

SERS December 19, 2013 Board Meeting Report

The CAFR, which contains a detailed look at the System's financial status and investment activities, as well as actuarial and statistical information for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, is available on SERS' website. Also, for the second consecutive year, SERS will publish a Summary Annual Financial Report (SAFR), an 8-page document that summarizes the financial information contained in the CAFR. It is available on the website too.

Investments Update

As of October 31, the value of the fund was \$11.93 billion, up \$570 million from September. For FY2014, investments were up 7.67%, and for the calendar year, investments were up 13.00%.

Year-end Federal Update

Jim Miller, SERS' federal government liaison based in Washington, DC, briefed the Board on pension issues legislators tackled in 2013 and those that could arise in 2014.

Miller praised the Ohio delegation for their knowledge and support of Ohio's pension systems, and said that SERS and the other Ohio pension systems do a great job of providing legislators with data showing the economic impact of retirees in their districts.

One issue he believes will attract significant attention from legislators in 2014 is the implementation of new Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) guidelines for reporting pension liabilities. The new GASB standards focus on accounting rather than funding and have the potential to make public pensions appear as if they are underfunded when they are not. Miller said that Ohio's public pension systems are far ahead of other states in educating state and federal legislators about the GASB changes.

Submitted by Adele Matias, OEA-R ESP Representative