



Milwaukee County Retirement Plan Services

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www.County.Milwaukee.Gov/Retirement

Date: May 28, 2026
To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
From: Erika Bronikowski, Director, Retirement Plan Services *EJB*

Subject: 2027 Milwaukee County Pension Contributions for Legacy Pension Systems (ERS and OBRA)

Milwaukee County General Ordinance Chapter 201.24, Section 3.1 "[budget year contributions](#)" requires that the Milwaukee County Pension Board "furnish to the County Executive, prior to June 1 of each year an estimated budget contribution required by the County, including contributions required under Section 3.3, to pay the following year's cost and to amortize the amount of the unfunded obligation of the County..." and that the County Executive "...submit an informational report to the committees on finance and audit and personnel for consideration during the June committee cycle, providing for an estimated contribution amount for the next year's budget..."

The attached letter from the Milwaukee County Pension Board, signed by Pension Board Chairman Jeremy Lucas, is provided in accordance with the above-mentioned provisions of Section 201.24(3.1) and is informational only at this time. Action on this item may be requested as part of the 2027 budget hearings and adoption process. Please note, this report is only related to Milwaukee County's legacy pension systems, the Employees' Retirement System and OBRA Retirement System. The Pension Board of Milwaukee County cannot provide reports on behalf of the Wisconsin Retirement System which covers employees hired on and after January 1, 2025.

The letter reflects the following:

- The County should budget \$78,090,000 (inclusive of employee contributions) for an annual pension contribution in 2027:
 - \$77,678,000 for ERS
 - \$412,000 for OBRA
- The fund's investment return in 2025 was 13.65%
- The recommended employee contribution rates for 2027 are:
 - 4.9% for General Employees
 - 7.3% for Public Safety Employees
- The funded ratios (based on actuarial value of assets) of the pension systems are as follows:
 - 71.3% for ERS
 - 110.3% for OBRA

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Cc:
Supervisor Steve Taylor, Chair, Finance Committee
Supervisor Deanna Alexander, Chair, Personnel Committee

Supervisor Jack Eckblad, Chair, Audit Committee
David Crowley, County Executive
Claire Miller, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer
Finance Committee
Audit Committee
Personnel Committee
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive
Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services
Liz Sumner, Comptroller
Jennifer Folliard Director of Audit, Office of the Comptroller
Steve Cady, Research and Policy Director, Office of the Comptroller
Scott Brown, Corporation Counsel