COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS PENSION RESERVES INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes of the Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 17, 2022
commencing at 9:30 a.m.

(CONDUCTED REMOTELY)

PRIM Board Offices 84 State Street Boston, Massachusetts

ATTENDEES

(Via Zoom)

Board Members

- · Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, Chair
- · Robert L. Brousseau
- · Ruth Ellen Fitch
- · James B.G. Hearty
- Theresa F. McGoldrick, Esq.
- · Dennis J. Naughton
- · Carly Rose
- · Paul E. Shanley, Esq.

Other Attendees (partial list):

- · Andre Abouhala
- · Francesco Daniele
- · Anthony Falzone
- · Alyssa Fiore
- · David Gurtz
- · Minching Kao
- · Eleni Klempner
- Emily Kowtoniuk
- Renee LeFevre
- · Bill Li
- · Christina Marcarelli
- · Michael McElroy
- · Michael McGirr
- · Tim Schlitzer
- Michael Trotsky

Į	PROCEEDINGS
2	A meeting of the Pension Reserves
3	Investment Management Board (PRIM Board) was held
4	remotely on August 17, 2022. The meeting was
5	called to order and convened at 9:30 a.m.
6	Treasurer and Receiver-General Deborah Goldberg
7	chaired the meeting.
8	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Welcome to the
9	board meeting of the MassPRIM board, Wednesday,
10	August 17. This meeting is being held in
11	accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts
12	Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, which was signed
13	into law on February 15, 2022 and most recently
14	amended on July 16, 2022, that includes an
15	extension until March 31, 2023 of the remote
16	meeting provisions of the March 12, 2020 executive
17	order suspending certain provisions of the Open
18	Meeting Law.
19	All members of the board will
20	participate remotely via audio, videoconferencing.
21	And public access to the deliberations of the
22	board will likewise be provided via telephone with
23	all documents referenced at the meeting available
24	to be viewed on PRIM's website, which is

- 1 www.mapension.com.
- 2 All persons speaking today at the
- 3 meeting are asked first to identify themselves.
- 4 Also the Open Meeting Law requires
- 5 anyone wishing to record a meeting to first notify
- 6 the chair so that the chair can inform the other
- 7 attendees. Accordingly, I am informing you that
- 8 stenographer Virginia Dodge from Lexitas is
- 9 transcribing and also recording this meeting, and
- we are joined by Colin Young from State House
- 11 News, who will be recording most parts of the
- meeting.
- 13 If anyone else does intend to record
- today's meeting, please do notify Seth Gitell by
- 15 email at sgitell@mapension.com.
- 16 Additionally, the Attorney General's
- 17 guidance on holding remote meetings reads as
- 18 follows: At the start of the meeting, the chair
- must announce the name of the member or members
- who are participating remotely. And I will now
- 21 announce the names of all PRIM Board members who
- are participating remotely in today's meeting.
- Firstly, myself, Treasurer Deb Goldberg,
- 24 Bob Brousseau, Ruth Ellen Fitch, Jim Hearty,

- 1 Theresa McGoldrick, Peter Monaco, Dennis Naughton,
- 2 Carly Rose and Paul Shanley.
- 3 Okay. Everybody got that?
- 4 And so as is always, I will seek a
- 5 motion to approve the board meeting minutes from
- 6 May 19, 2022, attached as Appendix A of the
- 7 expanded agenda, and further to authorize the
- 8 executive director to take all actions necessary
- 9 to effectuate this vote.
- 10 Is there a motion?
- 11 MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- MR. NAUGHTON: Moved to approve.
- 13 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Second.
- 15 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Questions?
- 16 Comments? Changes?
- Hearing none, we will move forward with
- 18 a roll call vote.
- 19 Bob Brousseau?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 21 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen Fitch?
- 22 Ruth Ellen Fitch?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim Hearty?

1 MR. HEARTY: Yes. 2 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa McGoldrick? 3 MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes. 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter Monaco? 5 MR. MONACO: Yes. Dennis Naughton? 6 TREASURER GOLDBERG: 7 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes. 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly Rose? 9 MS. ROSE: Yes. 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul Shanley? 11 MR. SHANLEY: Yes. 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The 13 motion carries. 14 Next item of the agenda is the executive 15 director/chief investment officer report, and 16 Michael will first do a summary and organizational 17 updates, followed by PRIT Fund performance. 18 Thank you, Michael. 19 MR. TROTSKY: Thank you, Treasurer, and 20 welcome, everybody. Thank you for making the time in mid-August to be with us today. 21 22 We have a full --23 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Michael, we 24 wouldn't miss it.

MR. TROTSKY: -- full slate. Everyone 1 2 made it, so thank you very much for that. 3 Good morning. You know, we are very 4 proud this quarter that our internally developed 5 investment tools really have allowed us to 6 construct a portfolio that performs well in both 7 strong and weaker markets. Obviously the 8 heightened volatility of the markets over the last 9 two years has really provided an extraordinary 10 test of those tools and our processes here. 11 If you remember, last year, in the 12 strong markets of fiscal year 2021, the PRIT Fund 13 recorded its best-ever, best in history, 14 performance with a return of 30 percent. That was 15 29 and a half percent net and was at the very top of our peer group. The fund last year also 16 17 outperformed its benchmark by a record-setting 18 9 percent. That was astounding. 19 And this year, we are pleased to report 20 that in fiscal year 2022, the fiscal year that 21 we're presenting today which ended at the end of 22 June, during the weakest market since the world 23 financial crisis more than 13 years ago, the PRIT 24 Fund also performed very strongly and was down

- only 3 percent. That's 3.4 percent net of all
- fees, outperforming broad market indices by a very
- 3 wide margin and its benchmark by 1.5 percent.
- 4 You know, we believe that performing
- 5 strongly in both up and down markets is really the
- 6 hallmark of a well-constructed portfolio with
- 7 proven, skillful managers.
- 8 You all know that the challenges during
- 9 the fiscal year were unusual and unexpected.
- 10 Continuing COVID flare-ups with new variants
- 11 worldwide, rising interest rates, inflation at
- multi-decade highs, the Russian invasion of
- 13 Ukraine, supply chain disruptions, food and energy
- 14 shortages, labor constraints and economies
- 15 worldwide that, at best, are teetering on the edge
- of recession, provided really a backdrop that was
- too much for the market to bear.
- 18 For the one-year period ending in June
- of 2022, U.S. stocks were down 10.6 percent,
- 20 developed international stocks were down
- 21 17.7 percent, and emerging markets stocks were
- 22 down 25 percent, while diversified bonds were down
- 23 10.3 percent as interest rates rose.
- 24 A common benchmark that the industry

- 1 uses is a 60/40 mix of global stocks and bonds.
- 2 That was down 13 and a half percent, 13 and a half
- 3 percent, in fiscal year 2022. And the PRIT Fund
- 4 fared better. Its return of negative 3 percent,
- 5 negative 3.4 percent net, for fiscal year 2022 is
- 6 a strong result in a weak market.
- 7 And we should expect market declines and
- 8 economic cycles to impact the PRIT Fund
- 9 periodically. And we remain pleased with the
- 10 resiliency of the fund and its performance over
- 11 all time periods and throughout several different
- 12 market environments.
- The PRIT Fund's trailing 3-, 5- and 10-
- year returns remain very strong and consistently
- above the benchmarks, above the required actuarial
- rate of return, which is now 7 percent, and at the
- top of our peer group.
- In fiscal 2022, our diversifying asset
- 19 classes such as private equity, real estate and
- timberland and also hedge funds helped buffer the
- 21 downturn in our public markets portfolios, which
- were down significantly, as you might expect.
- But private equity was up more than
- 24 27 percent. Real estate was up more than

- 1 25 percent, and timberland was up more than
- 2 11 percent for the fiscal year, while hedge funds
- 3 were essentially flat. In comparison, global
- 4 equities were down more than 16 percent, and core
- fixed income, bonds, was down more than
- 6 11 percent.
- We'll have more detail later in the
- 8 agenda from our asset class heads on each of those
- 9 asset classes.
- 10 We have recently described the current
- investment environment as requiring all hands on
- deck here at PRIM. We have asked each team to
- examine every strategy in the portfolio and to
- 14 increase our communications with each investment
- 15 manager. Our risk team, Jay Leu and Shannon
- 16 Ericson, have been deeply embedded within our
- 17 asset class teams all year long. We are a group
- of highly trained and talented professionals, and
- we're lucky that they are attentive to every
- 20 detail in the portfolio.
- Now, we do believe that market
- downturns, while they are painful, also create
- opportunities to improve the portfolio. And the
- team continues to identify compelling new

- 1 investment opportunities in the weaker market. In
- 2 fact, our deployment of capital to new ideas of
- 3 6.9 billion in fiscal year 2022, 6.9 billion,
- 4 almost \$7 billion in one year, that was a
- 5 58 percent increase over last year.
- 6 Additionally, during times of increased
- 7 volatility like we've been through, we closely
- 8 adhere to our monthly rebalancing discipline,
- 9 which enables us to redeploy capital to areas hit
- 10 hardest, while also maintaining our commitment to
- 11 staying within our long-term strategic asset
- 12 allocation bands, which we believe have and will
- continue to serve us well. And our rebalancing
- 14 trades during the year were large. We exceeded
- 15 \$8 billion in rebalancing trades during the year.
- 16 Operationally, even while navigating the
- 17 difficult investment environment, we had an
- 18 extremely productive year. We hired and on-
- 19 boarded 11 new full-time employees. That's an
- increase from seven last year. And eight of the
- 21 11 are diverse. We promoted four of our highest
- 22 performing staff members, and all of those
- 23 promotions are females. And we sponsored
- 24 10 interns, all of whom are diverse.

PRIM also became a founding signatory to 1 2 the new CFA Institute's Diversity, Equity and 3 Inclusion Code for the Investment Profession. 4 That's a very important step for us and also for 5 the investment management profession in general. 6 It was something, as you know, that I personally 7 worked on with the CFA Institute from its very 8 inception several years ago. And we are big 9 promoters of that. 10 We successfully launched the FUTURE 11 Initiative. That's the plan to increase the 12 diversity of PRIM's investment managers and 13 vendors to at least 20 percent by increasing 14 access for minorities, women, and disabled 15 investment managers and business partners. 16 And we are very proud, extremely proud, 17 of our fast progress with the FUTURE Initiative. 18 During 2022, fiscal 2022, PRIM invested 19 approximately \$3.4 billion with diverse managers 20 over five different asset classes. Additionally, 21 PRIM committed \$1 billion to a new emerging-22 diverse manager program, which utilizes five new expert advisors, and more than \$200 million has 23 24 already been deployed to that program.

1	The PRIT Fund currently invests more
2	than \$7.7 billion, more than 8 percent of the PRIT
3	Fund, with diverse investment managers. And
4	according to the publication Pensions and
5	Investments, PRIM is ranked seventh, number 7,
6	among the largest 200 funds for the U.S. for
7	assets managed by diverse managers. This is far
8	above our rank in size.
9	We also filed our first annual progress
10	report to the Massachusetts legislature as
11	required under the law. And later in today's
12	agenda, you will be voting on an additional
13	\$750 million to three diverse investment managers.
14	On ESG, environmental, social and
15	governance issues, following the Treasurer's very
16	strong lead, something she and I are passionate
17	about, we began work on creating the structure and
18	charter of the new and unique ESG advisory
19	committee, which the board approved in February,
20	and you will vote today to finalize the charter.
21	PRIM voted and I had this wrong
22	during the Investment Committee. I read the wrong
23	column. PRIM voted 11,369 proxy ballots. I said
24	two weeks ago it was a little over 8,000. Still

- 1 huge numbers, but 11,369 proxy ballots aligned
- 2 with PRIM's progressive proxy voting guidelines on
- 3 areas such as board diversity requirements,
- 4 overboarded directors, gender pay gaps, labor and
- 5 human rights, and executive compensation. And we
- 6 also adopted a new proxy voting guideline to vote
- 7 against all directors at companies targeted by the
- 8 group Climate Action 100+.
- 9 PRIM continues to support the MIT Sloan
- 10 School of Management Aggregate Confusion Project
- 11 as its first founding member. Remember, the goal
- of that project is to develop tools to address
- inconsistencies in the measurement of ESG data,
- 14 which has become widely recognized as a
- substantial challenge to impactful ESG investing.
- In fact, just two weeks ago, the *Harvard*
- 17 Business Review published an article on the
- subject. And even more recently, *The Economist*
- magazine had an entire issue dedicated to ESG, and
- in the issue, the MIT Aggregate Confusion Project,
- 21 which illuminated data quality issues, was
- 22 prominently featured.
- I really believe that PRIM is ahead of
- the curve on identifying these challenges. We

- 1 have been with our partnership with MIT Professors
- 2 Roberto Rigobon and Jason Jay, and we expect to
- 3 launch strategies based on the advancements,
- 4 mainly better data, over the course of the next
- 5 year.
- 6 The Aggregate Confusion Project also
- 7 welcomed four new additional members. And they
- 8 are MFS Investment Management, here in Boston; AQR
- 9 Capital Management down in Greenwich, Connecticut;
- 10 Qontigo in Europe, and Asset Management One out of
- 11 Japan. These members represent a range of
- 12 geographic and professional perspectives in the
- investment world.
- 14 And that's it. The membership is now
- 15 closed to new members. The project has accepted
- 16 all the partners it will have. And I believe we
- 17 all have complementary skill sets and resources we
- need to be efficient and successful. We're
- 19 already working well together. In fact, we met in
- 20 person recently at MIT in Cambridge, and it was
- 21 very productive and exciting.
- And last, here at PRIM, we launched a
- 23 new series of educational seminars during the
- fiscal year. That is something we heard from you,

- 1 the board, in your feedback surveys. We had
- 2 13 seminars in total last year on subjects
- 3 including PRIT Fund leverage, public/private
- 4 crossover funds, venture capital investing, ESG
- 5 landscape, climate finance, cash transaction
- 6 processes and procedures, cybersecurity, private
- 7 equity replication, and even a primer on the
- 8 blockchain ecosystem. We had a primer on insider
- 9 trading and a training on external communication
- 10 protocols.
- 11 And those seminars were provided not
- only to PRIM Board and committee members, but to
- staff and clients as well. And they were very,
- 14 very well-received.
- Now, I did mention at the last board
- meeting that the list of non-investment projects
- 17 is longer than usual. And in fact, many of the
- 18 new projects during the fiscal year were
- 19 unexpected and unavoidable. These diversions of
- 20 resources came at a time obviously when the
- 21 markets were exceedingly turbulent. For example,
- 22 we spent approximately six weeks providing
- 23 technical assistance to the legislature, the
- 24 governor and the Treasurer's team in support of

- 1 the newly passed Russian divestment law.
- 2 Other resource-intensive and unexpected
- 3 projects include a PERAC audit, a state auditor's
- 4 audit. Those are in addition to our normal KPMG
- 5 audits of the PRIT Fund and PRIT and PRIM.
- We had a comprehensive IT security
- 7 review in light of the recent global uptick in
- 8 nefarious activities, support of the Attorney
- 9 General's lawsuit against ExxonMobil, support of
- 10 securities class action lawsuits on foreign
- 11 exchange trading, and support and response to
- 12 really what was an unprecedented level of media
- 13 requests and public information requests for
- matters related to our investment program, proxy
- voting policies, diversity, inclusion and ESG-
- 16 related matters.
- 17 And really, I'm proud of this team. The
- 18 focus and efforts of this team were nothing short
- of remarkable under the unique circumstances of
- the year. And we all must realize, and I've said
- this before for a few board cycles now, that PRIM
- is currently resource-constrained. We'll continue
- to recruit talent as approved by the board and
- encouraged by the board. And we will grow the

- 1 team as quickly and as responsibly as possible.
- 2 11 people last year. That's a lot. But it's no
- 3 small feat really in today's very challenging
- 4 employment environment.
- 5 So I couldn't be prouder of this team,
- 6 how we responded during what seemed like crisis
- 7 after crisis over the last years. And how we
- 8 overcame the challenges not only to deliver strong
- 9 investment performance in a difficult year, but
- 10 also extraordinary -- I believe extraordinary non-
- 11 investment innovation and responsiveness.
- 12 So I'm thankful to the entire PRIM staff
- and to you, our board and committee members, for
- 14 your support, dedication and hard work over what
- was a challenging year.
- Now, moving on to other organizational
- 17 updates. First, some late-breaking news that you
- haven't heard. I just mentioned the PERAC audit,
- and we just received word from PERAC that their
- audit of PRIM is complete, and there were no,
- 21 zero, findings. It was a clean audit.
- 22 The last sentence of the transmittal
- letter said, quote, "We commend the PRIM Board for
- its exemplary operation."

1 So thank you. Congratulations to the 2 entire team for this outcome, but especially 3 Qingmei Li, our director of audits and financial 4 reporting; Deb Coulter, our CFO; and of course 5 deputy executive director and COO Tony Falzone for 6 his leadership of the entire finance and 7 operations team. We all know that you're the best 8 in the business. 9 In the area of recognition, in June, 10 PRIM's private equity portfolio was ranked 11 number 3 among 176 U.S. public pension funds based 12 on 10-year performance by the American Investment 13 Council public pension study. And PRIM is the 14 only fund that has been in the top five every 15 single year this study's been conducted, including 16 number 1 rankings in 2019, 2018, 2015 and 2013. 17 Congratulations to Mike McGirr and your team on 18 that. 19 In July, *Institutional Investor* nominated PRIM as a finalist in the fifth annual 20 21 allocator's choice award in the partnership of the 22 year category. And this is for the MIT Sloan 23 Sustainability Initiative's Aggregate Confusion 24 Project, which I just mentioned. And we're

- 1 nominated along with MIT, MFS, AQR and Asset
- 2 Management One. Those are our partners. And this
- 3 is for, quote, "working to reduce the level of
- 4 noise in ESG measurement by improving data
- 5 available to managers and allocators."
- 6 Congratulations, Maria Garrahan and
- 7 everyone else working on ESG initiatives. I hope
- 8 we win that award later in the fall.
- 9 Next PRIM was awarded the Government
- 10 Finance Officer Association Certificate of
- 11 Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting
- for the 17th consecutive year. That's a strong
- testimony to the timeliness and transparency of
- our financial reporting. Another shout-out to the
- 15 excellent work of Qingmei and Deb Coulter.
- 16 Congratulations.
- 17 And then last month, in a reception in
- 18 New York City, very fun reception, I was honored
- 19 by the National Association of Investment
- 20 Companies, the NAIC, as an honorary co-chair of
- 21 the NAIC midsummer VIP reception.
- This organization serves the broader
- community of diverse alternative asset managers,
- and we've been involved with them for several

- 1 years now.
- This year's celebration, in the words of
- 3 its founder Robert Greene, quote, "was full of
- 4 champions and leaders who genuinely embrace the
- 5 ideals of inclusion, raising awareness of high-
- 6 performing diverse managers, or otherwise serving
- 7 as examples of remarkable level of diverse talent
- 8 in the industry," unquote.
- 9 So it was a very fun and heartwarming
- 10 night. We also picked up lots of FUTURE
- 11 Initiative leads.
- No new employees since the last time we
- met, but we have welcomed six new interns who are
- 14 different affinity groups such as the Treasurer's
- Women in Finance Fellowship, Girls Who Invest, the
- 16 CFA Women in Investment Management Internship
- 17 Program as well.
- 18 All interns are diverse. Five of the
- 19 six are female. And it's really a great class of
- 20 interns this year. Christina Marcarelli, senior
- 21 investment officer and director of real estate
- debt, helps run the program with our director of
- human resources, Michelle Witkes.
- 24 Christina and I had lunch with this

- 1 class in the boardroom just a couple of weeks ago.
- 2 It was a ton of fun. They're energetic, bright,
- ambitious, and I think they've had a great summer
- 4 here. We've certainly enjoyed having them. It's
- 5 been very productive.
- 6 And last, another bit of new news since
- 7 the last time we met, Ellen Hennessy, our
- 8 compliance analyst responsible for all of our
- 9 proxy voting and also all of Public Records Act
- 10 requests, has announced her retirement starting in
- 11 September after 10 years at PRIM.
- We congratulate you, Ellen, and we thank
- 13 you for your hard work and dedication to really an
- ever-growing and more complex set of proxy votes
- and also an ever-growing set of information
- 16 requests. We wish you a very happy, healthy and
- 17 enjoyable retirement. You deserve it.
- Now, on to markets and PRIT Fund
- 19 performance. As you know, the markets were
- 20 challenged last fiscal year with a confluence of
- 21 worldwide issues that led to rising inflation,
- 22 higher interest rates and slowing growth.
- 23 But after a significant near 20 percent
- correction in worldwide equity markets during the

- 1 first half of the calendar year -- and by the way,
- 2 that was the worst first half in more than
- 3 50 years -- markets thankfully rebounded strongly
- 4 in the month of July and now into the third week
- 5 of August.
- 6 At the Investment Committee meeting two
- 7 weeks ago, we spoke at length about the rebound
- 8 coinciding with a peak in bond yields and some
- 9 encouraging signs that inflation, though still
- 10 very high, has begun to moderate. The main risks
- 11 going forward are very similar and familiar. The
- 12 risks are that inflation remains too high.
- 13 Consumer and business spending may falter, and
- 14 corporate earnings may weaken more than currently
- 15 anticipated.
- Reviewing the numbers, it's interesting.
- 17 I mention the fiscal year 2022 ending in June.
- 18 For that fiscal year, the 12-month period, the S&P
- 19 was down 10.6 percent. Now, in July and August
- 20 alone, the S&P is up 13.9 percent. So it's
- 21 already reversed.
- Developed international markets, that's
- 23 mainly Europe and Japan, were down 17.7 percent in
- the fiscal year 2022. And they've reversed, and

- 1 they're up 6.4 percent for the first two months,
- 2 July and August.
- 3 Emerging markets, that's predominantly
- 4 China, Southeast Asian and Latin America, down
- 5 25 percent for the fiscal year. They've reversed
- 6 a little, and they're up 2 percent in July and
- 7 August.
- 8 Diversified bonds, down 10 percent last
- 9 year, are up almost 2 percent this year. And a
- 10 60/40 mix, which I mentioned, was down 13 and a
- 11 half percent last year, fiscal year, is up
- 12 7.2 percent in the first two months of the new
- 13 fiscal year.
- Now, before reviewing performance, just
- 15 a quick review of recent economic data. As we
- indicated at the board and during the last cycle,
- 17 the main -- at the committee meetings, I mean --
- the main concern around the globe is still
- 19 economic growth. Global GDP growth has been
- 20 mixed, and all signs still point to lower growth
- 21 moving forward. The U.S. contracted in the most
- recent period, while China, Japan and Europe
- 23 actually expanded a little.
- 24 Inflation is accelerating or remains

- 1 elevated across the globe. The U.S. Fed and the
- 2 European Central Bank are the most aggressive in
- 3 raising rates to stem inflation, while China and
- 4 Japan remain more accommodative.
- 5 Focusing a little on the U.S., as you
- 6 know, U.S. GDP declined and annualized 0.9 percent
- 7 in Q2, and that follows a 1.6 percent drop in Q1.
- 8 Two straight quarters of decline. And economists
- 9 had expected the GDP to increase slightly in Q2,
- 10 so that was a disappointment.
- 11 U.S. Consumer Price Index, inflation
- really, a common measure of inflation, fell
- 13 slightly to 8 and a half percent in July from its
- peak in June of 9.1 percent. So that's good.
- 15 It's off its peak at least, but still it remains
- 16 very, very high.
- 17 The employment picture remains steady.
- 18 The U.S. employment rate fell to 3.5 percent in
- 19 July.
- 20 And of course, you know at its July
- 21 meeting, the Federal Reserve raised its federal
- funds rate by 75 basis points. That was the
- fourth consecutive rate hike here in the U.S. And
- 24 Chair Powell said that the next decisions will be

- 1 more data-dependent. So waiting to see on that.
- 2 Manufacturing and retail spending are
- 3 holding in there okay. They're not terrible, but
- 4 housing has weakened recently with rising prices
- of housing and obviously higher mortgage rates.
- 6 With that as an economic backdrop, at
- 7 the Investment Committee meeting two weeks ago,
- 8 both Jay Leu, our director of risk, and Connie
- 9 Everson, our Investment Committee member, spoke
- 10 about the current market environments.
- 11 And Jay pointed to several inflection
- 12 points since June. The elevated equity and bond
- market volatility as measured by the VIX and the
- 14 MOVE. They both moderated in July. Credit
- spreads, both investment grade and high yield,
- widened in the first half, but have since been
- 17 tightening. Sharply rising interest rates have
- been falling a little since mid-June, and
- inflation expectations as seen by the 10-year
- 20 breakeven fell 50 basis points in the second
- 21 quarter.
- Jay and Shannon also on the risk team
- are well-embedded within each asset class team to
- help assess portfolio risk. They attend the

- 1 investment manager due diligence meetings
- 2 regularly. And fortunately, they haven't
- 3 uncovered any material problems at this point with
- 4 our managers.
- 5 And in a bold conversation, you may
- 6 remember at the Investment Committee meeting,
- 7 Connie Everson, who is really our resident
- 8 economist and strategist, she made the case that
- 9 the bottom in the markets is already in. And I
- 10 believe that is a very strong and very interesting
- 11 nonconsensus view.
- 12 She highlighted that Chair Powell's
- comments at the Fed, at the meeting last month,
- were what Connie described as a game changer, as
- the Fed now believes we are near the neutral
- interest rate level necessary to tame inflation.
- 17 She suggested that the bond market has
- 18 peaked and has stopped paying attention to the Fed
- and has started to pay more attention to the
- economy, and so far, in her words, the economy
- 21 remains relatively stable.
- Remember, the last time we met, the
- biggest fear was that the Fed would overshoot.
- Now the bond market is measured by bond futures as

- 1 pricing in just a few more small rate hikes. And
- then next year, the market is actually pricing in
- 3 rate cuts.
- 4 So Connie acknowledged that the economic
- 5 downturn is already upon us, but she believes that
- 6 the slowdown actually doesn't matter, that Q3 GDP
- 7 print won't matter that much. She asserted that a
- 8 credible peak in bond yields is now in, with a
- 9 slowdown already under way. Commodity prices such
- 10 as oil and wheat have backed off. The dollar has
- 11 stopped rising, and the repo market is still
- 12 functioning well. That's an indication that
- dollar liquidity, liquidity in general, is not a
- 14 problem.
- 15 All of those things Connie believes
- creates a much better outlook for the markets,
- 17 again a very positive outlook.
- Now, I speak to Connie frequently. And
- 19 I first spoke to her about this nonconsensus view
- in early June, well before the move in the
- 21 markets. And really I remain impressed that the
- 22 market rebound in July and so far in August have
- confirmed her predictions that she made in early
- 24 June.

1 Of course the main risk is that 2 inflation spikes again or remains very high. Q3 3 growth and corporate earnings could be much worse 4 than expected. Let's hope not. 5 But please be assured that we don't 6 trade and we don't adjust the portfolio on any 7 projections of the future. You're well-aware of 8 our philosophy. I've said it many times. Many of 9 you could probably repeat it. 10 But it's still nice to hear an 11 optimistic view from a very credible source of 12 ours with a very strong track record too. I hope 13 she's right, but as I mentioned at the outset in 14 my remarks, no matter how the future unfolds, I'm 15 confident that the PRIT Fund will perform well. 16 It's carefully constructed to perform well in a 17 variety of different market conditions as we've 18 proven in the last two years and over longer 19 history too. 20 I'll stop there, take any questions 21 before quickly going through the performance 22 slides. 23 Any questions?

TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there any

24

- 1 questions for Michael?
- As usual, Michael, you were very
- 3 thorough.
- 4 MR. TROTSKY: I can go through the
- 5 performance slides, just to get it on the record.
- 6 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Yes. Please do
- 7 since we do have some --
- 8 MR. TROTSKY: Tony, do you want to pull
- 9 those up? Next page.
- 10 So this shows our annual returns as of
- 11 June 30. The PRIT Fund was down 3 percent for the
- 12 fiscal year, as I mentioned. That's down
- 13 3.4 percent net of all fees and now stands at
- 14 \$92.4 billion. That was an investment loss of
- 15 3.2 billion, but an outperformance of 1.5 percent
- or 1.4 billion above a benchmark return.
- 17 Net outflows were somewhat unusual this
- 18 year. We only had net outflows of \$30 million for
- the year. Usually they're between one and one and
- 20 a half billion dollars. I mentioned before, that
- 21 was primarily a result of a couple of pension bond
- issuances by our clients. And we receive those
- pension bond proceeds which offset net outflows.
- You can also see that the 3-, 5- and 10-

- 1 year numbers were all very strong and above
- benchmark.
- Next slide. As I mentioned, private
- 4 equity, real estate and timberland led the way,
- 5 very strong performance. Up in the twenties for
- 6 real estate and private equity, and over
- 7 11 percent for timberland. Global equities and
- 8 fixed income on the right, the weakest asset
- 9 classes, as I mentioned.
- 10 All asset classes either outperformed or
- 11 were in line with their benchmarks.
- 12 Next slide. A little more detail for
- the year. On the left, you can see what did well,
- 14 private equity, real estate, timberland.
- 15 On the right, bonds, equities in
- 16 general. Emerging market debt is the farthest on
- 17 the right. Emerging markets equities hit very
- hard. Interestingly, a 60/40 mix of stocks and
- 19 bond down 13 and a half percent.
- 20 And the PRIT Fund fared better. In the
- 21 middle in orange, you can see it was down
- 22 3 percent.
- 23 And the favorite slide of mine, the
- quilt chart, you can see what drives the bus here

- 1 at PRIM. Private equity leads the way over all
- time periods. Real estate, a very strong
- 3 performer. Global equities more volatile. In
- 4 this year, portfolio completion strategies, which
- 5 is mostly hedge funds, really helped buffer the
- 6 volatility in the equity markets and bond markets.
- 7 So that's the performance. Happy to
- 8 take any questions before moving to the next
- 9 agenda item.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Again, any
- 11 questions for Michael?
- Hearing none, Michael, we might as well
- go on to the executive director fiscal year 2022
- 14 performance evaluation and fiscal year 2023 goals
- 15 and objectives.
- 16 This is where I turn it over -- it is a
- 17 voting item. However, I turn it over to my good
- 18 friend Bob Brousseau.
- Bob, you need to unmute, though, because
- 20 we know you have terrific things to say. And then
- I'll plan on adding to that when you're done.
- 22 MR. BROUSSEAU: Okay. Thank you, Madam
- 23 Chair.
- 24 Fortunately, I guess, Michael did a lot

- 1 of what I'm probably going to repeat today in
- 2 terms of the evaluation of the executive director
- 3 that we do annually and of course which is
- 4 required.
- 5 But first of all, let me say, as the
- 6 Treasurer has said many times, this is perhaps
- 7 Michael's least favorite day. And I would say
- 8 that after 12 years --
- 9 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Actually also the
- 10 day that we do executive compensation is -- that's
- 11 his least favorite. This is his second-to-least
- 12 favorite.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Okay. Second. Okay.
- 14 Well, after 12 years, Michael, I'm sure
- 15 you are now used to the whole process and what
- 16 we're doing. So I will just I guess ask you to
- 17 sit back, relax and enjoy it because certainly
- there are not going to be any surprises here
- 19 today. And I'm sure that everything we heard
- today is a far cry from what you were hearing
- 21 earlier in the year.
- But anyway, just a little bit about the
- 23 process. As you probably know, we get new people
- serving on committees. The board people have been

- 1 around for quite a while, but the annual
- 2 evaluation is an open session. State law requires
- 3 that our evaluation of the executive director be
- 4 held in open session.
- 5 My role as a board person, as chairman
- of the Admin and Audit Committee, is simply to
- 7 coordinate the process and present a report to the
- 8 board. I do not evaluate the executive director.
- 9 Mine is one of nine trustees who do this. But I
- 10 must coordinate and present something to you so
- 11 you can either agree or you can further meet with
- 12 Michael. Your participation in this is certainly
- encouraged and appreciated.
- 14 Michael's self-evaluation was sent to
- the board and to the committee members on August
- 16 the 2nd. And it was sent for your information and
- 17 hopefully your participation.
- 18 Your participation is certainly
- optional. There is no rule that says you had to
- 20 fill out a form, either the form that is used as a
- 21 discussion guide, or you did not have to contact
- 22 me. You could wait until today to do this
- evaluation verbally at the end of my report, or
- 24 you could participate in it.

1	We encourage people to participate in it
2	because at least it gives me something to tell you
3	about Michael and also to lead this discussion, if
4	there is a discussion at the end of the report.
5	So I encourage board members to further
6	comment at the conclusion of this report.
7	So all evaluations serve, as we know, to
8	improve performance. And that should be the goal
9	of all performance is to improve performance. I
10	know probably some would say can we do better than
11	we have been doing now because we are near total
12	perfection from what I can hear the reports that
13	Michael has given us.
14	But first of all, I'd like to thank the
15	board and committee members for their part in this
16	process. Thirteen people participated in
17	Michael's evaluation, five board members and eight
18	committee members. And I believe that is the same
19	number who participated in this process last year.
20	This evaluation is used later this year
21	in November by the Compensation Committee to
22	recommend the compensation for the executive
23	director for the coming year.
24	In terms of the evaluation, Michael's

- 1 evaluation this year is the same as last year. In
- other words, it's the same as last year, the same
- 3 as the year before that, the same as the year
- 4 before that, and the same as the year before that.
- 5 Actually, as far back as I can recall, Michael's
- 6 evaluation has been outstanding, and I would tell
- 7 you just all of the 13 replies that I received or
- 8 evaluations all stated basically the same thing,
- 9 that his evaluation is outstanding.
- 10 A challenging year for Michael, for our
- 11 staff and for PRIM definitely. In fact, as the
- 12 year started last spring when Michael gave his
- report in March and again in June, I was reminded
- 14 a little bit of the classic novel, *The Tale of Two*
- 15 *Cities*. It begins, "It was the best of times; it
- 16 was the worst of times."
- 17 And as we looked at the year last year,
- we were, at the end of the year, a 30 percent
- 19 return. We were nearing \$100 billion in assets.
- The pandemic appeared to be abating a little bit.
- Then came 2022, and as Michael told us
- at one of the meetings, the world apparently
- turned upside down on us. Market volatility. The
- 24 effects of the pandemic caused political and

- 1 economic malaise. Russia's invasion of the
- 2 Ukraine. Geopolitical tensions around the world.
- The worst inflation in 40 years, and more and more
- 4 that we could list.
- 5 But that said, Michael and his amazing
- 6 staff, and he refers to them as his amazing staff,
- 7 continued to innovate and guide us through these
- 8 difficult times. And your evaluation did bear
- 9 this out.
- 10 As I looked through all these
- 11 evaluations, I tried to pick out some qualities
- that did appear in all of the evaluations that
- people gave him. And I just want to mention a few
- of these qualities, and there were quite a few of
- 15 them.
- 16 Michael's management style does have
- 17 certain qualities that the more you work with him,
- the more you realize not only Michael, but the
- 19 staff also, he is a leader. And we do know that
- 20 leadership starts at the top. And these
- 21 leadership skills were expressed in just about all
- 22 of the evaluations that I saw.
- Another one, his collaboration. His
- collaboration with staff, his collaboration with

- our managers, his collaboration with board
- 2 members, committee members is superb.
- 3 Also his vision. A good leader has a
- 4 vision for the organization. And he certainly has
- a vision, and he has kept the vision intact.
- 6 He is supportive. His communication
- 7 skills are excellent. You heard that this
- 8 morning.
- Another one was unique, I thought.
- 10 Inclusivity. And Michael is an inclusive person,
- and I think that bodes well for the successes that
- we've experienced here at PRIM.
- He is creative, and his expertise is
- tremendous. His innovation. Another one here,
- ethical. Michael is an extremely ethical person,
- and he **ex**udes this with all of the people that he
- works with.
- Also one can say his dedication to the
- organization and to PRIM is above reproach.
- Now, in terms of initiatives, we saw
- this past year and people mentioned there in
- evaluations the FUTURE Initiative that David has
- been working on just about all of this year, the
- diversity and inclusion of staff, and as we have

- 1 seen here, the implementation of the investment
- 2 equity law that the Treasurer worked so diligently
- on and getting passed into legislature is being,
- 4 as we see here, applied here at PRIM very
- 5 successfully.
- 6 As Michael said today -- what was it?
- 7 61 percent of our staff is now diverse.
- 8 52 percent of the staff are female. This is just
- 9 an example of how we are moving in this area of
- 10 diversity and also with our investments.
- 11 The ESG initiative, the Sloan School
- 12 collaboration and the Russian divestment that they
- had to deal with after the legislature by
- 14 legislation said we had to divest our holdings in
- Russia, which as we know at one point could have
- been as much as \$240 million, this was done, and
- 17 it was done as quickly as possible. And again, I
- 18 say we have to attribute that not only to our
- 19 staff, but again to Michael's vision as to what
- 20 has to be done here.
- 21 We heard today about the *Institutional*
- 22 Investor awards. Three were brought out, how PRIM
- continues to get these awards. Michael is
- recognized. And this just adds of course I think

- 1 to his standard, not only that, but his standing
- 2 here at PRIM and also in the investment world.
- 3 He mentioned the audits, the audits,
- 4 something we know are going to come, but they came
- 5 unannounced this year. The PERAC audit. The
- 6 audit from the state auditor. These were handled.
- 7 Again, all the requirements that have been put on
- 8 staff. And staff, as well as Michael, were able
- 9 to handle this very, very successfully.
- 10 We heard of the seminars and the board
- 11 education, committee education program throughout
- 12 the year. Another example. With all of this
- going on in the world, Michael and the staff was
- able to continue with this and to help PRIM to
- 15 grow.
- 16 PRIM staff has grown. They on-boarded
- 17 11 new people in the past year. We now have
- 18 55 people on staff, and hopefully there will be at
- 19 least half a dozen more hired this year also.
- 20 What I would like to do actually is to
- share with you some of the commentary. I think
- 22 that people get used to that. You're saying,
- well, probably Bob has exaggerated some of this.
- And just to give you an idea of some of the

- 1 comments that were made, I've got a few of them
- 2 here, probably seven or eight that I would like to
- 3 share with you.
- 4 Here's one that came and says from one
- of the evaluators, said, "We are still producing
- 6 superior returns in today's very challenging
- 7 market. Our returns place us in the top tier when
- 8 compared with our peers."
- 9 And this person also at the end said
- 10 that he had been reading an article how someone
- 11 was honored by their peers. And it referred to
- the person as a gold standard. And this person
- said, "I view that Michael Trotsky is the gold
- 14 standard for other executive directors here to
- 15 emulate." And I think that was certainly an honor
- 16 for Michael.
- 17 Another one of the evaluations, I'm
- trying to pull these out here as they came to me,
- 19 stated, "While Michael always correctly credits
- 20 his staff for PRIM's successes, his leadership of
- 21 that staff has always been critical to its
- 22 success."
- And the person gave some examples over
- the last year of what Michael has been able to

- 1 accomplish. Here are some. The creation of the 2 PRIM ESG committee. Shepherding a huge growth of
- 3 the PRIT Fund in fiscal year 2021 to \$95 billion.
- 4 Continuing to foster a true sense of team at PRIM.
- 5 Continuing in a very collaborative relationship
- 6 with Treasurer Goldberg. Further developing
- 7 PRIM's research relationship with the MIT Sloan
- 8 School on ESG investing. Continuing the expansion
- 9 of diversity of our PRIM staff. Continuing
- 10 successful retention of PRIM staff. Once more
- 11 presiding over national recognition of PRIM and
- 12 PRIM staff for outstanding achievements. And
- continued success of Phase II of Project SAVE.
- 14 Another evaluation states, "I think
- 15 Michael continues to do an outstanding job. We
- are lucky to have him. He has helped shape an
- impressive culture at PRIM, a culture of
- 18 collaboration that I assume will positively impact
- 19 returns over time. Relative to diversity and ESG,
- which are two topics which many funds are focused
- on, I think Michael has approached those topics in
- 22 a distinctive and creative way. I observed many
- leaders during my career, and Michael is one of
- the best I have seen."

1	And another comment stated that "The
2	pace of non-investment projects combined with
3	unusual market volatility can create strains on
4	the organization and particular staff that needs
5	to be understood and, if possible, planned for in
6	the time ahead. I am not aware of any specific
7	complaints. This observation is more of a
8	concern, as we have been in unusual times."
9	And this I said the idea that Michael
10	has told us how the strains and the extreme amount
11	of extra work that has been placed on our staff
12	during this very difficult period.
13	"PRIM, in my view, has been remarkably
14	successful in recruiting and on-boarding 11 new
15	full-time PRIM employees in the past 12 months. I
16	continue to be pleased, perhaps even amazed, at
17	the knowledge and experience of those I have met
18	and how they seem to fit into the team.
19	"The past year has been challenging for
20	everyone at PRIM, and Michael's continued
21	successful leadership has been very important to
22	the favorable results."
23	Another one stated, "Michael's broad
24	knowledge and attention to detail, combined with

- 1 his comprehensive vision and support of staff, has
- 2 kept PRIM as a top performer, even in a down
- 3 market in fiscal year 2022 and surely at the top
- 4 of the peer group.
- 5 "I take great pride as a PRIM Board
- 6 member in Michael's leadership and in the PRIM
- 7 staff, all of whom have worked so hard and so
- 8 smart in a very difficult investment environment."
- 9 Another evaluation highlighted four
- areas of Michael's: his performance, people,
- 11 communications, strategy and leadership. And in
- all of these, stated, "Not only does performance
- continue to be terrific, but the methodology, the
- process and the discipline continue to be superb,
- 15 giving us all comfort that what we're doing is
- 16 logical and repeatable."
- 17 Another one of the people, "Mike
- 18 continues to manage a complex organization towards
- more capabilities and better people. It's been a
- struggle to do this, but yet Michael has done it
- 21 very, very well."
- 22 And communications, "Mike is a
- consummate communicator, and he needs that skill
- because his constituencies are very different from

- 1 each other and guite numerous. Mike now
- 2 communicates with PRIM's beneficiaries and
- 3 clients, the state government, the Treasurer's
- 4 Office, the internal staff, the investment
- 5 industry, regulators and his own governance
- 6 committees, just to name a few."
- 7 And in strategy and leadership, "In an
- 8 ever more complex world, Mike continues to
- 9 catapult PRIM to strategic and thought
- 10 leadership."
- 11 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is it my turn, Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: No. I'm just going to
- conclude, I guess, in about two minutes, Madam
- 14 Treasurer, but these -- they're all the same, and
- 15 I just wanted to take about two or three more.
- 16 "I reviewed the discussion guide, and in
- my opinion, he exceeds expectation and outstanding
- in all areas. I would say the following about
- 19 Michael. I have the utmost confidence and respect
- 20 for him in the role of executive director. The
- 21 beneficiaries of this fund are lucky to have such
- 22 a great mind protecting their retirement security,
- 23 especially during volatile times."
- 24 And there were several more, and they

- 1 are all saying the very same thing in terms of
- 2 Michael's evaluation.
- 3 So having said that, Madam Treasurer,
- 4 I'm going to conclude this. I know I probably
- 5 spent a little too long, but I think for the
- 6 record, I think that it is noteworthy that when
- 7 the board does evaluate Michael, and with all that
- 8 he has done, I think it's important that the
- 9 record show that this is stated by people he works
- 10 with, especially the board people and the
- 11 committee people.
- 12 And at this point, I am going to turn it
- back to you now so that if any members of the
- 14 board have any further comments or would like to
- do their own evaluations, they can do so. Okay.
- 16 It is yours, before we go on to the goals and
- 17 objectives.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Well, first of all,
- 19 Michael, is there a reason why you've turned
- 20 multiple shades of red in the last 10 minutes?
- 21 Michael, as you know, Bob and other
- 22 members of the board, actually becomes a little
- bit embarrassed when we go on and on about his
- 24 performance. But I feel compelled to reiterate

- 1 many of the things that Bob quoted in comments
- 2 from other members of the board and the
- 3 subcommittees.
- 4 I was trying to remember this morning
- 5 just how many times I've gone through this, but in
- 6 December, Michael, you and I will have known each
- 7 other eight years, and I can say unequivocably
- 8 that you as an individual, as an executive
- 9 director, as a CIO, have continued to grow
- 10 tremendously in the role that you are in.
- 11 Using the word "exceed expectations," I
- 12 always had very high expectations of you, as you
- have of yourself. And that's something that I
- think that we're very fortunate, that you don't
- rest on your laurels, that your strategies make a
- 16 great deal of sense. You support superlative
- individuals within your organization, and that is
- 18 the key to success.
- How you choose, how you lead and how you
- support, beyond all of the items mentioned by Bob
- and others in their comments. And to me, that is
- an example of success. And when we say "exceeded
- 23 expectations," I know for a fact that you will
- continue to raise the bar for yourself every

- 1 single year.
- 2 And consequently, I just want to
- 3 reiterate everything that's been said before. I
- 4 don't think we need to go any further.
- I want to share with those who aren't as
- 6 familiar with Michael's and my working
- 7 relationship that it is open communication at all
- 8 times and that when my office -- and we have my
- 9 head of policy and legislative affairs on this
- 10 call. I also see my first deputy is on this call.
- 11 We work collaboratively. And in
- 12 particular keeping PRIM and its strategies on a
- 13 constant trajectory upward and working with
- 14 individuals within the organization, who are all
- so incredibly talented.
- So with that, I will turn it back in
- terms of looking at goals and objectives for the
- 18 following year, but keep up the good work. I know
- that you will be able to sustain us through
- whatever volatility and uncertainty that we have,
- 21 moving through the next year. And we've done it
- before. Knock wood, we will do it again, and we
- will do it together.
- So go ahead, Bob, move on to goals and

- 1 objectives unless there's anyone else who wants to
- 2 add anything. And that will be a voting item.
- 3 MR. BROUSSEAU: I think if any board
- 4 people because it is their evaluation, if they
- 5 want to just complete --
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Absolutely, though
- 7 I did say that.
- 8 MR. BROUSSEAU: They can be recognized
- 9 so they can do that.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Anybody want to add
- 11 to this?
- 12 MR. BROUSSEAU: I'm going to add a
- message for Michael. One of the evaluations says
- that this person hopes that you are definitely
- 15 here for at least another decade.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: We have a deal
- 17 going on. I'm staying; he's staying.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Okay.
- 19 MR. NAUGHTON: Madam Chairman, I'd just
- 20 like to say a word, if I may.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Absolutely.
- MR. NAUGHTON: You know, with all of
- those very superlative things that have been said
- 24 about Michael, I'm not going to repeat any of

- 1 those because I share them wholeheartedly. But
- the one thing that strikes me is -- and I've been
- around the block a few times at my age. I would
- 4 observe that Michael is one of the most even-
- 5 demeanored people that I know, had the pleasure to
- 6 know. And regardless of what the market or
- 7 politics or anything else has thrown his way, he
- 8 never, never shakes his approach, which is
- 9 positive, which has a sense of humor in it when
- 10 needed, and which I think provides the basis for
- 11 his superlative leadership of our wonderful staff.
- 12 And I just want to conclude my remarks
- by saying, oh, if only the Red Sox had somebody
- 14 like him.
- Thank you.
- MR. TROTSKY: So thank you very much,
- 17 everyone, Treasurer Goldberg, Bob, Dennis, and
- many others who have availed themselves of the
- 19 opportunity to speak with me, took time out of
- their busy schedules to make appointments, phone
- calls, in-person, to speak with me about the
- 22 performance evaluation. I appreciate that very
- 23 much.
- It is very embarrassing to me, but also

- 1 your sentiments are heartfelt, and they mean the
- world to me. It's great to have everyone's
- 3 confidence going forward in what I think may be
- 4 some challenging times ahead. We'll see.
- 5 But more than anything, I have to call
- 6 out the staff. We're lucky to have assembled a
- 7 group that in the words of many of you and myself
- 8 is second to none, not only in the pension fund
- 9 industry, but in the entire investment management
- 10 industry.
- 11 And it's an absolute pleasure to come to
- work every day to be with them, to see them work,
- to see the passion, drive and dedication, frankly,
- 14 to our mission here.
- So they are the people that do all the
- 16 work. I may be the conductor, but they're doing
- 17 all the work, and they're fantastic at their jobs.
- Now, the one thing that I've heard loud
- and clear and is resonating is that there's always
- 20 room to improve. And I do believe that. And we
- 21 try to do that every year.
- You may remember that long ago in my
- career at Intel, I was mentored and got to meet
- and be trained or indoctrinated, if you will, by

- 1 the late great Andy Grove, who was the founder of
- 2 Intel. I met him. It was a privilege of my life
- 3 to meet him, but he wrote the book called *Only the*
- 4 Paranoid Survive. That's the number 1 thing that
- 5 guides me.
- 6 The number 2 thing that guides me is a
- 7 famous quote from the also late great college
- 8 football coach Joe Paterno of Penn State. And he
- 9 said once, and it resonates, I think about all the
- 10 time, "If you're not getting better, you're
- 11 getting worse."
- 12 So those are kind of our philosophies in
- terms of management here. And I think everyone
- 14 agrees that there's always room to improve. We're
- 15 looking around the organization at ourselves, at
- myself, every single day. We take feedback from
- 17 coaches, board members, committee members, to try
- to improve our performance every year. And you
- 19 have a guarantee that we will continue to do that
- and not rest on our laurels, Treasurer Goldberg.
- 21 So thank you so much for really another
- heartwarming and very meaningful review.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Treasurer Goldberg, I
- guess the next part of this is the approval of

- 1 Michael's goals for 2023, and they're found in
- 2 Appendix D of the agenda, of the expanded agenda.
- 3 And it is a voting item.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: That is correct.
- 5 MR. TROTSKY: Right.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: So I will seek a
- 7 motion and a second that we approve Michael
- 8 Trotsky's fiscal year 2023 goals and objectives.
- 9 Is there a motion?
- 10 MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 11 MS. FITCH: So moved.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- MR. NAUGHTON: Second.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there any
- 15 questions or comments on --
- MR. TROTSKY: I just have a few
- 17 comments. I'll be quick.
- The goals --
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: I just want to
- share with those visually, if you can see. This
- 21 is the writeup, and so Michael put a lot of
- thought into what he is going to be doing and
- thinking about in the next year.
- 24 MR. TROTSKY: Right. And I assure you I

- 1 won't go into all those pages.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: We didn't think you
- 3 would, and I just wanted to let people know, this
- 4 is not a one-page --
- 5 MR. TROTSKY: Yes.
- 6 The goals and objectives really for
- fiscal 2023 are very consistent with past years.
- 8 They include things like consistently
- 9 outperforming the PRIM benchmark, ensuring that
- 10 staffing levels are appropriate, high standards of
- 11 job conduct for everyone, communications, et
- 12 cetera.
- 13 What's new this year is what I will
- 14 highlight. And number 1 is no surprise, but a new
- 15 goal and objective is to establish and support the
- new ESG committee, which you will be voting on
- 17 today.
- 18 And also a new one on here is to
- successfully implement the FUTURE Initiative,
- 20 continue to be successful there.
- In addition, in terms of human relations
- and diversity and inclusion, we are going to
- complete another pay equity study this year. We
- 24 did it I believe three years ago, and we're due

- 1 for it again this year.
- We're going to continue our advocacy
- 3 work alone and also with the CFA Institute's
- 4 Global Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
- on their code of conduct, something I helped
- 6 create, feel passionate about, and we do advocate
- 7 for.
- 8 And then last, as we mentioned several
- 9 times already this morning and in the past, we are
- 10 resource-constrained. We're 55 people strong over
- 11 two floors here at 84 State Street. We have plans
- to grow, at your urging and at the board's
- approval to grow staff, and we are currently out
- of space.
- So a major goal of this year is to
- 16 complete a review of our office space suitability.
- 17 And also we're looking seriously at other options
- so that we can all be on one floor rather than two
- 19 or three. Better for collaboration and better for
- 20 economics. And we'll be getting back to you with
- 21 plans on office space suitability and a possible
- 22 move.
- That's it. Those are really the key
- 24 differences from last year.

- 1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: So are there any
- 2 other questions or comments from other members of
- 3 the board?
- 4 All right. Then we will proceed with
- 5 the roll call vote.
- 6 Bob?
- 7 MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- 9 MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- 11 MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?
- MR. MONACO: Yes.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- 17 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- MS. ROSE: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
- 21 MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 23 motion carries.
- 24 Okay then. Moving right along.

1 Congratulations, Michael. 2 We will move on to the diverse 3 investment manager, which is the FUTURE 4 Initiative, and this is an update. It is not a 5 voting item. 6 MR. GURTZ: That's right. Good morning, 7 everybody. I'm David Gurtz, here to give you a 8 very brief update on our FUTURE Initiative and the 9 activities over the last six months in particular. 10 I think Tony's going to show a slide 2 11 I'll just talk about this slide very 12 briefly. 13 First, we continue to allocate capital 14 to diverse managers. In the fist half of 2022, 15 PRIM allocated or committed over \$1 billion to 16 diverse investment managers. And today, as 17 Michael mentioned, staff is recommending another 18 \$750 million to diverse managers. 19 In addition, our \$1 billion emerging-20 diverse manager program, which is specifically 21 designed to reduce barriers for diverse managers, 22 is up and running. To date, our managers of 23 managers, which include Xponance, Bivium, 24 Cambridge Associates and Hamilton Lane, have

- 1 invested \$230 million with nine emerging-diverse
- 2 managers in four different asset classes. And
- 3 each asset class team is holding monthly meetings
- 4 with these manager of managers to discuss their
- 5 pipelines and potential next investments.
- And at the last meeting, we recommended
- 7 committing to Insight Partners Vision Fund II.
- 8 This is a fund dedicated to investing in
- 9 emerging-diverse venture capital managers. And
- 10 PRIM's \$30 million commitment makes us one of the
- 11 largest limited partners in this very unique fund.
- So in just in a few months, we've made
- great progress on this exciting and new program.
- We're off to a great start. We've got more to
- 15 come, lots more in the pipeline. So expect more
- 16 updates in the future.
- 17 Outside of investing, we continue to
- 18 enhance DEI reporting. As Michael announced
- 19 earlier, PRIM became a founding signatory and
- 20 champion of the CFA Institute's DEI code. Signing
- 21 this DEI code means we as an organization are
- committed to embracing its core principles to
- improve our workforce and the industry.
- In addition, later this fall, Lenox Park

- 1 Solutions will conduct our second annual DEI
- 2 survey of our investment managers. This survey of
- our managers' DEI metrics allows us to track the
- 4 efforts and progress our managers are making to
- 5 improve the diversity within their own
- 6 organizations.
- 7 And this information also helps us
- 8 prepare our annual report to the legislation,
- 9 detailing our progress toward the legislation's
- 10 goals. PRIM prepared and submitted our first
- 11 annual report to the legislation in January of
- 12 this year.
- And finally, we continue to improve our
- sourcing of diverse managers by getting the word
- out that PRIM is open to working with diverse
- 16 managers. We continue to highlight the FUTURE
- 17 Initiative at conferences and in the press.
- 18 And it seems to be working as diverse
- managers are telling us and our advisors that they
- appreciate the initiative and the opportunity to
- 21 possibly work with PRIM.
- And I think one example of this, as
- 23 Michael mentioned earlier, was him being invited
- by the NAIC, which is the largest network of

- 1 diverse-owned alternative investment management
- 2 firms, to be an honorary co-chair of their
- 3 midsummer VIP event, which took place a few weeks
- 4 ago.
- 5 And again, as Michael mentioned at the
- 6 event, he met with many diverse firms, and we've
- 7 added a number of them to our pipeline of diverse
- 8 managers.
- 9 So we expect the second half of 2022 to
- 10 be just as productive as we continue to make
- 11 progress on the four keys to the FUTURE
- 12 Initiative. We'll continue to allocate capital to
- diverse managers, as I mentioned. Today we're
- recommending \$750 million to be invested by
- 15 diverse managers.
- 16 We'll continue allocating capital to the
- 17 emerging-diverse manager program, which directly
- 18 reduces barriers for diverse firms. We continue
- 19 to enhance DEI data and reporting. Lenox Park
- 20 will survey our managers again this fall, and
- 21 we'll complete by mid-January our second annual
- legislative report on the progress we are making
- towards the goals set forth in the legislation.
- And finally, we continue to get the word

- 1 out to improve our sourcing and pipeline of
- diverse managers.
- 3 So a quick, brief update, and happy to
- 4 answer any questions, if you have any.
- 5 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there questions
- 6 for David? At all?
- 7 Okay. Thank you so much.
- 8 And David, Chuck LaPosta and I actually
- 9 had a very fascinating conversation this week with
- one of the new investment managers. What was
- 11 interesting is they were not aware of the degree
- of work that has been done since 2014 in this
- space for not only PRIM, but all of Treasury.
- 14 So they were fascinated by it and I
- think very pleasantly surprised.
- 16 Wouldn't you agree?
- MR. GURTZ: Absolutely. Yes.
- 18 TREASURER GOLDBERG: It was kind of an
- interesting meeting.
- 20 MR. GURTZ: Yes. It was, it was.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: They thought they
- were going to share some information with us.
- 23 MR. GURTZ: The other way around, I
- 24 think.

- 1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: But anyway, it goes
- 2 to show how committed and passionate they are.
- And one thing that made us feel very confident was
- 4 their constant emphasis in outperformance.
- 5 MR. GURTZ: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: So we were happy
- 7 with the fact that they focused on the critical
- 8 thing for PRIM, which is their performance.
- 9 MR. GURTZ: Absolutely. Yes.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: With that, if there
- are no other questions, we can move on to our
- investment report, beginning with public markets.
- MR. McELROY: Great. Thank you, Madam
- 14 Treasurer.
- This is Michael McElroy. Let me just
- make a few comments on the public market returns
- in addition to kind of what's been talked about
- already, as well as how we performed relative to
- 19 these markets.
- As you know, the public markets, the
- 21 equities and the bonds represent about 60 percent
- of the PRIT Fund. And given its diversification,
- we expect it should weather market environments
- like we've seen. Certainly the last two quarters

- 1 have been challenging. We saw both equities and
- 2 bonds down at the same time.
- First let me comment on the equities
- 4 side and then shift over to the fixed income
- 5 environment.
- 6 So in the second quarter, we certainly
- 7 saw the acceleration of behaviors that we observed
- 8 in the first quarter. As noted, the developed
- 9 markets declined between 15 and 16 percent.
- 10 Emerging markets were actually a bit
- 11 stronger. They only declined about 12 percent,
- and that was really due to China having a pretty
- strong snap back, up 3 percent in the quarter,
- 14 though for the entire fiscal year, China was very
- weak. Down 32 percent for the fiscal year.
- 16 For the whole fiscal year, as noted, the
- developed and emerging markets returns were
- 18 negative. The aggregate global equity was down
- 19 about 16 percent.
- Value or cheaper stocks outperformed the
- growthier or more expensive stocks in all markets
- in the second quarter. We saw this shift start
- last year. We do expect it to continue, and we'll
- talk about that with some manager recommendations

- 1 after this update.
- 2 On a benchmark-relative basis, we
- 3 performed in line in the second quarter. Our U.S.
- 4 managers slightly outperformed. Our non-U.S.
- 5 managers in aggregate slightly underperformed.
- And that's mostly due to weaker performance from
- 7 our growth-oriented managers.
- 8 And for the full fiscal year, we saw a
- 9 similar profile with the U.S. managers slightly
- 10 ahead, the developed international managers
- 11 lagging and our emerging managers in line.
- So even with the mixed performance that
- we saw, the diversification, both by manager and
- style, kept the overall global equity performance
- in line with its benchmarks, albeit negative
- 16 benchmark returns.
- 17 From an interest rate perspective,
- interest rates were higher across the yield curve,
- 19 and credit spreads did widen in the second
- 20 quarter, both compared to last quarter as well as
- 21 to a year ago.
- 22 So this increase in rates certainly
- impacted performance in both our core and our
- value-added fixed income portfolio. Though

- 1 absolute returns were negative by between 4 and
- 7 percent, on a benchmark-relative basis, the core
- 3 fixed income performed in line, and our value-
- 4 added fixed income, more of the credit-oriented
- 5 and emerging markets, slightly underperformed.
- 6 And though the credit spreads widened,
- 7 they still remain below the long-term averages and
- 8 really far from levels that we saw in either 2008
- 9 during the global financial crisis or in the early
- 10 parts of 2020 when the pandemic struck.
- 11 So there has been an increase in high-
- 12 yield bonds trading at what we'd call distressed
- 13 levels. However, default rates remain near
- 14 historic lows, and it's certainly something we
- 15 continue to monitor.
- As we mentioned last quarter, inflation
- 17 continues to be a major theme. Though the current
- headline inflation rate just below 9 percent is
- 19 higher than the last quarter, the longer term
- 20 inflation expectations are still running at around
- 21 2.5 percent. Inverted yield curve, where the
- rates on the shorter maturities tend to be higher
- than the longer maturities, this can often portend
- a recession so we're asking our managers about

- 1 their views on the duration and the potential
- depth of this, as well as how they're positioning
- for a rebound, which inevitably will come, and
- 4 maybe we're in the midst of that right now.
- 5 Common themes related to inflation are
- 6 around the impact of energy prices and labor costs
- 7 and the ability of companies to be able to kind of
- 8 work through that in terms of being able to
- 9 increase prices to offset some of those pressures.
- 10 Though company fundamentals remain
- strong, from what we hear from our managers, they
- are expecting a bit of a turn over the next one to
- two quarters.
- 14 And in terms of positioning and
- portfolio characteristics, managers have been
- 16 reducing duration of the fixed income portfolios,
- though as these assets have sold off, managers are
- now starting to see some value in those longer
- duration assets as they've really declined in
- 20 value.
- 21 On the equity side, the value-oriented
- 22 managers have been outperforming kind of the
- longer duration growth managers. We're closely
- 24 monitoring this exposure between growth and value

- 1 within the aggregate PRIT portfolio as well as
- 2 other factors like debt burden that these
- 3 companies face in the event that rates continue
- 4 upward.
- 5 Overall, we continue to have very good
- 6 factor balance in the aggregate portfolio. And
- 7 then just finally in terms of risks, both
- 8 geopolitical and economic risks, the list remains
- 9 long. Volatility is high in both equity and fixed
- 10 income markets. It's been amplified by the war,
- 11 as well as the slowdown in China due to both kind
- of the COVID lockdown, as well as property market
- 13 concerns.
- 14 Increasing energy prices, though they
- have backed off more recently, have impacted
- 16 countries that are more externally dependent for
- 17 their energy needs.
- 18 And then we did see a selloff in
- 19 cryptocurrency in the second quarter as well.
- This heightened some fears of contagion and
- 21 potential financial system stress, though those
- concerns seem to have receded recently.
- 23 High volatility should be a good
- 24 environment -- and I've said this several times --

- 1 for our active managers to add value. Where
- there's dispersion, there's good opportunity. But
- 3 because of the myriad of different risks that
- 4 we've seen, it's been fairly challenging to manage
- 5 this broad set of risks.
- In aggregate, and I guess just to
- finish, the aggregate risk of our overall equity
- 8 and fixed income portfolios currently and has
- 9 remained low.
- 10 So I'm happy to take any questions on
- 11 this update, or we could move to the next item.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any questions for
- 13 Michael?
- 14 Hearing none, so we can move on to the
- voting item, which you're referring to the
- approval of developed international, correct,
- 17 Michael?
- 18 MR. McELROY: Correct. Yes.
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: So I'm going to
- seek a motion in a second, and then I'll turn it
- over to you to do an explanation.
- MR. McELROY: Thank you.
- 23 TREASURER GOLDBERG: I seek a motion
- that the PRIM Board approve the Investment

- 1 Committee's recommendation to approve the initial
- 2 allocations of up to \$450 million to Columbia
- 3 Threadneedle Investments, \$300 million to Causeway
- 4 Capital Management and \$250 million to Pzena
- 5 Investment Management to provide active investment
- 6 management services for a world ex-U.S. value
- 7 equity mandate as described in the expanded
- 8 agenda, and further to authorize the executive
- 9 director to take all actions necessary to
- 10 effectuate this vote.
- 11 Is there a motion?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 13 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Second?
- MS. FITCH: Second.
- 15 MS. McGOLDRICK: Second.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Go ahead,
- 17 Michael.
- 18 MR. McELROY: Great. Thank you.
- 19 And as I think noted in the expanded
- agenda as well, Appendices F and G have this
- information that is on the screen here. You can
- see some of Appendix F.
- Let me start out with just kind of a
- quick executive summary, and this will be on

- 1 page 2. And then I'll pass it over to my
- 2 colleague Andre Abouhala to kind of finish up.
- But just as noted, our recommendation is
- 4 to hire three active managers for a world ex-U.S.
- 5 value equity mandate.
- I would note that the search process was
- 7 very collaborative between the public markets
- 8 staff, between risk, as well as the research team
- 9 here at PRIM. And so I really appreciate
- 10 everyone's contributions and time committed to go
- 11 through the work required in order to identify
- these three managers.
- We expect that this funding will be
- 14 sourced from our current passive exposure so this
- will increase the portion of international
- 16 equities that are actively managed. This has been
- an area where managers have historically added
- 18 value relative to their benchmark. And we are
- 19 targeting funding for the beginning of October of
- this year.
- 21 Just from kind of a top-down highlight,
- I would just mention that hiring these managers
- will help reduce manager concentration as well as
- 24 enhance the risk-return profile of our

- 1 international equities exposure. Currently, we
- 2 have five active managers that represent about
- 3 60 percent of this active international exposure.
- 4 So this just helps broaden out the opportunity sat
- for us. It gives us latitude to help us balance
- 6 some of those style exposures that I mentioned,
- 7 value versus growth.
- 8 And then as I mentioned, also
- 9 international value managers have historically
- 10 outperformed our benchmarks. This is an area
- 11 where active managers add value.
- 12 All three of these managers have long
- and successful track records. Causeway and Pzena
- 14 are diverse investment managers. And Pzena, we
- 15 already have exposure in the emerging markets
- 16 portion of our global equity portfolio, so they're
- a known quantity in terms of their style, how they
- manage, and they've been very successful in the
- 19 emerging markets. And this does also give us
- ample capacity to do further allocations, if so
- 21 desired.
- So if no questions at my end, I'll pass
- it over to Andre Abouhala to provide a little more
- 24 detail.

1 MR. ABOUHALA: Thank you, Mike. 2 Good morning, everyone. I'm Andre 3 Abouhala, investment officer on the public markets 4 team. We're on page 3 of the presentation. 5 So just to reiterate the recommendation, 6 we're seeking approval of an allocation of up to 7 1 billion to three active international value 8 equity managers: 450 to Columbia Threadneedle, 9 300 million to Causeway Capital Management and 10 250 million to Pzena Investment Management. 11 Funding for this investment will be sourced from our existing passive world ex-U.S. 12 13 portfolio. Therefore, this allocation will not 14 change our exposure to equities. However, this 15 allocation will increase our active/passive split 16 from 60/40 to 70/30, a small change, but one that 17 will have an impact on our three most important 18 core investment considerations: risk, return and 19 cost. 20 From a risk perspective, the addition of 21 these three managers will marginally increase the 22 total risk of the portfolio, while moderately 23 increasing our active risk. This is primarily due 24 to the 1 billion shift from passive to active, not

- 1 because these managers are inherently riskier than
- the existing active manager roster.
- Active risk arises from the manager's
- 4 effort to outperform the benchmark. Naturally,
- 5 our passive account possesses zero tracking risk
- 6 with a beta of one.
- 7 All three managers we're recommending
- 8 today are within reasonable risk limits. Causeway
- 9 and Columbia are versatile, straddling both core
- 10 and value styles. This provides us
- 11 diversification and some flexibility in balancing
- 12 exposures as Mike stated, whereas Pzena has a
- deeper value style with a slightly higher expected
- 14 risk. We expect Pzena to be more active versus
- 15 Causeway and Columbia over time.
- 16 From a return perspective, all three
- 17 strategies have demonstrated excellent alpha
- 18 capability versus the value benchmark over long
- time periods. All have an information ratio of .5
- or above since inception, indicating that they are
- 21 achieving appropriate excess returns for their
- 22 level of active risk.
- I'd say what's most impressive is that
- 24 all three managers have outperformed the core

- 1 benchmark since inception, despite an enormously
- 2 challenging market environment for value
- 3 strategies over the past decade. These teams are
- 4 true survivors in what has been an unloved and
- 5 underappreciated style versus growth.
- 6 And lastly, in regards to cost, from an
- 7 absolute standpoint, international large cap is
- 8 the lowest cost asset class across PRIM's active
- 9 public equities. We were able to negotiate
- 10 competitive fee terms with each manager. For this
- 11 mandate, PRIM will pay a blended effective fee of
- 12 33 basis points on 1 billion in assets under
- management.
- 14 And finally, who are these three
- 15 managers? They are established firms with large
- 16 institutional businesses. Causeway and Pzena are
- 17 diverse investment firms. Causeway is woman-
- owned, and Pzena's portfolio management team is
- 19 women-led and diverse.
- 20 All have long track records of managing
- 21 international equity strategies. Each PM that
- launched the strategy at their respective firm is
- still managing or overseeing that strategy today.
- 24 And lastly, differentiated approaches to

- portfolio management in construction. Causeway
 utilizes a hybrid approach with the investment
 team organized into two groups: fundamental and
 quantitative. The fundamental team is responsible
 for in-depth bottom-up research, while the
 quantitative staff develops and maintains a
 proprietary risk model which provides a roadmap
- for portfolio construction. Both teams are led by
 Sarah Ketterer and Harry Hartford, who cofounded
 the firm in June of 2001.

- Based in Boston, Columbia Threadneedle's strategy is led by Fred Copper, who's been investing in international markets for over 30 years. Their process is built on the blend of fundamental, quantitative and macro analysis. Their top-down framework is unique in that they are seeking to understand where a particular stock is in the business cycle and how the cost of doing business is likely to change. This shows up in their subtle positioning of the portfolio relative to their macro views.
- Pzena employs a classic value approach, seeking to buy good businesses at low prices, focusing on companies that are mispriced relative

- 1 to their historical earnings power. This strategy
- 2 is led by Allison Fisch, Caroline Cai and John
- 3 Goetz.
- 4 In addition to the three PMs, the
- 5 strategy is supported by a centralized investment
- 6 team. PRIM has an existing relationship with
- 7 Pzena and emerging markets where they manage
- 8 1 billion in assets, and they have outperformed by
- 9 over 2 percent net of fees since inception.
- 10 Ms. Fisch and Ms. Cai are portfolio managers for
- 11 that strategy as well.
- 12 For any more detail on the managers and
- this search, Mike and I are happy to answer any
- 14 questions.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Do we have
- 16 questions for Andre or Mike?
- 17 Thank you.
- Hearing none, we actually can move on to
- 19 the vote.
- 20 Bob?
- 21 Did we lose Bob Brousseau?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: No. Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: You didn't lose me, no.

- 1 I was muted.2 TPE
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: I was all of a
- 3 sudden looking, and the screen changed.
- 4 Ruth Ellen?
- 5 MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 6 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- 7 MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- 9 MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?
- MR. MONACO: Yes.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis Naughton?
- MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- MS. ROSE: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
- MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 21 motion carries.
- MR. SHANLEY: Nice job.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you.
- All right. Now we are moving on to

1	portfolio completion strategies with a performance
2	summary and then a follow-on investment
3	recommendation.
4	Bill?
5	MR. LI: That's correct. Thank you,
6	Madam Treasurer.
7	My name is Bill Li, senior investment
8	officer and director of portfolio completion
9	strategies.
10	First thing first, performance. For
11	the full fiscal year, portfolio completion
12	strategies was roughly flat, down by .8 percent,
13	outpacing benchmark by 56 basis points.
14	PRIT Hedge Fund had a slight decline
15	of 1.2 percent, still outperforming benchmark by
16	over 120 basis points. In comparison, the
17	market standard 60/40 mix detracted by 13.5
18	percent for the same period.
19	While PRIT Hedge Fund was not entirely
20	immune to the challenging backdrop, it continued
21	toprovide diversification to the overall PRIT
22	Fund. Notably, CTAs, or trend followers,

Other substrategy types saw a dispersion

capitalized on the trending commodities and

23

24

currencies.

- of outcomes, but in general found meaningful
- buffer in their ability to express vigilance via
- 3 short-selling or hedging.
- 4 So if fiscal year 2021 rewarded equity
- 5 beta risk with lucrative returns, fiscal year 2022
- 6 was about those mindful of capital preservation
- 7 really persevering.
- 8 Our stable value funds had an excellent
- g year, delivering a positive 3.6 percent. Going
- forward, within this stable value vertical, PRIM's
- investment partners continue to emphasize a low
- net exposure plus nimbleness to capture relative
- values.
- 14 On the other hand, directional funds
- understandably had a negative year. Despite a
- negative 10.5 percent, it managed to weather
- better than most other risk assets. After the
- recent selloff, which was indiscriminate across
- 19 liquid assets, some directional managers started
- 20 presenting dislocated opportunities in pockets of
- 21 market.
- To summarize PRIT Hedge Fund's fiscal
- year, vigilance helped preserve capital. While
- the plan is to continue being careful amid these

- 1 abundant uncertainties, we will also evaluate the
- 2 pockets of dislocations highlighted by our
- 3 investment partners.
- 4 As mentioned before, PRIM's style of
- 5 hedge fund investing focuses on security selection
- 6 alpha and structural alpha, namely selecting
- 7 assets at intriguing price, executed via a sound
- 8 operational setup. And we never lose sight of
- 9 that. Vigilance particularly proved to be our
- friend in a down market. Meanwhile, we keep an
- 11 eye out for assets of clear upside. We love
- 12 asymmetric return profiles.
- 13 Vigilance coupled with a valuation
- awareness, we believe, is the best approach to
- 15 survive and thrive across cycles.
- In terms of the team's work plan this
- 17 new fiscal year, we continue to be all hands on
- deck, checking in with the managers frequently,
- monitoring positions and news daily, debating
- 20 investment thesis plus operational blocking and
- 21 tackling with immense help from Matt Liposky's
- team as well as from Renee LeFevre's legal help.
- With that, happy to answer any
- 24 questions, or we can move on to the next item.

1	TREASURER GOLDBERG: I am muted. I
2	apologize.
3	Are there questions for Bill?
4	Okay. Hearing none, we do have a voting
5	item. So I need to read our motion and get a
6	second, and then Bill will give us the explanation
7	on it.
8	I would seek a motion that the PRIM
9	Board approve the Investment Committee's
10	recommendation to approve a commitment of up to
11	\$125 million to JEN 8 LP as described in the
12	expanded agenda, and further to authorize the
13	executive director to take all actions necessary
14	to effectuate this vote.
15	Is there a motion?
16	MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
17	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Second?
18	MR. SHANLEY: Second.
19	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay then. Go
20	ahead, Bill.
21	MR. LI: Thank you.
22	This recommendation pertains to a re-up
23	investment, and Eleni Klempner will describe more
24	details here.

- 1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you.
- 2 MS. KLEMPNER: Thank you, Bill. Thank
- 3 you, Madam Treasurer.
- 4 This is Eleni Klempner, investment
- 5 officer in PCS.
- 6 Today we're asking for approval to re-up
- 7 to JEN Fund VIII. This is an established
- 8 relationship. We've invested in the preceding
- 9 three funds. They've performed well, delivering
- 10 an average IRR of over 24 percent across the
- 11 three. We're asking for 125 million for this
- 12 re-up.
- We were 100 million in JEN 7, and the
- 14 target raise here is 650 million. That is also up
- 15 compared to the 550 million raised in Fund VII.
- 16 While we expect housing prices to
- further moderate, there is still a severe housing
- 18 shortage of single-family homes in the JEN
- 19 submarkets. However, we are still supportive of
- 20 the JEN strategy, which is going to be the same as
- 21 in Fund VII. The main strategies are lot banking
- 22 and land repositioning.
- 23 In lot banking, JEN provides short-
- duration high-yield financing to homebuilders.

- 1 There's an option contract, and a defined takedown
- 2 schedule in any example.
- The secondary strategies are hybrid lot
- 4 banking and build-for-rent single-family. Neither
- 5 constitutes a dramatic part of the strategy. Each
- 6 will only take up an expected 10 percent of the
- 7 fund.
- 8 Us and Aberdeen have completed diligence
- 9 and are on board with subscribing.
- 10 With that, I'm happy to open up to any
- 11 questions.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there any
- 13 questions?
- 14 MR. BROUSSEAU: One question, Madam
- 15 Chair.
- 16 Eleni, I know that we have been invested
- in three previous funds, and I see the PRIM
- 18 commitments of 50 million, 50 million,
- 19 100 million. This is 125.
- Are we fully committed to those, or did
- 21 we get only a partial commitment in the
- investment? In other words, did they draw down
- 23 the entire 50, 50 and a hundred?
- 24 MS. KLEMPNER: Yes. That is their

- 1 strategy. They'll draw down completely. And
- 2 certainly in Fund VI and Fund V, those have been
- 3 completely drawn down already, and they have
- 4 already deployed much of the capital in Fund VII.
- 5 They raised that in 2020.
- 6 MR. BROUSSEAU: Thank you.
- 7 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there any other
- 8 questions?
- 9 Okay then. Hearing none, we will
- 10 proceed with our roll call vote.
- 11 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 13 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 17 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- 18 MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?
- MR. MONACO: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- MS. ROSE: Yes.

1	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul Shanley?
2	MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
3	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
4	motion carries.
5	Okay. Thank you, everybody.
6	That would be the end of portfolio
7	completion strategies, and we go on to private
8	equity with Mike McGirr.
9	MR. McGIRR: Thank you, Madam Treasurer.
10	Global M&A activity slowed down
11	considerably in the first half of '22, down
12	21 percent compared to 2021.
13	Now, the vast majority of that can be
14	explained and attributed to the slowdown of
15	corporate mergers, whereas actually global private
16	equity and U.S. private equity actually saw slight
17	increases in the first half of 2022.
18	Now, I think it's important to note the
19	lagged nature of private equity as alot of these
20	transactions in these headline statistics were
21	likely negotiated in late 2021 and 2022 before
22	much of the turmoil rolled through the public
23	markets and the global economy.

I think it's reasonable to expect a

- 1 continued slowdown in private equity activity in
- the second half of 2022 as private equity
- 3 professionals appropriately consider this new
- 4 market regime.
- It's clear, we're undergoing a deep
- 6 correction, especially in venture and growth,
- 7 which has unfolded in the public markets and is
- 8 now spreading through the private markets.
- 9 You can see how dramatically this has
- affected the IPO market in particular. According
- to Refinitiv, 2022 is on track to be the worst
- year for U.S. listings, going back since 2009,
- with IPOs having raised roughly 5 billion in the
- first seven months so far this year. That's a
- 96 percent decline compared to 2021. So a big,
- 16 big change.
- 17 Unprofitable tech companies have also
- seen a dramatic rerating or revaluing in the
- 19 public markets. Unprofitable publicly traded
- software companies traded at 17.3 times forward
- 21 annual recurring revenue at the end of 2021. At
- 22 the end of 6/30 or the second quarter, they traded
- 23 at 5.1 times. That's a massive 70 percent
- 24 decline. Big rerating.

And publicly traded tech companies that 1 were darlings in 2021 like Coinbase have seen 2 their shares trade down dramatically. 3 In Q2 and into Q3, we're seeing examples 4 of private market down rounds with a notable and 5 well-publicized example being Klarna, the Swedish 6 fin tech company, which is now valued at 7 \$6.9 billion, that's an 85 percent decline from 8 its prior funding round back in June of 2021. 9 Moving to the debt markets. U.S. LBO 10 loan volume continue to be robust, although 11 overall cost of debt has increased with spreads 12 for new leveraged loans increasing to 525 to 550 13 basis points over SOFR. So that results in about 14 all-in yields around 15 9 percent for secured positions and in the double 16 digits for unsecured positions, which can change 17 the calculus for private equity buyers with more 18 expensive cost of capital. 19 Fundraising, however, has finally slowed 20 PitchBook calls this the most crowded 21 fundraising market in history as large allocators 22 are fully committed not only through 2022, but 23

well into 2023.

- 1 Turning to performance for the quarter,
- as Michael had mentioned, private equity was down
- 3 2.5% gross or 2.75% net.
- 4 Now, that decline was less than the
- decline of the public markets in Q1. Again, we're
- talking about lagged performance here, whereas
- the Russell 3000 for Q1 was down 5.3%, and the
- 8 MSCI Europe was down 8 percent.
- g The trailing one-year return for private
- equity remains strong, 27 percent gross,
- 11 26 percent net. And that compares favorably to
- the Russell and the MSCI Europe.
- Some additional color for the quarter,
- venture capital and growth equity gave back some
- of their gains from last year. Venture was down
- 8 percent for the quarter and growth equity down 4
- percent for the quarter, while buyouts were flat to
- about down about 3 percent.
- 19 Currency, as we had mentioned earlier,
- 20 has also been a headwind as the dollar has
- 21 strengthened. We saw our Euro-denominated
- positions detract about 25 basis points of Q2
- performance.
- 24 The entire PE portfolio decreased to

- 1 16.9 billion, but increased as a percent of PRIT,
- 2 18.4 percent as of 6/30.
- And a quick check-in on our commitment
- pace for the rest of the year, including our
- 5 recommendation that Alyssa is going to take us
- 6 through shortly, we will have committed roughly
- 7 2.2 billion in funds and co-investments. And that
- g puts us on pace to reach our targeted goal for
- g calendar year 2022 of between \$2.7 and
- 10 \$3.3 billion.
- 11 And finally, I'll end with a
- congratulations to the board and the entire PRIM
- team on the recognition of our private equity
- portfolio 10-year performance landing in the 98th
- percentile. Very strong recognition. And I think
- it's also important to note that in that top 10
- 17 list of public pensions, PRIM has the largest
- private equity portfolio. So strong performance
- 19 at scale.
- I'll stop my comments there on
- 21 performance and happy to take any questions on the
- portfolio or the markets.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: I mean I just have
- to chime in on the congratulations. So

- 1 particularly it's actually harder to do that at
- 2 scale than it is to do it on a smaller level.
- 3 So thank you, Michael, and all the folks
- 4 in your group.
- 5 Are there any other questions or
- 6 comments for Michael before we do move on to the
- 7 voting item?
- 8 Okay then. I'm going to seek a motion
- 9 that the PRIM Board approve the Investment
- 10 Committee's recommendation to approve a commitment
- of up to \$200 million to TowerBrook Investors VI
- 12 LP as described in the expanded agenda, and
- 13 further to authorize the executive director to
- take all actions necessary to effectuate this
- 15 vote.
- 16 Is there a motion?
- MR. NAUGHTON: So moved.
- 18 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Second.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. And
- 21 Christina is going to take that, correct?
- MR. McGIRR: Alyssa will be --
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Alyssa. Sorry.
- MR. McGIRR: -- recommendation.

- 1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Looking in the
- wrong box.
- 3 MS. FIORE: No problem.
- 4 Good morning, everyone.
- 5 MR. TROTSKY: Before you begin, Alyssa,
- 6 I'm sorry you have COVID, but happy that you look
- 7 relatively healthy and more happy that you're
- 8 doing this from home with COVID.
- 9 But take care of yourself and --
- 10 MS. FIORE: Thank you, Michael.
- 11 MR. TROTSKY: -- I hope you're feeling
- 12 okay.
- 13 MS. FIORE: Thank you. Yes. It's been
- a mild case so far so I'm glad I could be here
- 15 this morning.
- So I'm going to present TowerBrook
- 17 Fund VI. TowerBrook is one of our existing SMID
- 18 managers, and PRIM has invested in four prior
- 19 funds with TowerBrook since 2008.
- The firm has a trans-Atlantic strategy.
- They have headquarters in both London and New
- York, and they invest in middle market buyouts in
- the U.S. and western Europe.
- While TowerBrook is a generalist firm,

- 1 they do have deep expertise in a few sectors such
- 2 as healthcare, consumer, industrials and the
- 3 financial services sector.
- 4 They are a value-oriented manager, and
- 5 they are looking to find companies that have some
- 6 element of complexity or are contrarian in nature,
- 7 but are also focused on companies that have
- 8 attractive free cash flow as well as growth
- 9 potential.
- We are recommending a commitment of
- 11 200 million to Fund VI.
- 12 And I'll stop there and happy to take
- any questions or comments related to TowerBrook.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any questions or
- 15 comments?
- 16 Hearing none, I think we will proceed
- 17 with the vote then.
- 18 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- 21 MS. FITCH: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?

- 1 MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?
- 3 MR. MONACO: Yes.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- 5 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- 6 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- 7 MS. ROSE: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
- 9 MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 11 motion carries.
- 12 And, Alyssa, I hope you feel better
- soon.
- 14 Okay then. Moving along, Tim Schlitzer,
- 15 real estate and timberland.
- MR. SCHLITZER: Thank you, Treasurer.
- 17 Good morning, everyone. Good to see you.
- So I will not be referring directly to
- 19 any materials. I'm going to make a few comments
- on performance in the portfolio, and then I'm
- 21 going to hand it over to Christina.
- 22 So let me just start with real estate,
- and I'll just provide a few statistics here. So
- 24 at the end of the fiscal year, real estate was

10.6 percent of the fund. A fairly significant 1 increase there, up from 8.3 percent at the end of 2 the prior fiscal year. That's an increase in NAV 3 of 1.9 billion to 9.8 billion at the end of the 4 year. 5 In terms of transaction activity during 6 the fiscal year, we completed 17 transactions in 7 the private real estate portfolio. That's 8 1.3 billion in acquisitions, also two sales for 9 \$540 million approximately. So that's a net 10 acquisition number of \$730 million. 11 In terms of returns for the year, total 12 real estate returned 25.5 percent, which is well 13 above the long-term private index average of 14 approximately 9 percent, which is a 20-year 15 number. So we're cognizant of sort of where we 16 are in terms of the return cycle there. 17 The total return was driven by private 18 real estate at 34.4 percent. That's a levered 19 Our leverage, which does remain quite 20 conservative at 19 percent loan-to-value, added 21

23

24

22

The private portfolio did outperform the

about 670 basis points of additional return.

- 1 ODCE index, which was at 28.3 percent. That's
- 2 also a levered number.
- I will just call out that we did
- 4 recently implement the new private real estate
- 5 benchmark, which is a different NCREIF benchmark,
- 6 which is that ODCE metric that I just mentioned.
- 7 PRIM's REITs were down 11.3 percent for
- 8 the year, tracking more to the public markets, but
- 9 outperforming the benchmark by 150 basis points.
- More sort of qualitatively because it's
- somewhat an elephant in the room and has been,
- 12 I'll just mention that the private returns do seem
- unintuitive, particularly given the volatility in
- the public markets.
- We do not believe that our third-party
- appraisals fully reflect market pricing today.
- We're clearly in a period of price discovery. I
- don't think that we're way off, but I think that
- we're off. And I think that we'll probably
- figure out more accurately where we are over the
- 21 next three to six months. Clearly repricing in
- the debt markets is repricing the equity. And
- again, we're sort of seeing that in real time.
- 24 It's a question of magnitude.

1	And we also are seeing in terms of
2	underwriting of new acquisitions that the strength
3	in operating fundamentals over the last year
4	coupled with higher economic uncertainty is
5	definitely leading to more conservative pro formas
6	in terms of the way that our managers are thinking
7	about the world and I think the way that we're
8	thinking about the world.
9	Solwanted to just sort of clarify how
10	we're thinking about valuations today.
11	In terms of portfolio construction,
12	we've had no major changes to our positioning in
13	terms of our major risk buckets or sector
14	exposures.
15	I did mention to the Real Estate
16	Committee that our active sector bets, which were
17	essentially overweights to multifamily and
18	industrial and underweights to retail and office,
19	are still intact but have decreased with the
20	benchmark change.
21	So we're adjusting a bit there, but we
22	continue to like our positioning, and we'll
23	proceed as we have in terms of those sector bets
24	and geographies as well.

1	I'll just mention that our public
2	exposure, meaning our REIT exposure, has shrunk
3	down to about 14 percent. We're comfortable with
4	that. That's been the plan the entire time. It's
5	been more a function of REIT returns versus the
6	private returns. But we like that portfolio
7	positioning, and I think we'll continue to add to
8	our private exposure and build around it.
9	So those are my comments on real estate.
10	Let me just say a few things about
11	timber, which represents 3.2 percent of the fund
12	currently versus 3 percent a year ago. That's a
13	fairly small increase, relatively speaking, in our
14	NAV of 100 million. We did not complete any
15	acquisitions during the fiscal year.
16	As Michael mentioned, performance was
17	pretty strong overall at 11.4 percent, slightly
18	under the benchmark, about 50 basis points.
19	We've seen strong timber prices in the
20	Pacific Northwest, with less strength in the South.
21	I'd say that the underperformance really lies in
22	that Southern portfolio. I'll call out a couple of specific
23	things.

24 We continue to replant our Florida

asset, which was hit by Hurricane Michael actually 1 four years ago now, but that still remains in a 2 period of reforestation, which is keeping the cash 3 returns low. That's impacting performance a bit. 4 We've also seen a little bit of negative 5 valuation in some of the Gulf region properties, 6 really just due to mill closures. And we think 7 that some of those mills may open back up. That 8 could be more short-term volatility, but I wanted 9 to call it out as well. 10 Alittle bit more generally in terms of 11 the environment on the operating side, I 12 mentioned strong prices in the Pacific Northwest, 13 a little less strong in the South. We're 14 continuing to see margin pressure due to high 15 labor and trucking costs. I don't think that that 16 has really receded at all. And it actually typically 17 increases a little bit in the spring and summer 18 because conditions are drier, and there's more 19 logging, more demand for those various inputs. 20 The home construction and renovation 21 market, which clearly drives demand in timberland, 22 It's been mentioned prior to my is coolina. 23

comments in this meeting.

1 Housing starts did decrease in July by 2 about 10 percent pretty evenly across the single-3 family and multifamily segments. That July number 4 is almost 20 percent lower than last December's 5 So a fairly substantial drop in housing number. 6 That's always a volatile number. I have starts. 7 to say that. But that is a fairly substantial 8 drop. 9 Clearly, this is sensitivity to 10 borrowing rates, along with continued inflation 11 and materials and labor, which I think is hindering sentiment and hindering those actual 12 13 start numbers and I think the homebuilders' 14 willingness to begin construction outside of their 15 existing pipeline. 16 I've said in the past, we continue to be 17 constructive in the long term in terms of housing 18 demand. There just has been so much underbuilding 19 in the U.S. over the past 10 years, we really are 20 underhoused in this country. But I do think in 21 the short term, it could be a little rocky. 22 We do have more conviction in the rental 23 market, both for existing and new product. Folks

that are pausing on buying houses are renting for

1	the time being, whether it be multifamily units or
2	single-family units.
3	And I think that's going to support the
4	market in the near term to a certain degree, at
5	least, until homebuilders are more ready to
6	build, hopefully with a lower rate environment and
7	some deflation in terms of their inputs as well.
8	So I'm going to leave it at that.
9	Always happy to answer any questions.
10	So good. So let me hand it over to Christina for
11	at least one recommendation.
12	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Go ahead,
13	Christina first of all, before you go ahead, I
14	am going to seek a motion and a second.
15	And so I would seek a motion that the
16	PRIM Board approve the Real Estate and Timberland
17	Committee's recommendation to approve an
18	investment of up to \$300 million to the Berkshire
19	Group Project Journey co-investment opportunity
20	as described in the expanded agenda, and further
21	to authorize the executive director to take all
22	actions necessary to effectuate this vote.
23	
24	This is one of two voting items in real

- 1 estate and timberland.
- 2 So do we have a motion?
- 3 MS. FITCH: So moved.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Do we have a
- 5 second?
- 6 MR. BROUSSEAU: Second.
- 7 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Go ahead,
- 8 Christina. Thank you.
- 9 MS. MARCARELLI: Thanks, Madam
- 10 Treasurer.
- 11 Good morning, everyone. I'm Christina
- 12 Marcarelli, a senior investment officer on the
- 13 real estate and timberland team.
- 14 The PRIM real estate team is
- recommending an investment of up to \$300 million
- in a co-investment opportunity with the Berkshire
- 17 Group, alongside Multifamily Value Fund V.
- 18 Berkshire is a vertically integrated
- 19 Boston-based firm. They've been around since 1966
- and have focused almost exclusively on owning and
- operating multifamily properties across the U.S.
- through both equity and debt investments.
- We think this is an interesting
- opportunity to grow a relationship with an

- 1 existing manager in one of their primary
- 2 strategies. PRIM has been investing with
- 3 Berkshire since 2018 in both debt and equity
- 4 strategies.
- 5 As a reminder, at this time last year,
- 6 PRIM staff recommended and the board approved a
- 7 \$25 million investment in Berkshire's Multifamily
- 8 Value Fund V, along with a \$75 million co-
- 9 investment in a multi-property Texas apartment
- 10 portfolio.
- 11 The subject co-investment portfolio is
- well-diversified and consists of multiple
- properties across numerous southeast and southwest
- sunbelt markets in the U.S., and this is a pending
- 15 traction.
- 16 The opportunity allows Berkshire and
- 17 PRIM to achieve significant scale in markets that
- are experiencing economic tailwinds, while the
- 19 property level business plans provide for value-
- add upside through both asset repositioning and
- 21 management improvement.
- 22 Berkshire will self-manage the assets,
- as they typically do, through their property
- 24 management division, Berkshire Communities.

- 1 Berkshire has current property management
- 2 operations in all but one of these markets.
- These properties target middle income
- 4 renters. Based on Berkshire's diligence, rents at
- 5 these properties are at the lower end of the
- 6 competitive set within each submarket, which
- 7 allows room to increase rents and still be within
- 8 attractive rent-income ratios.
- 9 The risks that we see with this
- opportunity relate to potentially increased supply
- and interest rate movement, in addition to
- 12 business plan execution risk.
- We ran sensitivity analysis and are
- comfortable with the returns if we experience
- 15 higher interest rates or exit cap rates or if rent
- growth is dampened due to higher supply headwinds.
- 17 In addition, business plan execution risk is
- 18 partially mitigated because Berkshire has many
- 19 years of experience implementing this type of
- 20 strategy.
- 21 Overall, we feel this is an attractive
- opportunity for several reasons, the first being
- Berkshire is a multifamily specialist, and they
- have operations in nearly all of these markets.

1	And we're continuing to expand a
2	relationship with an existing manager into a
3	strategy that they've been executing for many
4	years. And lastly, we're able to immediately
5	deploy capital at scale in very diversified
6	portfolio and add exposure to the multifamily
7	sector, which we continue to feel has tailwinds
8	and has been a defensive sector in past cycles.
9	So with that, I'm happy to open it up
10	for any questions.
11	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there questions
12	for Christina?
13	Hearing none, then we will proceed with
14	our vote.
15	Bob?
16	MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
17	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
18	MS. FITCH: Yes.
19	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
20	MR. HEARTY: Yes.
21	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
22	MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
23	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?
24	MR. MONACO: Yes.

1	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
2	MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
3	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
4	MS. ROSE: Yes.
5	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
6	MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
7	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
8	motion carries.
9	Okay. Thank you.
10	We do have a second voting item, and so
11	I will first seek a motion that the PRIM Board
12	approve the Real Estate and Timberland Committee's
13	recommendation to retain the Altus Group for real
14	estate appraisal services as described in the
15	expanded agenda, and further to authorize the
16	executive director to take all actions necessary
17	to effectuate this vote.
18	Is there a motion?
19	MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
20	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
21	MS. FITCH: Second.
22	MS. McGOLDRICK: Second.
23	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay.
24	MS. MARCARELLI: I'll be doing this

- 1 recommendation as well.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Thank you.
- 3 MS. MARCARELLI: But I want to give the
- 4 credit to Minching because Minching did all of the
- 5 work here; unfortunately has a bit of laryngitis
- 6 so is unable to speak.
- 7 So I will go ahead and give this
- 8 recommendation. The PRIM staff recommends
- 9 extending our engagement with the Altus Group for
- 10 three years to provide annual appraisal services
- for each of PRIM's privately owned real estate
- 12 assets.
- 13 PRIM issued an RFP in April, which is a
- 14 standard process for appraisal services. PRIM
- 15 received seven responses, interviewed four groups
- in June, and narrowed down the candidates to two
- 17 finalists.
- 18 After a thorough review, the evaluation
- 19 committee has determined that none of the
- 20 respondents could effectively match the incumbent
- 21 appraiser's package of pricing, depth of appraisal
- resources and technology. Altus is one of the
- 23 largest appraisal service providers, with a global
- 24 platform and has significant experience serving

1 institutional investors and investment managers. 2 PRIM has had a good experience working 3 with Altus. They've provided PRIM with high 4 quality timely appraisal reports and have 5 demonstrated knowledge of PRIM's assets and the markets where PRIM's assets are located. 6 7 Altus has also demonstrated their 8 continued investment in technology. They have 9 advanced platforms for managing the approval 10 process and compiling data to help analyze metrics 11 across properties and markets. And the system 12 improves our ability to analyze portfolio 13 performance and attribution. 14 Altus's technological capabilities, 15 coupled with pricing, which was significantly 16 lower than the next competitive group, their depth 17 of resources, distinguish them from other firms. 18 So I'm happy to open it up for any 19 questions. 20 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there questions 21 for Christina? 22 And, Minching, I totally get what you're 23 going through. About three weeks ago, I 24 completely lost my voice, and it took quite some

- 1 time to come back. So be sure and rest it.
- 2 MR. MONACO: Hey, Madam Treasurer. It's
- 3 Peter.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Hi, Peter.
- 5 MR. MONACO: With apologies, could I
- 6 just hop back to Project Journey for a sec? I
- 7 have a question, just out of curiosity.
- 8 Hey, Tim, did you say what the rent
- g growth assumption was that you're using in the
- 10 base case IRR scenario?
- I think I recalled from the memo that in
- the first couple years, there is the assumption of
- a strong loss to lease. I presume because they'll
- be the upgrades in process.
- But over the investment horizon, how
- much are you going to take in rent? And sort of
- related to that, what is the compound growth in
- the NOI that drives that 15.7 IRR?
- I mean it sounds like a strong project.
- 20 I'm asking just out of curiosity.
- 21 MR. SCHLITZER: Christina, why don't you
- take that?
- MS. MARCARELLI: Sure.
- So, Peter, thanks for the question.

- 1 There is strong loss-to-lease
- 2 compression assumptions that Berkshire has. They
- do believe that the in-place rents versus market
- 4 rents, there's a significant delta in between
- 5 those.
- 6 As far as specific underwriting
- 7 questions, happy to talk about it further offline.
- 8 It is a pending transaction that's very live right
- 9 now. So happy to go into more detail, Peter,
- offline, if that's okay.
- MR. MONACO: Sure. Sorry.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. So
- meanwhile, we're about to take a vote on
- 14 Christina's -- well, the group's recommendation
- 15 for Altus Group.
- 16 Are there any additional questions with
- 17 respect to Altus Group?
- 18 Okay. Hearing none, we will proceed.
- 19 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.

1	T	REASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
2	M	S. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
3	Т	REASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?
4	Р	eter?
5	Р	eter, are you on mute?
6	I	wonder if he got disconnected.
7	M	R. FALZONE: I still see his box on the
8	screen.	
9	M	S. McGOLDRICK: Still seeing him.
10	M	R. MONACO: Not on mute. Can you hear
11	me?	
12	Т	REASURER GOLDBERG: Oh, we can now.
13	Thank you.	
14	M	R. MONACO: Sorry. I don't know what
15	happened th	ere.
16	Y	es.
17	Т	REASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Thank you.
18	D	ennis?
19	M	R. NAUGHTON: Yes.
20	Т	REASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
21	M	S. ROSE: Yes.
22	Т	REASURER GOLDBERG: Pau1?
23	M	R. SHANLEY: Yes.
24	Т	REASURER GOLDBERG: Myself. ves. The

- 1 motion carries.
- MS. MARCARELLI: Thank you.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Unless we
- 4 have any further questions for Tim and Christina,
- 5 we can move on to the next item on the agenda,
- 6 which is the finance and admin report with several
- 7 items under it.
- 8 Tony, is that you?
- 9 MR. FALZONE: That is me.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: It looked like you.
- 11 MR. FALZONE: Thank you, Madam
- 12 Treasurer.
- Good morning, everyone. Tony Falzone,
- deputy executive director and chief operating
- 15 officer.
- 16 I'm going to start on page 21 of the
- 17 expanded agenda, and there's a few things under
- 18 the finance and administration report, but the ESG
- 19 charter recommendation is the only voting item
- 20 today. So the proposed charter is at Appendix J.
- 21 And I'm going to start with a few words on the
- process that brought us to the charter that's
- being presented here today.
- And I'll start at the very beginning.

- 1 At the February 17, 2022 board meeting, the board
- 2 voted and approved the Administration and Audit
- 3 Committee's recommendation to establish an ESG
- 4 committee to advise the board on ESG-related
- 5 matters and then to engage with Funston Advisory
- 6 Services to assist in developing a proposal for
- 7 the ESG committee structure and the charter.
- 8 After that vote, staff engaged with
- 9 Funston and developed a narrow scope of work for
- 10 the project. And Funston began by examining ESG
- 11 policies, practices, charters at other public
- 12 retirement systems, reviewed PRIM's own ESG
- 13 activities.
- 14 ESG isn't something where that is new to
- 15 PRIM. As you know, we have a history of proxy
- voting in a very active way, along with the FUTURE
- 17 Initiative and our diversity initiatives.
- 18 So they looked at all of that and
- 19 familiarized themselves at very high level with
- 20 PRIM's governing documents such as the investment
- 21 policy statement, the charters.
- 22 And then held an educational session on
- the ESG landscape for the board, committees and
- 24 staff. And then supported PRIM staff, Treasury

- 1 staff on the development of a draft charter.
- 2 In June, Funston issued an online survey
- 3 to all PRIM Board and committee members, seeking
- 4 feedback on the draft ESG committee charter. And
- 5 additionally, several board and committee members
- 6 requested follow-up telephone conversations to
- 7 discuss their survey responses.
- 8 We had a special Administration and
- 9 Audit Committee meeting on July 19, a few weeks
- 10 back, where Funston provided the summary of the
- 11 feedback they received from the survey responses,
- telephone conversations. And then they presented
- a revised draft of the ESG committee charter based
- on board and committee member feedback and
- 15 recommended best practices.
- 16 So after discussing Funston's
- 17 recommendations. the Administration and Audit
- 18 Committee unanimously agreed to the draft version
- of the ESG committee charter that, again, I
- 20 mentioned as an Appendix J.
- 21 They also agreed to consider several of
- 22 Funston's recommendations during a future more
- comprehensive review of PRIM's governance manual.
- As you know, we have an RFP that we'll be issuing

- 1 for a new governance consultant.
- 2 Also included in the package is a
- 3 redlined version of PRIM's governance manual,
- 4 attached as Appendix K. This incorporates the ESG
- 5 committee charter into our governance manual,
- 6 along with the amended Administration and Audit
- 7 Committee charter to reflect the corresponding
- 8 changes in proxy voting policy responsibilities.
- 9 And this is what we're presenting for a vote
- 10 today.
- 11 I just wanted to mention on the proxy
- voting, that is the number one way we engage with
- our underlying investment companies, and that is
- 14 why the recommendation was made to move it to the
- 15 ESG committee.
- 16 And I'm happy to answer any other
- 17 questions.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Sorry about that.
- 19 I forgot I was on mute.
- We can have questions now, and then
- 21 we'll do the motion and the second.
- 22 So are there questions for Tony?
- Well, hearing none, I'm going to read
- the motion. I seek a motion that the PRIM Board

- 1 approve the Administration and Audit Committee's
- 2 recommendations to adopt the amended PRIM Board
- 3 governance manual, which includes the draft ESG
- 4 committee charter and the amended Administration
- 5 and Audit Committee charter as described in the
- 6 expanded agenda, and further to authorize the
- 7 executive director to take all actions necessary
- 8 to effectuate this vote.
- 9 Is there a motion?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 11 MR. SHANLEY: So moved.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Second?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Second.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay then. Any
- 15 comments or questions before we move on to a roll
- 16 call vote?
- 17 Hearing none, Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 21 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.

1	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?
2	MR. MONACO: Yes.
3	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
4	MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
5	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
6	MS. ROSE: Yes.
7	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
8	MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
9	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
10	motion carries. Very good.
11	Now, this is actually the end of the
12	public session, and so we will move
13	Oh, wait. No. I'm sorry. Sorry,
14	sorry, sorry.
15	Whoa. Didn't want to steal your
16	thunder, Tony. We have the 2023 PRIM Board and
17	committee meeting schedule, legislative update and
18	other matters before we move on.
19	MR. FALZONE: Thank you.
20	And I want to say thank you to the board
21	and all the committee members that worked with us,
22	providing feedback for the ESG committee charter.
23	It was very helpful so I want to thank all of you
24	for that.

- 1 Moving on to what is my most difficult
- job here, working on the board and committee
- 3 meeting schedule.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: And I help make it
- 5 more difficult, don't I?
- 6 MR. FALZONE: No, no. That's good. I
- 7 like a challenge.
- 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: It's actually not
- 9 me intentionally. It's the four or five other
- 10 boards I also chair. So they all complement each
- 11 other.
- MR. FALZONE: You're in very high
- demand.
- MR. MONACO: Maybe you're overboarded.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter, you don't
- 16 always say much, but when you do, you're right on.
- 17 MS. FITCH: Well said.
- 18 MR. FALZONE: So I'm just presenting the
- 19 proposed schedule of next year's meetings to try
- 20 to limit some conflicts. A final draft will be
- 21 included in the November Administration and Audit
- 22 Committee meeting materials for recommendation to
- 23 the board in December. It's been distributed
- 24 around.

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1
                We're already looking for anyone that
2
      has any conflicts. At your earliest convenience,
 3
      let me know, and we'll try to work with you.
 4
                 I know that the newly formed ESG
5
      committee is not on here. We have to see how that
 6
      takes shape, and then we can add those dates as
 7
      needed. So I'll just leave that right there.
8
                 Then legislative update. I know Emily
9
      always offers to help me out with these updates
10
      and is going to chime in.
11
                 TREASURER GOLDBERG:
                                      Emily is the best.
12
                 MS. KOWTONIUK:
                                 I'll take it.
13
                 So I'll be quick too. The big news
14
      since we last met is that we now have a FY '23
15
      budget in place, and that budget did include
16
      $100 million supplemental transfers to both the
17
      PRIT Fund and to the state retirees benefit fund.
18
      It also included a one-time increase to retiree
19
      COLAs from 3 percent up to 5 percent.
20
                 So the governor signed all of those
21
      portions of the budget. He did return, however,
22
      language that was included by way of amendment by
23
      the house that did require the governor to select
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his public safety appointee from a list of three

24

- 1 nominated by MACRS.
- 2 So instead, he returned that with an
- 3 amendment requiring instead that the public safety
- 4 appointee be a member of the state retirees
- 5 system, the teachers retiree system or a
- 6 participating system in the fund.
- 7 The house rejected that amendment
- 8 offered by the governor and instead they replaced
- 9 the language, again reinserting that MACRS
- 10 nomination requirement, but keeping the
- 11 requirement that the appointee be a member of a
- 12 participating system.
- So we haven't seen the senate act on
- 14 this language yet. It will still need to work its
- 15 way through the legislative process as if it were
- a stand-alone bill. So it's something that we'll
- be watching throughout the fall.
- We do expect some action up at the State
- 19 House this fall. As you all have likely seen,
- 20 economic development bill, something that a lot of
- 21 folks are watching and expecting to see finished
- 22 either in whole or in part this fall.
- So happy to answer any other questions
- 24 you all might have.

- 1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any questions for
- 2 Emily?
- Okay. Hearing none, thank you, Emily.
- 4 Other matters, Tony. The operating
- 5 budget travel report, client services, or are we
- 6 all set?
- 7 MR. FALZONE: The travel report and the
- 8 operating budget are for informational purposes.
- 9 I'm happy to answer any questions.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: And they're
- 11 included. I just wanted to see if there were any
- 12 questions at all about them.
- MR. FALZONE: And I do have client
- services, if there are no questions, that will
- 15 give you just a quick update on the activity in
- 16 that area.
- MR. DANIELE: Thank you, Tony.
- 18 Good morning to everyone. Can you hear
- 19 me?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 21 MR. DANIELE: My name is Francesco
- Daniele, director of client services.
- 23 First, I want to thank the clients that
- are participating remotely in this meeting. Thank

- 1 you for your attendance.
- The client service team is very busy.
- 3 Currently, we have 30-plus meetings on the
- 4 calendar, both in-person and virtual.
- I want to thank Emily Green and Laura
- 6 Strickland for their efforts in meeting our
- 7 clients' needs during these volatile markets.
- 8 Looking back to June, members of the
- 9 client service and cash team as well as Dave Gurtz
- 10 and Seth Gitell attended the MACRS conference. At
- 11 MACRS, Dave Gurtz and I held a PRIM fireside chat,
- which we discussed, as you would expect, market
- volatility, PRIM's core beliefs, diversification,
- 14 asset allocation, amongst the many topics.
- The chat format was very well-received.
- We had a lot of great questions and interaction
- 17 with the attendees. And it was very well-received
- 18 as I mentioned.
- 19 One administrative item for clients
- 20 looking to schedule an annual or quarterly
- 21 meeting, please reach out to us, to Laura, myself
- or Emily. We're available to meet with you, both
- in person and virtually.
- 24 If there are no other questions, back to

- 1 you, Tony.
- 2 MR. FALZONE: Thank you.
- That's a wrap, I think.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: That's a wrap, I
- 5 think.
- 6 So we do have a few items in our
- 7 protected materials in our closed agenda.
- 8 So Renee, I don't have language to move
- from one meeting to the next, nor do I have a link
- 10 for the next meeting.
- MR. NAUGHTON: Nor do I.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: I don't either.
- MR. FALZONE: Treasurer, if I may, we
- don't have an executive session per se, but we did
- provide protected materials.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. That's what
- 17 confused me a little bit because typically -- very
- often, we will end one meeting, begin another.
- 19 Okay.
- 20 So then this continues as the public
- 21 meeting?
- MR. FALZONE: That's correct.
- And all those items in the protected
- 24 materials were incorporated in the open agenda.

- 1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Fine, okay.
- 2 MR. TROTSKY: There is no closed
- 3 meeting, and we seldom have them.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you.
- 5 Although I do not actually have the
- 6 motions for these items. So I'm just going to
- 7 have to wing it.
- 8 MR. FALZONE: No. We went --
- 9 MR. TROTSKY: We're done.
- 10 MR. FALZONE: All of the items that are
- in the protected materials have been already voted
- 12 on.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Oh, right. Call me
- 14 crazy.
- MR. FALZONE: You're all right. You're
- 16 good.
- 17 TREASURER GOLDBERG: You're right. We
- 18 voted on all of them. TowerBrook, JEN.
- 19 MR. BROUSSEAU: It's all that
- 20 overboarding, Madam Treasurer.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Look. I defy any
- of you keeping all the pieces of paper straight
- and acting relatively normal during all of these
- 24 meetings.

1 I would say I do pretty well, 2 considering. And I don't want to make any 3 mistakes, so there we go. 4 All right then. Well, unless there are 5 any other comments or questions from any other 6 members of the board, we have done a sterling job 7 staying on schedule and actually finishing a 8 little bit earlier than usual. 9 So I want to thank everyone in the staff 10 again. We've been having some very interesting 11 times in the market, and whomever I tell about our 12 performance in this market compared to benchmark, 13 they are extraordinarily impressed. 14 And I said that's the whole concept 15 behind a long-term strategy. And let's hope and 16 pray and believe because I believe that our 17 strategies work in both up and down markets. 18 And so I look forward to our next 19 meeting, and I thank you all for your kind 20 engagement. 21 MR. TROTSKY: Once again, I thank you 22 all for your support and recognition. We're 23 looking forward to a productive new fiscal year. 24

And just to make it perfectly clear for

- 1 the record because there is media on, there is no
- 2 executive session today and no closed meeting. So
- 3 we've covered everything.
- 4 MR. SHANLEY: Thank you.
- 5 TREASURER GOLDBERG: That was why there
- 6 was a smidge of embarrassment on my part a few
- 7 minutes ago.
- 8 So we do however have to have a motion
- 9 to adjourn. So I seek a motion to adjourn.
- 10 MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 11 MR. NAUGHTON: So moved.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- MS. FITCH: Second.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: It is a roll call
- 15 vote.
- 16 Bob?
- 17 MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 18 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Peter?

1	MR. MONACO: Yes.
2	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
3	MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
4	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
5	MS. ROSE: Yes.
6	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
7	MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
8	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes.
9	Motion carries.
10	Thank you.
11	(Meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.)
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