens Genesee County, Flint, Michigan

We are pleased to submit the 34th Annual Report of the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System (also referred to as GCERS) for the year ended December 31, 2012.

The annual report is presented in four sections: (1) the Introductory Section which provides information of a general nature regarding the System; (2) the Financial Section consisting of the audited financial statements and the accompanying notes to the Financial Statements; (3) Investment Analysis and Supplemental Information concerning the System's investment performance; and (4) the Actuarial Section which summarizes the results of the annual actuarial report as of December 31, 2012.

#### ORGANIZATION

The GCERS was organized pursuant to Section 12 (a) of Act #156, Public Acts of 1851 (MSA 5.333(1); MCLA 46.12 (a) as amended, State of Michigan. The GCERS was established in 1946, beginning with the General Unit and the County Road Commission. Water and Waste joined the System in 1956, Community Mental Health in 1966, City of Mt. Morris in 1969, and the Genesee District Library in 1980.

The GCERS is regulated under the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Ordinance and individual union/management collectively-bargained contracts. This Ordinance has been approved by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF SYSTEM

The administration and responsibility for the proper operation of the System is vested in the Genesee County Retirement Commission, which is comprised of the following representatives as defined by Ordinance:

- a. Three employee representatives elected by the System membership for three-year staggered terms, which results in the election of one employee Commissioner yearly.
- b. The Chairperson of the Genesee County Board of Commissioners by virtue of his or her election to that office, or other County Commissioner designated by the Chairperson as his or her designee during the Chairperson's term.

- c. The Chairperson of the Genesee County Finance Committee by virtue of his or her appointment to that office.
- d. The Chairperson of the Board of County Road Commissioners by virtue of his or her election to that office, or other Road Commissioner designated by the Chairperson of the Board of County Road Commissioners as his or her designee during the Chairperson's term.
- e. The Executive Director of the Community Mental Health services by virtue of his or her appointment to that office.
- f. The Genesee County Controller by virtue of his or her appointment to that position.
- g. A Retiree Representative elected by the retirees to a two-year term of office.

The following describes the Departments and outside firms that assist the Commission in carrying out its fiduciary responsibilities. The Organization Chart, Exhibit I, also illustrates these responsibilities

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Retirement Commission has a fiduciary responsibility for the proper management of the System, and as such obtains the services of various professionals to aid it in its management. These professionals are:

The *Human Resources Director* serves as Secretary to the Retirement Commission and as the Administrative Officer.

The **Retirement Services Administrator** serves as a staff aide to the Retirement Commission and as the Plan Administrator.

The Commission has hired *Independent Legal Counsel* as advisors to the Retirement Commission.

The respective *Employer Human Resources Departments* provide services regarding their employee members, as well as administer their retirees' health and life insurance plans.

The Commission appoints an *Actuary* who prepares an annual actuarial valuation to determine the adequacy of the funding of retirement benefit liabilities accrued by System members.

The Commission hires an outside *Professional Investment Consultant* to evaluate investment manager performance, review the asset allocation mix, and perform investment manager searches.

An outside **Auditor** is engaged on an annual basis to ensure that the financial statements accurately reflect the financial position of the System and that the results of its yearly operations conform to generally accepted accounting principles.

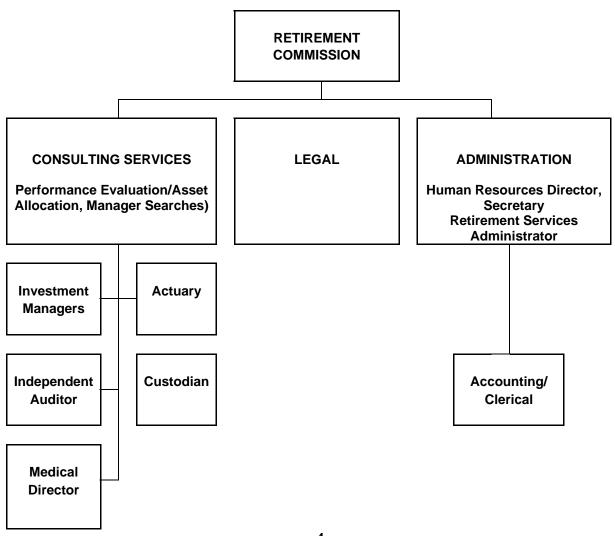
A **Medical Director** is appointed by the Commission to review and evaluate medical evidence and propose recommendations regarding applications for disability retirements.

**Investment Managers** are hired to invest the System's assets consistent with the objectives and direction of the Commission. The System's investment performance is monitored externally by an independent evaluation service. The Retirement Commission has also retained two firms to recapture fees paid in commissions on the purchase and sale of assets.

The *Custodian* is hired by the Commission to handle the cash transactions due to the buying and selling of securities. The Custodian follows through on the Investment Managers' decisions on investments.

The Commission retains the services of **Special Counsel** for the purposes of monitoring securities litigation.

Exhibit I – Organization Chart



#### **ACCOUNTING SYSTEM AND REPORTS**

The accounting records of the GCERS are maintained on an accrual basis and all System costs and expenses are borne by the System.

Annually, as required by the Retirement Ordinance, the Retirement Commission submits an Actuarial Valuation Report, a Statement of Plan Net Position, and a Statement of Changes in Plan Net Position to the Genesee County Board of Commissioners.

#### **HOW THE FUND OPERATES**

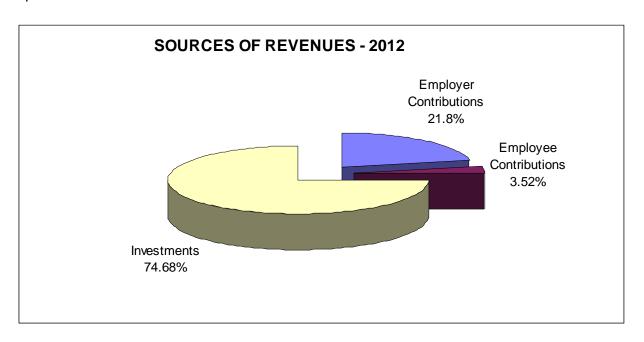
The revenues essential to the sound funding of the System are derived from three sources. The chart on page six identifies the percentage of revenues and distribution of revenues by source.

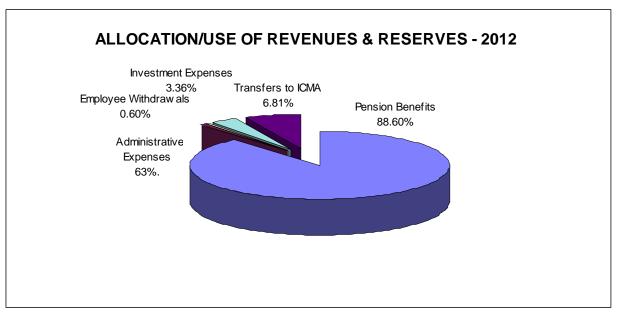
Contributions by Members: Employee contributions are calculated on all monetary compensation as defined by the Retirement Ordinance. The member contribution rates vary by employer and the respective collective bargaining agreements and/or personnel policies. These rates differ from 0.50% to 7.0%. The employee deposits are posted to individual accounts for each member. The accumulated amount in each account is used for the member's benefit if he or she remains in service. Members leaving service may withdraw the amount of their accumulated contributions together with interest that was credited to the individual account. Certain employee groups have a deferred retirement benefit that varies by employer, respective collective bargaining agreements and/or personnel policy, and employment starting dates. This benefit varies between 8 and 15 years of credited service, and allows an employee to leave employment after satisfying the required vesting period and commence a pension benefit when that employee would normally have met the age and service requirements had the employee not left employment. If a deferred member dies before retirement and no other death benefits are payable, his or her beneficiary or estate will receive his or her contributions. Employee contributions accounted for 3.52% of total income for 2012.

**Contributions by Employer:** While members are paying toward their retirement, the employer groups are depositing contributions on behalf of members employed by them. The GCERS provides for payment of required employer contributions, which rates vary among the employer groups and from year-to-year. The employer contribution rates are determined on the basis of the annual actuarial valuation, which indicates the needed revenues, in addition to the members' contributions and assumed investment income, to fund the allowances promised by the System. Employer contributions accounted for 21.8% of total income for 2012.

**Investment Income:** Investment income is the third source of System revenues and must be regarded as both a vital and major contributor to the GCERS. This income assists the governmental employer groups in controlling costs and protects the future security of System members. The investment income for 2012 accounted for 74.68% of the total income.

**Expenditures of System:** The cost of all benefits, services, and operations are borne by the System. This totaled \$45,215,399 for 2012. The allocation of this cost was 88.60% for retiree pension benefits, 3.36% for investment related fees, 0.60% for employee withdrawal of contributions, 6.81% for conversions to a defined contribution plan and .63% for administrative expenses.





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

For the calendar year 2012, the Genesee County Retirement System portfolio had an overall return of 12.77%; which is well above the stated goal of 8%. This was a strong year for the GCERS portfolio as its total return ranked in the top 35% of all public pension funds.

The strong year for Genesee County corresponded with a strong year for the U.S. Economy. The unemployment rate fell to 7.8%; down from the 8.5% in the previous year. Inflation was at 1.7% for the year, while the GDP grew by 1.5% overall.

The U.S. and International equity markets began the year strongly and, after a brief slowdown in the second quarter, finished the year by posting significant overall gains. The United States (S&P 500) equities finished the year up 16% and the International Developed Market equities gained 17.3%.

Also, 2012 was another strong year for real estate; as investors capitalized on historically low interest rates and recovering property values. Commercial real estate indexes were up about 10% on the year.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The compilation of this report reflects the combined effort of the Retirement Services Administrator and the Genesee County Controller's Office staff and is designed to provide the County Board of Commissioners, members of the System, and the public with detailed investment, financial, and actuarial information regarding the GCERS' operations.

I hope that this year's report will be of interest to you and will be useful in understanding, evaluating, and assuring the continued success of the System.

Respectfully submitted,

Donita Pikes Secretary

#### **SUMMARY OF BENEFITS – December 31, 2012**

(Subject to contractual or management changes – See matrix and applicable union contract for specific benefit provisions)

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE SYSTEM**

The Genesee County Employees' Retirement System is a contributory defined benefit plan that provides for pension and disability benefits for employee members. Because the Retirement System is an agent multiple-employer retirement fund, each employer has the ability to negotiate and/or establish through personnel policy retirement benefits with their respective employees. Subsequently, the employers and employees assume the related cost liabilities. The System requires contributions that will provide assets sufficient to meet the future benefits to be paid to members.

The following is a description of the benefits of the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System. Complete details of the benefits and other aspects of the program may be found in the law and in the rules and regulations of the Retirement Commission.

Final Average Compensation (FAC) is a frequently used term describing Genesee County Employees' Retirement System benefits. It means the average of the highest two, three, or five years of earnings contained with the period of service being considered, usually, but not necessarily the last years of employment, depending upon the labor agreement and individual employer personnel policies.

#### **BENEFIT PROVISIONS**

Eligible employees may become members of GCERS and are required to deposit from 0.50% to 7.0% of all monetary compensation that is defined as pensionable compensation in the Ordinance, or the applicable collective bargaining agreements. Deposits are accumulated in individual accounts for each member remaining in service. If a member leaves service, he or she may withdraw his or her accumulated contributions together with the interest credited to his or her account; or members with eight or ten years of service may elect a deferred annuity providing a lifetime benefit. Three employers have negotiated a fifteen-year service provision for the deferred annuity for employees, each with a different effective date. The requirements for regular retirement vary by bargaining group from a 20 to 25 year anniversary date of employment or age 60 with the required years of credited service based upon collective bargaining agreement or personnel policy. Full retirement benefits vary by bargaining unit. Benefit computations also vary, but generally are computed at final average compensation times the sum of 2.0-2.5% for the first 25 years of service plus 1% for years of service in excess of 25 years. (NOTE: Some contracts allow 2.4% or 2.5% for all years of service.)

#### **Duty Disability Retirement**

**<u>Eligibility:</u>** No age or service requirements. Must be in receipt of worker's compensation.

Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Summary of Benefits (continued)

**Annual Amount:** Computed as a regular retirement with additional service credit granted from date of retirement to date regular retirement age would have been attained Prior to age 65, maximum benefit is 90% of FAC (increased by 2.5% for each year of retirement) less worker's compensation payments and/or other remuneration.

**Groups Covered:** All.

#### **Non-Duty Disability Retirement**

<u>Eligibility:</u> Generally 10 or more years of credited service. Water and Waste employees require 15 years of credited service.

<u>Annual Amount:</u> Computed as a regular retirement. Prior to age 65, maximum benefit is 90% of FAC (increased by 2.5% for each year of retirement) less long-term disability benefits and/or other remuneration.

**Groups Covered:** All.

#### **Duty Death Before Retirement**

Eligibility: No age or service requirements. Must be in receipt of worker's compensation.

<u>Annual Amount:</u> Refund of accumulated contributions. Upon termination of worker's compensation the same amount is paid by the Retirement System to the widow for life or until remarriage, to unmarried children under 18 and to dependent parents.

**Groups Covered:** All.

#### Non-Duty Death Before Retirement

Eligibility: 15 or more years of credited service or age 60 with 10 or more years of service.

**Annual Amount:** Computed as a regular retirement but actuarially reduced in accordance with a 100% joint and survivor election (Option A).

**Groups Covered:** All.

Nothing contained in this retirement Annual Report is intended, or shall be construed, as in any way creating or establishing any right or entitlement, for any purposes or in any manner whatsoever, for the applicant, until approved by the Actuary and the Retirement Commission.

GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (January 1, 2013)

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Unique biend of age/service
Reduced early retirement available age 55-50 with 8 or 15 years credited service if hired prior to 7/1/2004; 58 with 15 years credited service if hired after 7/1/2004
Reduced early retirement available age 58 with 8 years credited service if hired prior to 7/1/2004; 58 with 15 years credited service if hired after 7/1/2004
Increases are based on C.P.I. up to stated maximum

# II. FINANCIAL SECTION

### **The Financial Section Contains:**

- > Management's Statement of Responsibility
- Auditor's Report
- > Management's Discussion and Analysis
- > Audited Financial Statements
- > Notes to Financial Statements
- > Supplemental Data

# MANAGEMENT'S STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following financial statements and related notes of the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System were prepared by management in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Board of Commissioners through the Audit Subcommittee of the Finance Committee (composed of Commissioners) is responsible for assuring that management fulfills its responsibilities in the preparation of the financial statements.

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the financial statements that are presented in accordance with generally accepted methods of accounting. Established accounting procedures are designed to provide books, records, and accounts that fairly reflect the transactions of the System.

The training of qualified personnel and the assignment of duties are intended to provide good internal controls. This provides reasonable assurances that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and that adequate accountability of System assets is maintained.

Plante & Moran, PLLC, independent public accountants, with direct access to the Retirement Commission, have audited the financial statements prepared by the System and their report follows.



Suite 1A 111 E. Court St. Flint, MI 48502 Tel: 810.767.5350 Fax: 810.767.8150 plantemoran.com

#### Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Trustees Genesee County Employees' Retirement System

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying statement of plan net position of Genesee County Employees' Retirement System (the "System"), a component unit of Genesee County, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012 and the related statement of changes in plan net position and notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Genesee County Employees' Retirement System as of December 31, 2012 and the related changes in net position thereof for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



To the Board of Trustees Genesee County Employees' Retirement System

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As explained in Note B, the financial statements include investments valued at \$191,881,667 (44 percent of total investments) at December 31, 2012 and at \$156,308,416 (40 percent of total investments) at December 31, 2011, whose fair values have been estimated by management in the absence of readily determinable market values. Management's estimates are based on information provided by fund managers and the partnership general partners. Our opinion has not been modified with respect to this matter.

#### **Other Matters**

#### Required Supplemental Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, retirement system schedule of funding progress, and the schedule of employer contributions (presented as Tables I and 2 within the supplemental data of the financial section), be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, which considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplemental information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the System's basic financial statements. The introductory section, investment section, actuarial section, information in Table 3 of the supplemental data of the financial section, glossary section, and management's statement of responsibility are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The introductory section, investment section, actuarial section, information in Table 3 of the supplemental data of the financial section, and management's statement of responsibility have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

Plante & Moran, PLLC

September 5, 2013

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED December 31, 2012

As the administrators of the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System, the Genesee County Retirement Commission and its management offer readers of the System's Annual Report and incorporated financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the system.

#### **Financial Highlights**

- The Retirement System's net position held in trust for pension benefits increased by \$20,813,317, from \$398,138,672 at December 31, 2011 to \$418,951,989 at December 31, 2012, mainly as a result of investment returns that exceeded the assumed rate of return of 8%.
- During the year, deductions representing the cost of all benefits, services, and operations borne by the System totaled \$45,215,399. The allocation of this cost was 88.60% for retiree pension benefits, 3.36% for investment related fees, 0.60% for employee withdrawal of contributions, 6.81% for conversions to a Defined Contribution Plan, and 0.63% for administrative expenses.
- In 2012, the total additions to the system, including employer and employee contributions and investment income, totaled \$66,028,715. The source of this revenue was 21.80% in employer contributions, 3.52% in employee contributions and 74.68% in realized and unrealized investment income.
- The overall net increase in net position held in trust for pension benefits amounted to \$20,813,317.

#### **Using This Annual Report**

This annual report consists of the financial statements, notes to the financial statements, and required supplemental information for the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System. The financial statements, related note disclosures, and supplemental tables provide financial information about assets held in trust for six separate employer's pension plans.

#### Overview of the Financial Statements

The Statement of Plan Net Position (on page 18) and the Statement of Changes in Plan Net Position (on page 19) report the Retirement System's net position and the changes in them. You can think of the Retirement System's net position – the difference between assets and liabilities – as one way to measure the system's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the system's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Also taken into consideration are other non-financial factors such as favorable or unfavorable economic and demographic actuarial experience, as well as actuarial funding progress and current funded status in order to assess the overall health of the system.

# Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Management's Discussion & Analysis (continued)

Genesee County is the trustee, or fiduciary, for its own and five other separate employer's pension plans. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held in trust for the benefit of parties outside the government. The Retirement System's assets are held in trust for the sole purpose of the fund, its participants, and beneficiaries. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in Genesee County's government-wide financial statement because the resources of those funds are not available to support Genesee County's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found following the Management's Discussion & Analysis Section of this Annual Report.

A comparison of plan net position and the changes in plan assets from 2011 to 2012 is contained in the following tables:

# Plan Net Position (in Thousands)

(iii iiioacaiiao)		
,	Pension <sup>7</sup>	Trust Fund
	1	2/31
	2012	2011
Cash, Short-Term Cash Investments, and Receivables	\$ 33,795	\$ 8,879
Investments, at Fair Value	410,275	390,005
Cash and Investment Held as Collateral for Securities Lending	3,211	8,075
Total Assets	447,281	406,959
Amounts due to broker under securities lending agreement	3,211	8,075
Other Liabilities	25,118	746
Total Liabilities	28,329	8,821
Total Net Position Held in Trust for Pension Benefits	\$418,952	\$398,138

# Changes in Plan Net Position (in Thousands)

	(III IIIOacailac)			
	,	Pens	sion Trust Fu 12/31	nd
		2012		2011
Net Investment Income Net Securities Lending Income	\$	49,254 55	\$	2,199 91
Contributions: Employee Employer	_	2,322 14,398		2,285 11,942
Total Contributions		16,720		14,227
Benefits Paid to Retirees and Beneficiaries Refunds to Terminated Employees Other Expenses	-	40,062 270 4,883		38,078 113 5,405
Net Increase (Decrease) ir	Net Position \$	20,814	\$	(27,079)

Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Management's Discussion & Analysis (continued)

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the fund financial statements. The notes can be found in Notes A through H of this Annual Report.

#### Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary funding and actuarial information. The information can be found in the Supplemental Data Section of this report.

#### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Employer Contribution Rates**

Overall experience of the Retirement System for the year ended December 31, 2012 produced results which were more favorable than expected based on the long-term assumptions. The investment return on the market value of assets was more than the assumed rate. Salary increases, which were less than assumed, also contributed to the favorable experience.

Established employer contribution rates for January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 are computed to be General and Sheriff's 52.70%, Water and Waste 20.35%, District Library 15.93%, Community Mental Health 19.58%, Road Commission 25.15%, and City of Mt. Morris 24.34%.

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM STATEMENT OF PLAN NET POSITION – December 31, 2012

#### ASSETS:

Cash and Short-Term Cash Investments	\$ 30,939,616
Receivables: Contributions Receivable Accrued Interest, Dividends and Other Accounts Receivable – Pending Trades	361,423 2,288,995 204,439
Total Receivables	2,854,857
Investments, at Fair Value: U.S. Government Securities Foreign Governments & Agencies Corporate Bonds Foreign Equity Common Stock Preferred Stock Mutual Funds Real Estate Hedge Fund-of-Funds	66,678,492 12,496,675 40,482,207 62,941,845 66,751,963 38,923 97,027,985 23,839,634 40,017,051
Total Investments	410,274,775
Cash and Investments Held as Collateral for Securities Lending:  Money Market and Cash  U.K. Corporate Floating Rate Note	2,964,834 246,496
Total Cash and Investments Held as Collateral for Securities Lending	3,211,330
Total Assets	447,280,578
LIABILITIES:	
Accounts Payable Amounts Due Broker Under Securities Lending Agreement Accounts Payable – Pending Trades	689,998 3,211,330 24,427,261
Total Liabilities	28,328,589
Net Position held in Trust for Pension Benefits	<u>\$ 418,951,989</u>

(A schedule of funding progress is presented on Page 27)
The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PLAN NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED – December 31, 2012

ADDITIONS:	
Contributions Employee Contributions Employer Contributions	\$ 2,321,841 14,398,418
Total Contributions	16,720,259
Investment Income  Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments Interest on U.S. Government Securities Interest on Corporate Bonds Dividend Income  Less Investment Expense	42,047,042 1,076,234 3,529,420 2,601,260 49,253,956 1,520,656
Net Investment Gain	47,733,300
Securities Lending Income Interest and Fees Borrower Rebates and Bank Fees	27,341 <u>27,159</u>
Net Securities Lending Income	54,500
Total Additions	64,508,059
DEDUCTIONS:  Benefits Paid to Retirees and Beneficiaries Refunds to Terminated Employees Administrative Expenses Rollover to Other Pension Plan	40,062,306 270,198 283,040 3,079,198
Total Deductions	43,694,742
Net Increase	20,813,317
Net Position Held in Trust for Pension Benefits: Beginning of Year	398,138,672
End of Year	<u>\$ 418,951,989</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### Note A – Plan Description, Provisions, and Reporting Entity:

The Genesee County Employees' Retirement System (also known as GCERS) is a contributory agent multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The GCERS's current-year payroll for all covered employees was \$49,736,813.

The plan covers employees who are paid by a GCERS employer more than 50% of all compensation received by them for personal services, unless they are a member of a defined contribution plan. Exemptions to the 50% rule include the County Board of Commissioners, Judges and County Juvenile Officers who are paid partially by the County and partially by the State. All new-hire General County and certain Community Mental Health new-hire employee groups may only join a defined contribution plan. Current membership in the GCERS is comprised of the following:

Group	<u>December 31, 2012</u>
Retirees and beneficiaries Currently receiving benefits	1,638
Vested terminated employees	82
Active employees: Fully vested Non-vested	536 304
Number of participating employers	6

The GCERS was organized pursuant to Section 12a Act #156, Public Acts of 1851 (MSA 5.333(I); MCLA 46.12a as amended, State of Michigan. The GCERS was established in 1946, beginning with the General Unit and the County Road Commission. Water and Waste joined the System in 1956, Community Mental Health in 1966, City of Mt. Morris in 1969, and the Genesee District Library in 1980. The GCERS is regulated under the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Ordinance, the sections of which have been approved by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners.

Eligible employee members of GCERS are required to deposit from 0.50% to 7.0% of eligible monetary compensation. Deposits are accumulated in individual accounts for each member remaining in service. If a member leaves service, he or she may withdraw his or her accumulated contribution together with the interest credited to his or her account. Five employers allow members with eight years of service to elect a deferred annuity providing a lifetime benefit and one employer allows it with 10 years. Four employers have a 15-year service provision for the deferred annuity for new employees, each with a different effective date. The requirements for regular retirement vary by bargaining group from a 20- to 25-year anniversary date of employment; or age 60 with a minimum of 8 to 15 years of service. Full retirement benefits vary by bargaining unit. Benefit computations also vary, but generally are computed at final average compensation times the sum of 2.0-2.5% for the first 25 years of service, plus 1% for years of service in excess of 25 years. (NOTE: Some contracts allow 2.4% or 2.5% for all years of service.)

The GCERS employers are required by the Retirement System Ordinance to make adequate contributions to fund the retirement allowances provided by the System. The contribution rates are determined by an annual actuarial valuation based on certain assumptions along with consideration of members' contributions and assumed investment income.

Reporting entity – The financial statements of the System are also included in the financial statements of Genesee County as a Pension Trust Fund.

#### Note B – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Plan Asset Matters:

The pension fund financial statements are reflected on the accrual basis of accounting; revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded as incurred. Employer and employee contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable. Genesee County is following GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments.

The System's investment assets, which are trusteed by Comerica Bank of Detroit, are stated at fair value (as prescribed by the Michigan Public Employee Retirement Act) as determined and certified by the Trustee. Short-term investments are reported at cost, which approximates fair value. Securities traded on the national or international exchange are valued at the last reported sales price at current exchange rates. Investments that do not have an established market are reported at estimated fair value. Approximately 44 percent of the System's investments are not publicly traded and therefore do not have readily determinable market value. Because alternative investments are not readily marketable, their estimated value is subject to uncertainty and therefore may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market for these securities existed. The difference could be material.

The plan held no investment of more than 5% of the outstanding stock of any one corporation, nor invested more than 5% of the system's assets in the stock of any one corporation. There were no loans outstanding to GCERS employers at December 31, 2012. Retirement investments are subject to a number of restrictions as to the type, quality and concentration of investments made, including limiting common stock to no more than 70% (market) of the portfolio and foreign equities to 20% of the portfolio as stated in Public Act 307 of 2000, the Amendments to Public Act 314 of 1965.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Note C – Deposits and Investments:

Michigan Compiled Laws Section 129.91 (Public Act 20 of 1943, as amended) authorizes local governmental units to make deposits and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations that have offices in Michigan. The local unit is allowed to invest in bonds, securities, and other direct obligations of the United States or any agency or instrumentality of the United States; repurchase agreements; bankers' acceptances of United States banks; commercial paper rated within the two highest classifications, which matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan

or its political subdivisions, which are rated as investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan.

The System is also authorized by Michigan Public Act 314 of 1965, as amended, to invest in certain reverse repurchase agreements, stocks, diversified investment companies, annuity investment contracts, real estate leased to public entitles, mortgages, real estate, debt or equity of certain small businesses, certain state and local government obligations, and certain other specified investment vehicles. The investment policy adopted by the board is in accordance with Public Act 196 of 1997 and has authorized the investments according to Michigan Public Act 314. The System's deposits and investment policies are in accordance with statutory authority.

The System's cash and investments are subject to several types of risk, which are examined in more detail below:

#### **Custodial Credit Risk of Bank Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the System's deposits may not be returned to it. The System does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At year end, the System did not have any bank deposits (certificates of deposit, checking, and savings accounts) that were uninsured and uncollateralized. The System believes that due to the dollar amounts of cash deposits and the limits of FDIC insurance, it is impractical to insure all deposits. As a result, the System evaluates each financial institution with which it deposits funds and assesses the level of risk of each institution; only those institutions with an acceptable estimated risk level are used as depositories.

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of investments will decrease as a result of a rise in interest rates. The System's investment policy does not restrict investment maturities. At year end, the average maturities of investments broken down by years are as follows:

	Fair Value	Less than 5	6 – 10	<u>&gt;10</u>
US Gov Agency	\$ 1,996,146	\$ 1,733,670	\$ 70,764	\$ 191,712
US Gov Mortgage Backed	1,752,441	-	-	1,752,441
US Gov TIPS	1,700,730	-	1,700,730	-
US Gov Treas, Notes & Bonds	54,404,892	39,130,316	7,847,694	7,426,882
Foreign Bonds				
Foreign Corporate	\$ 8,890,793	\$ 3,787,858	\$ 4,244,674	\$ 858,261
Foreign Government	3,605,883	1,900,751	922,682	782,450
Corporate Bonds				
Asset Backed	\$ 1,771,067	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,771,067
Corporate – CMO	6,824,284	-	-	6,824,284
Corporate – Bonds	30,113,932	9,458,848	12,020,808	8,634,276
Private Placement	8,597,209	4,433,241	3,086,554	1,077,414

#### **Credit Risk**

State law does not limit investments in commercial paper for pension plans to certain quality ratings. Additionally, the System has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices. As of year end, the credit quality ratings of debt securities are as follows:

Investment and S&P Rating	Fair Value (in \$000s)
Asset Backed – AAA Asset Backed – AA	\$ 186 231
Asset Backed – A	343
Corporate Bonds – AAA	1,975
Corporate Bonds – AA	2,446
Corporate Bonds – A	11,836
Asset Backed – BB	82
Asset Backed – B	86
Corporate Bonds – BBB	16,777
Corporate Bonds – BB	5,695
Corporate Bonds – B	1,920
Asset Backed – CCC and below	842
Corporate Bonds – CCC and below	2,043
Corporate Bonds – N/R	4,616
Corporate CMO - AAA	1,280
Corporate CMO – AA	0
Corporate CMO – A	0
Corporate CMO – BBB	1,752
Corporate CMO – BB	151
Corporate CMO – B	159
Corporate CMO – CCC and below	950
Corporate CMO – N/R	2,532
Private Placement – AAA	508
Private Placement – AA Private Placement – A	423 1,815
Private Placement – BBB	1,946
Private Placement – BB	1,192
Private Placement – BB	634
Private Placement – N/R	2,079
Foreign Bonds – AAA	383
Foreign Bonds – AA	382
Foreign Bonds – A	1,737
Foreign Bonds – BBB	3,166
Foreign Bonds – BB	422
Foreign Bonds – B	253
Foreign Bonds – NR	2,547
Foreign Bonds – Government – AAA	0
Foreign Bonds – Government – A	651
Foreign Bonds – Government – BBB	1,257
Foreign Bonds – Government – NR	1,697
US Government – Agency – AA	1,873
US Government – Agency – A	0
23	

Investment and S&P Rating (continued)	<u>Fair Value (i</u>	<u>in \$000s)</u>
US Government – Agency – BBB	\$	53
US Government – Agency – N/R		71
US Government – Mortgage Backed – N/R		1,752
US Government – TIPS – N/R		1,701
US Government – Treasuries, Notes & Bonds – N/R		53,191

#### Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that an investment denominated in the currency of a foreign country could reduce its U.S. dollar value as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates. The Retirement System does not restrict the amount of investments in foreign currency. The following securities are subject to foreign currency risk:

	Fair Value (in \$)
Euro	\$ 35,453
Canadian Dollar	192,117
Great British Pounds	10,493,792
Mexican Peso	61,930
Norwegian Krones	2
Hong Kong Dollar	3,360,395
Philippine Peso	164,323
South African Rand	18
Swedish Krona	150,810
Taiwan Dollar	234,117
Turkish Lira	200,332

#### **Securities Lending**

As permitted by state statutes and under the provisions of a securities lending authorization agreement, the System lends securities to broker-dealers and banks for collateral that will be returned for the same securities in the future. The System's custodial bank manages the securities lending program and receives cash as collateral. Borrowers are required to deliver collateral for each loan equal to not less than 100 percent of the market value of the loaned securities. During the year ended December 31, 2012, only United States currency was received as collateral.

The System did not impose any restrictions during the fiscal year on the amount of loans made on its behalf by the custodial bank. The System presently owns \$246,496 of Sigma Finance Medium Term Note which is a defaulted investment. The System elected to repay the liability over a five-year period. There were no other failures by any borrowers to return loaned securities or pay distributions thereon during the fiscal year.

The Genesee County Employees' Retirement System and the borrower maintain the right to terminate all securities lending transactions on demand. The cash collateral received on each loan was invested, together with the cash collateral of other lenders, in an investment pool. The average durations of the investments in the cash collateral pool are deemed to mature on the cash collateral pool's next business day as per the Reinvestment Guidelines, with the exception of the Sigma Medium Term Note (Impaired). Because the loans are terminable on demand,

their duration did not generally match the duration of the investments made with cash collateral. On December 31, 2012, the System had no credit risk exposure to borrowers with the exception of Sigma Finance. The collateral based on cost and the fair market value of the underlying securities on loan for the System as of December 31, 2012 was \$3,211,330 and \$3,194,952, respectively, which consisted of short-term money market mutual funds and U.S. corporate commercial paper.

#### Note D – Contributions Required and Contributions Made:

The GCERS's funding policy provides for periodic employer contributions at actuarially determined rates that are expressed as percentages of annual covered payroll, which are designed to accumulate sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. The System has received the required employer contributions for the year covered in the Summary Annual Report. Employee contributions range from .50% to 7.0% of annual compensation and the remaining required contributions are paid by the employer. The normal cost is determined using an attained age actuarial funding method. Unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities were amortized as a level percent-of-payroll over 25 years in all employers, and added to the computed normal costs. Administrative costs are financed via investment earnings and employer contributions.

#### Note E - Postretirement Benefits Contributions:

Each employer pays directly to the group providers for their retirants' health and life insurance, with some including dental and optical, through General Fund appropriations.

#### Note F – Reserves:

State law requires employee contributions to be segregated. In addition, amounts must be set aside as determined by the actuary to fund benefits to retirees currently approved to receive benefits. As of December 31, 2012, the System's reserves (except for certain employer reserves; General -\$38,749,503, Water & Waste -\$2,132,771, Roads -\$2,815,765, City of Mt. Morris -\$4,382,900) had been fully funded as follows:

Reserved for employee contributions \$ 24,714,210 Reserved for retired employees 394,198,650

#### **Note G – Funded Status and Funding Progress:**

The funded status of the plan as of December 31, 2012, the most recent actuarial valuation date, is as follows (dollar amounts in thousands):

Actuarial Value of Assets	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Entry Age	Unfunded AAL (UAAL)	Funded Ratio	Covered Payroll	(UAAL) as a percentage of Covered Payroll
(a)	(b)	(b-a)	(a/b)	(c)	((b-a)/c)
\$387,979	\$559,391	\$171,412	69.4	\$49,737	344.6

The schedules of funding progress, presented as required supplementary information (RSI)

following the notes to financial statements, present multiyear trend information about whether the actuarial value of plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the AALs for benefits.

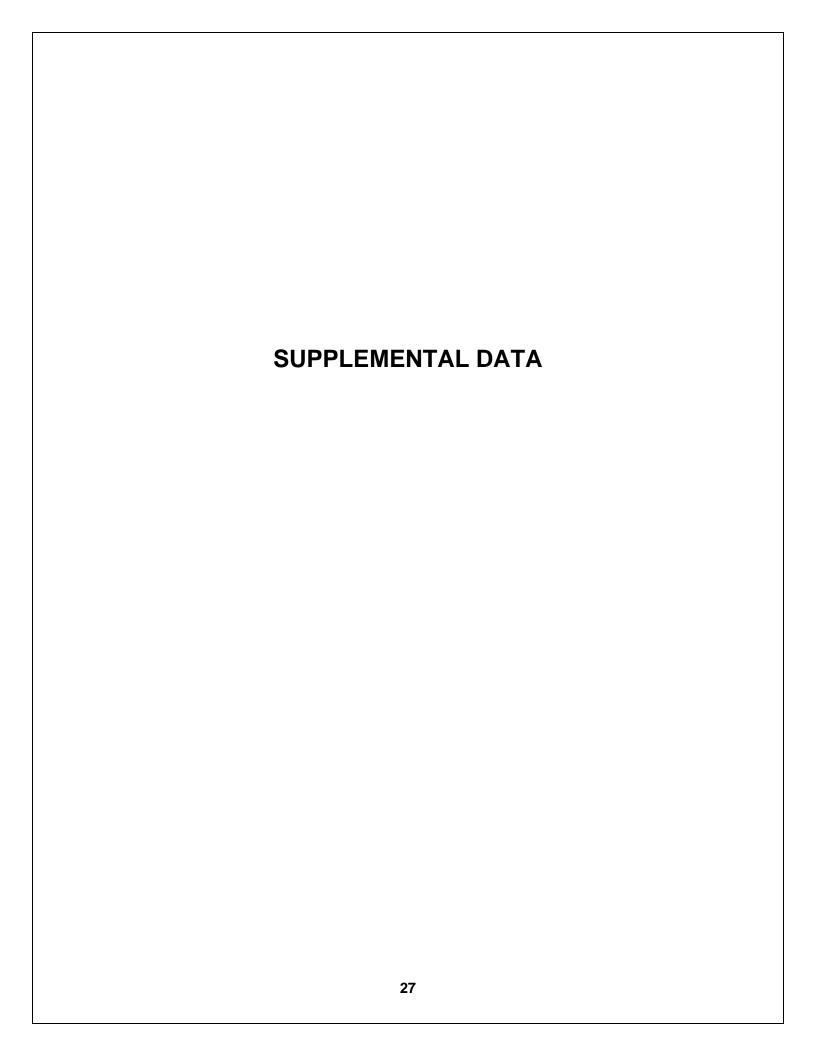
Three-year trend information as of December 31, 2012 is as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended December 31					
		<u>2010</u>	2	<u>:011</u>		<u>2012</u>
Annual Pension costs (APC) (000s)	\$1	2,728	\$11	,942	\$1 <sub>4</sub>	4,354
Percentage of APC Contributed		100%	1	00%		100%
Net Pension Obligation	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0

#### **Note H – Additional Actuarial Information:**

Additional information as of the latest valuation follows:

Valuation Date Actuarial Cost Method Amortization Method	December 31, 2012 Individual Entry Age Level percent-of-payroll, Open
Remaining amortization period Asset valuation method Actuarial assumptions:	25 years 4-year smoothed market
Investment rate of return	8.0%
Projected salary increases	3.00% to 7.03%
Includes inflation at	3%



# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

TABLE 1

#### **Schedule of Funding Progress**

Actuarial Valuation	Actuarial Value of Assets	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Entry Age	Unfunded AAL (UAAL)	Funded Ratio	Covered Payroll	(UAAL) as a % of Covered Payroll
Date	(a)	(b)	(b-a)	(a/b)	(c)	((b-a)/c)
2000* 2001* 2002* 2003* 2004* 2005* 2006* 2007* 2008* 2009* 2010* 2011*	432,631,400 425,846,925 414,125,511 405,218,225 404,492,706 412,739,184 445,962,298 461,349,321 439,812,757 424,482,866 401,700,454 365,262,318	399,583,345 403,158,551 423,009,102 433,147,789 458,068,584 467,582,019 490,334,814 514,859,339 527,639,697 543,307,372 564,033,044 549,929,631	(33,048,055) (22,688,374) 8,883,591 27,929,564 53,575,878 54,842,835 44,372,516 53,510,018 87,826,940 118,824,506 162,332,590 184,667,313	108.3 105.6 97.9 93.6 88.3 88.3 91.0 89.6 83.4 78.1 71.2 66.4	63,780,949 65,746,943 68,666,690 70,142,749 71,273,973 70,433,450 70,204,587 68,341,150 67,720,817 65,511,481 57,794,546 52,236,539	(51.81) (34.50) 12.94 39.82 75.17 77.86 63.20 78.30 129.69 181.38 280.88 353.52
2012*	387,979,375	559,390,939	171,411,564	69.4	49,736,813	344.6

<sup>\*</sup>After changes in actuarial assumptions and/or benefit changes

**TABLE 2** 

#### **Schedule of Employer Contributions**

 Fiscal Year December 31	Valuation Date December 31	Contribution Rates <sup>(1) (2)</sup> As Percents of Valuation Payroll	Annual Required Contribution	Percentage Contribution
2000	1998	7.25	\$ 4,735,018	100%
2001	1999	9.22	\$ 4,311,457	100%
2002	2000	9.55	\$ 6,016,181	100%
2003	2001	9.55	\$ 6,448,412	100%
2004	2002	14.82	\$ 9,088,458	100%
2005	2003	16.01	\$10,787,720	100%
2006	2004	18.45	\$12,482,410	100%
2007	2005	19.08	\$12,996,937	100%
2008	2006	17.65	\$11,949,881	100%
2009	2007	18.88	\$12,096,241	100%
2010	2008	22.02	\$12,727,882	100%
2011	2009	24.94	\$11,942,380	100%
2012	2011	28.89	\$14,354,446	100%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup> Net of amortization credit for assets in excess of accrued liabilities.

 $<sup>^{(2)}</sup>$  Average contribution rate for all six employers within GCERS.

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

TABLE 3

The following table is a 10-year analysis of dollar value, additions by source, and deductions by type for GCERS.

Fiscal						Refunds of
Year	Employer	Employee	Investment	Benefit	Admin.	Employee
<u>Dec 31</u>	Contributions	Contributions	Income (Loss)	Payments	Expenses	Contributions
2003	6,448,412	2,263,639	76,459,629 <sup>(1)</sup>	24,610,139	377,858 <sup>(a)</sup>	300,685
2004	9,088,459	2,148,473	37,474,631 <sup>(2)</sup>	25,909,403	382,311 <sup>(a)</sup>	410,930
2005	10,787,720	2,145,417	31,062,720 <sup>(3)</sup>	27,626,671	415,778 <sup>(a)</sup>	169,994
2006	12,482,410	2,295,981	53,089,557 <sup>(4)</sup>	28,994,941	475,979 <sup>(a)</sup>	273,168
2007	12,996,937	2,467,034	29,602,123 <sup>(5)</sup>	30,690,083	460,749 <sup>(a)</sup>	248,300
2008	11,949,881	2,305,956	$(138,233,632)^{(6)}$	31,332,459	503,244 <sup>(a)</sup>	242,544
2009	12,096,241	2,361,324	64,778,104 <sup>(7)</sup>	32,750,874	448,687 <sup>(a)</sup>	110,191
2010	12,727,881	2,339,603	54,740,500 <sup>(8)</sup>	35,292,536	419,549 <sup>(a)</sup>	136,580
2011	11,942,380	2,284,627	701,915 (9)	38,078,725	541,266 (a)	113,394
2012	14,398,417	2,321,841	47,733,300 (10)	40,062,306	283,041 (a)	270,198
	, ,		, , , , ,			•
Fiscal						
Year	Security Lending	Transfers to				
<u>Dec 31</u>	Income	Other Plans				
2002	N/A	575,384				
2003	N/A	1,183,757				
2004	N/A	1,483,017				
2005	N/A	1,370,696				
2006	N/A	1,846,652				
2007	164,098	4,324,755				
2008	246,944	3,296,321				
2009	85,185	1,827,687				
2010	81,748	3,187,761				
2011	91,633	3,365,928				
2012	54,500	3,079,198				
- · <del>-</del>	,	-,,				
	N/A Not ava	ailable.				

N/A Not available.

(1) Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$68,174,647. (2) Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$30,045,812. (3) Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$26,384,710 Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$51,374,725 Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$25,590,661 (6) Includes net depreciation in fair value of investments of \$142,475,269 (7) Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$60,858,466 (8) Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$49,166,527 (9) Includes net depreciation in fair value of investments of \$4,607,196 (10)Includes net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$42,047,042

<sup>(</sup>a) GASB 25 requires investment fees to be netted against investment income for years beginning after December 31, 1998.

# **III. INVESTMENT SECTION**

### **The Investment Section Contains:**

- > Investment Goal
- > Investment Policy
- > Investment Portfolio Distribution
- > Return on Investment
- > Investment Performance

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM INVESTMENT POLICY

#### **GOAL**

The objective of the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System is to provide present and future retirement or survivor benefits for its members. To achieve this goal, the Fund targets an average, annual return of 8.0% over periods greater than five years. Achievement of this target return will likely ensure the System's ability to pay benefits and result in stable contribution rates.

#### **INVESTMENT POLICY**

The fund is long-term in nature and the selection of investments is regulated by (1) statutory limitations, (2) limits of acceptable risk and (3) the objective of a maximized total rate of return.

Investment decisions shall be made within the framework of the goals established for the rate of return, limits of acceptable risk and fund objectives. At any point in time, certain types of investments have greater relative attractiveness than others. To maximize the realized rate of return, it is necessary to determine the relative values ascribed to differing types of investments within a given investment environment.

The System believes that individual holdings should stand alone on merit as well as complement the entire group of holdings.

Diversification shall be considered as part of the effort to minimize liquidity risks, maximize total rate of return and limit exposure to unanticipated business risks. Since the portfolio is long-term in nature and is constructed to avoid the necessity of liquidating holdings to meet benefit payments, liquidity is not a first consideration; however, every reasonable effort will be made to provide protection for the portfolio in future deteriorating markets.

No holding will be considered a "permanent" part of the portfolio. Any security can be sold at any time either to maximize gains or to minimize losses. The portfolio shall be continuously monitored in order to identify such instruments as overvalued stocks or low yield bonds in order to take appropriate action.

In making decisions, the Commission shall avail itself of the highest caliber advice obtainable, both internally and externally. The Commission has retained the services of a professional investment consultant to monitor investments, returns, and peer performance of the investment managers. Investment managers are hired to invest the System's assets on a daily basis in a variety of asset classes to maximize returns at a lower overall risk to the plan.

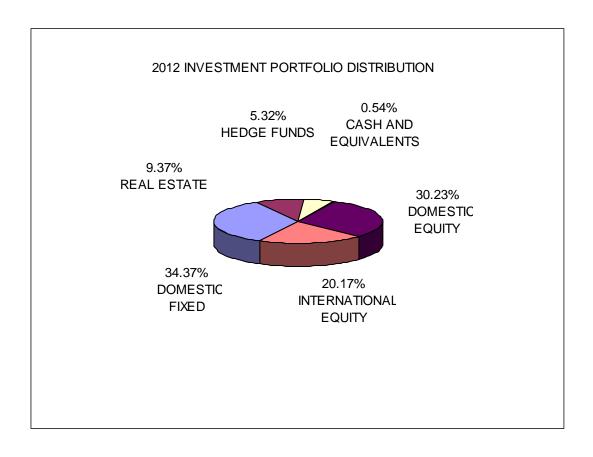
The Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 5 will be followed in accounting for the portfolio. Securities will be recorded at market values and will be reported to the Commission monthly. The firm engaged for the annual audit shall be consulted when questions concerning accounting procedures arise.

# Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Investment Policy (continued)

A quarterly evaluation of the System's portfolio will be conducted to monitor the investment performance by each of the Investment Managers. In addition, the annual external audit and the annual actuarial valuations shall be reviewed in conjunction with the evaluation of investment performance. All evaluations will be related to the Commission's stated goals. Because these goals are long-term, cumulative performance results will be considered as more important than performance in any single year.

#### INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO DISTRIBUTION

The State of Michigan charges the Retirement Commission with the responsibility of investing the System's portfolio in a prudent manner and in a fiduciary capacity. On December 31, 2012, the market value of the portfolio distribution of investments was as follows: 30.23% in domestic equities, 20.17% in international equities, 34.37% in domestic fixed income securities, 0.0% in convertibles, 9.37% in real estate, 5.32% in hedge fund-of-funds and 0.54% in cash and equivalents (receivables and accruals).



Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Investment Policy (continued)

#### **RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

The return on investments, which is defined as the income plus or minus the appreciation or depreciation in value, is analyzed each quarter. The Genesee County Employees' Retirement System's investment performance is compared with the results within a universe of other public funds.

- Total return for 2012 of 12.77%, compared to the Policy Index of 12.46%, ranks in the 35th percentile among public funds.
- The three, five and ten year total returns of 9.46%, 2.76% and 6.93% respectively, rank in the 14<sup>th</sup>, 62 <sup>nd</sup> and 50 <sup>th</sup> percentiles among public funds. (Statistics according to Asset Strategies Portfolio Services' December 31, 2012 Cumulative Performance Comparison)

#### **INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

The investment performance of the System is continually monitored through the use of a number of different methods. The performance of the domestic equity, international equity, fixed income, and real estate portfolios is monitored by a highly respected portfolio evaluation service and consultant in the United States. A hedge fund-of-fund manager is employed to select and monitor the best performing funds.

A summary of the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System's performance results, along with a brief description of issues to be considered in interpreting the results follow. Since the purpose of the summary is to provide an overview, the reader is cautioned against forming conclusions that may be premature.

The Genesee County Employee's Retirement System Report is provided as a profile of the System's performance. The reader may note that the yields of the audited financial statements will vary from the rates of return presented in this section. The variation is attributable to asset appreciation being included in the determination of rates of return, whereas only dividends and interest are used to determine yields in the Financial Section.

#### **Total Cumulative Annual Rate of Return:**

This shows how the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System performed over multi-year periods compared with other public plan funds. The System's return is tabulated along with a segmentation of the group's results. Percent rank indicates what proportion of the group outperformed the System; a low percent indicates a relatively higher return. The reader can choose a time period of particular interest and examine the return the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System earned for that period.

# Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Investment Policy (continued)

In the past, a market cycle has generally covered a four-year period. For any time period one chooses to examine, the median serves as an effective standard for determining what a "reasonable" return for that period would have been. (The median is that return that outranked 50 percent of the funds in the group and that was outranked by 50 percent of the funds).

This summary should be regarded only as an introduction to evaluating the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System's investment performance results. Nevertheless, it is hoped that this brief overview will be of some assistance.

IV. ACTUARIAL PRINCIPLES
The Actuarial Section Contains:
<ul> <li>Actuarial Principles</li> <li>Present Actuarial Status</li> <li>Member Statistics</li> </ul>
35

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM ACTUARIAL PRINCIPLES

Promises Made, and Eventually Paid – As each year is completed, the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System in effect hands an "IOU" to each member then acquiring a year of service credit – the "IOU" says: "The Genesee County Employees' Retirement System owes you a retirement benefit, payments to be made in cash commencing when you qualify for retirement."

The principal related financial question is: "When shall the money required to cover the "IOU" be contributed?"

The year when the benefit of the member's service is received, or some future year when the "IOU" becomes a cash demand.

The Constitution of the State of Michigan is directed to the question:

"Financial benefits arising on account of service rendered in each fiscal year shall be funded during that year and such funding shall not be used for financing unfunded accrued liabilities."

The majority of public employers meet this constitutional requirement by level percent-of-payroll contributions.

Translated into actuarial terminology, a level percent-of-payroll contribution objective means that the contribution rate must be at least:

Normal Cost – (the present value of benefits likely to be paid on account of members' service being rendered in the current year).

#### ...PLUS

The Financing of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liabilities – (unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities are the difference between (1) the actuarial accrued liability, and (2) the valuation assets of the retirement program).

A byproduct of a level percent-of-payroll contribution objective is the accumulation on invested assets of varying periods of time. Invested assets are a byproduct of level percent-of-payroll contributions, not the objective. Investment income becomes the third major contributor to the retirement program, and the amount is directly related to the amount of contributions and investment performance.

If contributions to the retirement program are less than the preceding amount, the difference plus investment earnings not realized thereon, will have to be contributed at some later time or benefits will have to be reduced to satisfy the fundamental fiscal equation under which all retirement programs must operate; that is;

The aggregate amount of benefit payments to any group of members and their beneficiaries cannot exceed the sum of:

### Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Actuarial Principles (continued)

The aggregate amount of contributions received on behalf of the group

#### ...PLUS

Investment earnings on contributions received and not required for immediate cash payments of benefits

#### ...MINUS

The expenses of operating the program.

There are retirement programs designed to defer the bulk of contributions far into the future. Lured by artificially low present contributions, the inevitable consequence of a relentlessly increasing contribution rate – to a level that may be greatly in excess of the level percent-of-payroll rate – is ignored.

This method of financing is prohibited in Michigan by the State Constitution.

#### COMPUTED CONTRIBUTION RATE NEED TO FINANCE BENEFTIS

The actuary calculates the contribution requirements and benefit values of the Fund by applying actuarial assumptions to the benefit provisions and people information furnished, using the actuarial cost methods described on the previous page.

The principal areas of financial risk which require assumptions about future experiences are:

- a. Long-term rates of investment return to be generated by the assets of the Fund.
- b. Rates of mortality among members, retirees, and beneficiaries.
- c. Patterns of actual retirements.
- d. The age patterns of actual retirements.
- e. Rates of withdrawal of active members (without entitlement to a retirement benefit).
- f. Rates of disability among members.

In making a valuation, the actuary calculates the monetary effect of each assumption for as long as a present covered person survives – a period of time which can be as long as a century.

Actual experience of the Fund will not coincide with assumed experience, regardless of the wisdom of the assumptions, or the skill of the actuary and the precision of the many calculations made. Each valuation provides a complete recalculation of assumed future experience and takes in account all past differences between assumed and actual experience. The result is a continual series of adjustments (usually small) to the computed contribution rate.

From time to time it becomes appropriate to modify one or more of the assumptions to reflect experience trends (but not random year to year fluctuations).

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM ACTUARIAL STATUS

The overall recognized experience of the Retirement System during the year ended December 31, 2012 was more favorable than expected experience based upon the long-term assumptions. The rate of investment return, based on the market value of assets, was more than the assumed rate. Salary increases, which were less than assumed, also contributed to the favorable experience. The increase in the funded ratio reflects this experience.

In all divisions, except the City of Mt. Morris, the computed retiree liabilities were greater than the Reserve for Retirement Benefit Payments as of December 31, 2012. Transfers were recommended to be made to the Reserve for Retired Benefit Payments so that it equals the retired life liabilities as of December 31, 2012.

The ratio of the funding value of accrued assets to accrued liabilities was 69.4%

#### **FUNDING PROGRESS INDICATORS**

There is no single all-encompassing indicator that measures a retirement system's funding progress and current funded status.

A traditional measure has been the relationship of valuation assets to actuarial accrued liability – a measure that is influenced by the choice of actuarial cost method. This relationship is as follows:

# GCERS Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability As of December 31, 2012 By Divisions (\$ in thousands)

	General & Sheriffs	Water & Waste	District Library	Mental Health	Road Commission	City Mt. Morris	TOTALS
Actuarial Accrued Liability & Reserves:	\$317,883	\$51,686	\$15,038	\$100,030	\$69,417	\$ 5,336	\$559,390
Assets Allocated to Funding:	\$212,777	\$35,277	\$12,061	\$73,954	\$49,946	\$ 3,963	\$387,978
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability:	\$105,106	\$16,409	\$ 2,977	\$26,076	\$19,471	\$ 1,373	\$171,412
Funded Ratio:	66.9%	68.3%	80.2%	73.9%	72.0%	74.3%	69.4%
Funded Ratio: Prior Year	64.2%	66.7%	75.0%	69.5%	70.0%	65.4%	66.4%

## Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Actuarial Status (continued)

We believe an understanding of short-term funding progress and status can be achieved using the following indicators:

- (1) The ratio of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability to participant payroll. In a soundly financed retirement system, the amount of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability will be controlled and prevented from increasing in the absence of benefit improvements. However, in an inflationary environment is seldom practical to impose this control on dollar amounts that are depreciating in value. The ratio is a relative index of condition where inflation is present in both items. The ration is expected to decrease over time but the basic trend may be interrupted by benefit improvements.
- (2) The ratio of the funding value of assets to the actuarial accrued liability. The ratio is expected to increase over time but the basic trend may be interrupted by benefit improvements.
- (3) The actuarial present value of gains or losses realized in the operation of the retirement system. Gains and losses are expected to cancel each other over a period of years but sizable year-to-date fluctuations are common.

#### Summary of Benefit Provision Changes in December 31, 2012 Valuation

#### **General Unit:**

<u>Teamsters Local 214, FOC Supervisors, Ratified 12/7/2011; AFSCME 496-01, Professional and Technical Employees Ratified 2/27/2012; Teamster Local 214, Parks and Recreation Employees Ratified 8/9/2012</u>

Retirement Eligibility:

- Members with less than 8 years of credited service on the date of ratification may retire at any age with at least 25 years of credited service; or at age 60 with at least 8 years of credited service
- Members with more than 8 years of credited service on the date of ratification may retire at any age with at least 23 years of credited service; or age 60 with at least 8 years of credited service

Employee Contributions:

Employee contributions are 7.0% (pre-tax)

Lump Sum Option:

> The Section 59 Lump Sum Transfer option is eliminated

#### Non-Union

**Employee Contributions:** 

> Employee contributions are 7.0% (pre-tax)

Lump Sum Option:

> The Section 59 Lump Sum Transfer option is eliminated

## Genesee County Employees' Retirement System Actuarial Status (continued)

#### Water & Waste Unit:

#### Non-Union

#### Retirement Eligibility:

- ➤ Employees hired prior to 12/31/1995 may retire at any age with at least 23 years of credited service; or age 60 with at least 10 years of credited service; or age 55 with at least 10 years of credited service and a reduced pension
- ➤ Employees hired after 12/31/1995, may retire at age 55 with at least 23 years of credited service; or age 60 with at least 10 years of credited service; or age 55 with at least 10 years of credited service and a reduced pension

#### Final Average Compensation:

Employees hired on or after 1/1/2006, FAC will be the 3 highest of the last 5 years of earnings. Overtime, certificate bonus and vacation cash-in will be excluded from FAC

#### Multiplier:

Employees hired between 1/1/2006 and 12/31/2010, 2.4% to 25 years and 1.0% thereafter. Employees hired on or after 1/1/2012, 2.0% up to 25 years and 1.0% thereafter

#### Employee Contributions:

> Employee contributions are 7.0% (pre-tax)

#### Lump Sum Option:

> The Section 59 Lump Sum Transfer option is eliminated

#### Employer-Financed Pop-Up Provision:

➤ Applies to Option A-100% survivor allowance only

#### **Community Mental Health:**

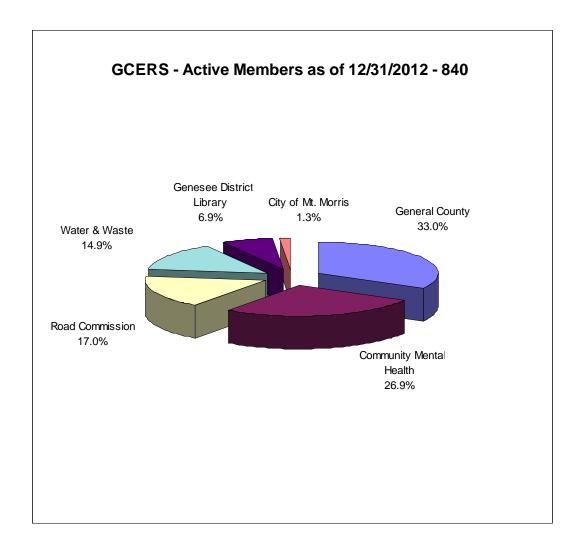
➤ The defined benefit plan for Non-Union Employees hired after May 8, 2012 is closed to new members.

#### **ACTUARIAL CONCLUSION**

The Retirement System is financing benefits as they accrue in accordance with a sound level percent-of-payroll funding objective.

**CERTIFICATION:** Rodwan Consulting Company certified that the December 31, 2012 actuarial valuation has been conducted in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices. Data concerning active members, retirees, beneficiaries and assets was provided by the County. This data has been reviewed for reasonableness, but no attempt has been made to audit such information. The valuation was based on the provisions of the Retirement System as amended through January 1, 2013. The actuarial assumptions used in this valuation are reasonably related to past experience of the System and produce results which we believe are reasonable.

# GENESEE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM MEMBER STATISTICS



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Valuation	Total				Average	
Date	Active	Valuation	Average	Average	Annual	%
Dec 31	Members	Payroll*	Age	Service	Pay	Increase
1997	1,496	61,108	42.6	10.1	40,848	4.1
1998	1,502	62,421	42.8	10.4	41,558	1.7
1999	1,521	64,378	42.7	9.9	42,326	1.8
2000	1,474	63,781	42.8	10.4	43,271	2.2
2001	1,447	65,765	42.8	10.2	45,449	4.8
2002	1,481	68,667	43.5	10.2	46,365	2.0
2003	1,450	70,143	43.7	10.6	48,374	4.3
2004	1,395	71,274	43.8	10.8	51,092	5.3
2005	1,399	70,433	44.1	10.8	50,346	(1.5)
2006	1,346	70,205	44.6	11.2	52,115	3.5
2007	1,261	68,341	45.2	12.0	54,196	4.0
2008	1,205	67,721	45.8	12.4	56,200	3.6
2009	1,151	65,511	46.3	12.9	56,917	1.3
2010	1,002	57,795	46.3	13.0	57,679	1.3
2011	902	52,237	46.7	13.3	57,912	0.4
2012	840	49,737	47.2	13.6	59,210	2.2

<sup>\*\*</sup>in thousands

#### EMPLOYER COMPUTED CONTRIBUTIONS-COMPARABLE SCHEDULE

	LIVII LOI	LIX COMI	OILD CON	INIBOTIO	143-COIVII A	NADEL 3	CHEDUL	
Valuation								
Date	General &	Water &	District	Mental	Road	City of	Valuation	Dollar
Dec.	Sheriffs	Waste	Library	Health	Commission	Mt. Morris	Payroll*	Contributions*
1985 (a)	8.01	6.37	7.91	7.03	10.24	4.90	44,068	3,795
1986	6.04	4.99	7.22	6.54	9.63	4.34	46,136	3,231
1987 (a)	11.40	4.79	5.72	6.44	9.07	3.35	50,282	5,235
1988 (a)	12.51	2.32	4.67	10.43	9.12	2.72	50,342	5,882
1989 (a)	15.66	0.45	4.42	9.14	6.54	1.24	50,694	6,631
1990 (a)	16.21	6.82	4.15	9.12	9.31	1.62	53,332	7,463
1991	17.03	6.19	8.27	8.97	15.98	0.58	53,167	9.448
1992	21.09	7.98	6.63	9.41	19.89	0.62	57,807	10,410
1993	23.34	13.41	6.36	10.67	19.91	0.23	60,516	10,614
1994	22.53	14.19	4.50	10.34	20.66	0.23	65,137	12,549
1995	18.44	9.99	.69	7.17	23.34	0.00	69,200	12,397
1996	20.19	3.22***	0.00	4.69	26.04	3.78	66,206	11,996
1997	17.32	10.88	0.00	5.68	19.33	3.76	61,108	9,502
1998	11.09	4.14	0.00	1.89	13.78	0.00	62,421	8,791
1999	10.29	2.08	0.00	1.20	10.95	0.00	64,378	8,030
2000	10.70	3.02	0.00	8.97	12.02	0.00	63,781	4,735
2001	10.39	4.71	0.00	8.09	16.93	5.22	65,765	4,311
2002	15.52**	14.00**	0.56**	9.44**	16.42**	11.56**	68,667	6,016
2003	19.27	15.94	5.40	11.47	18.19	14.96	70,143	6,448
2004	22.31	17.11	8.95	13.61	19.57	18.47	71,274	9,088
2005	24.28	17.58	12.68	12.80	18.18	18.76	70,433	10,788
2006	23.48	15.94	11.20	11.49	16.00	18.21	70,205	12,482
2007	25.38	16.49	8.58	11.63	16.60	20.56	68,341	12,997
2008	29.33	17.76	11.64	13.96	18.34	20.40	67,721	11,949
2009	31.74	18.81	12.00	15.16	19.46	21.46	65,511	12,096
2010	40.58	16.62	12,85	16.65	19.89	26.74	57,795	12,728
2011	53.48	20.30	16.87	21.09	25.18	28.43	52.237	11,942
2012	52.70	20.35	15.93	19.58	25.15	24.34	49,737	14,354

<sup>\* \$</sup> In Thousands \*\* Rate represents those adopted by Retirement Commission on 6/16/2003.

#### **Glossary of Key Investment and Actuarial Terms:**

#### ACTUARIAL ACCRUED LIABILITY-

The difference between the actuarial present value of system benefits and the actuarial value of future normal costs. Sometimes referred to as "accrued liability".

#### **ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS-**

Estimates of future experience with respect to rates of mortality, disability, turnover, retirement, rate or rates of investment income and salary increases. Decrement assumptions (rates of mortality, disability, turnover, and retirement) are generally based on past experience, often modified for projected changes in conditions. Economic assumptions (salary increases and investment income) consist of an underlying rate in an inflation-free environment plus a provision for a long-term average rate of inflation.

#### **ACTUARIAL RESERVE-**

A fund for the purpose of paying benefits which will not be paid in the very near future but which have already been earned. An actuarial reserve retirement fund sets aside money for benefits earned before the benefits will actually have to be paid.

#### **ACTUARIAL VALUATION-**

An examination by an actuary of a group of people, with regard to certain characteristics of the people in that group. Some of the characteristics are age, service, salaries, rate of turnover by death or termination. The actuary can then determine whether contributions are sufficient to fund liabilities earned. An annual actuarial valuation of active and retired members is conducted by Rodwan Consulting Company, the actuary for the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System.

#### AMORTIZE-

To pay off an interest-discounted amount with periodic payments of interest and principal as opposed to paying off with a lump sum payment.

#### **AUDIT-**

An examination by someone or some firm outside an organization of accounting records developed by the staff of the organization. Recommendations and suggestions for better record keeping and management are often part of an audit. An annual audit is conducted by Plante & Moran, PLLC, the independent auditors for the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System.

#### **CORPORATE OBLIGATION-**

An investment in a corporation with specified payments of principal and interest over a definite period of time.

#### **DIVERSIFICATION-**

The practice of investing in several different investment areas in order to minimize total portfolio risks.

#### LEVEL-COST FINANCING-

A method of financing a retirement system in which contributions, as a percentage of payroll, remain level from generation to generation, if benefit provisions are not changed.