ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

AS OF AND FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022



CLIENT FOCUSED. RELATIONSHIP DRIVEN.



## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

## as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Administrative Committee of the Retirement Plan for Employees of Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority

### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying statements of fiduciary net position of the Retirement Plan for Employees of Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (the Plan), a fiduciary component unit of Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of changes in fiduciary net position for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Plan's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the statements of fiduciary net position of the Plan as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the respective changes in financial position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

## **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that schedule of changes in net pension liability, schedule of net pension liability and ratios, schedule of plan contributions, schedule of investment returns and note to the required supplementary information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

ABIP, Pc San Antonio, Texas



## STATEMENTS OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

## December 31,

## **ASSETS**

	2023	2022
INVESTMENTS		
Cash equivalents	\$ 1,262,782	\$ 2,084,030
Equity securities	15,379,188	15,445,678
Fixed income securities	8,356,540	5,644,763
Alternative investments	8,343,057	8,789,347
Accrued interest receivable	10,379	12,902
Total assets	\$ 33,351,946	\$ 31,976,720
FIDUCIARY NET POSITION		
FIDUCIARY NET POSITION		
Net position restricted for pensions	\$ 33,351,946	\$ 31,976,720
Fiduciary net position	\$ 33,351,946	\$ 31,976,720

## STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

## For the years ended December 31,

	2023		2022
ADDITIONS			
Additions to fiduciary net position			
Investment income:			
Net gain (loss) on sale of investments	\$ 652,112	\$	(2,223,965)
Interest income	52,499		31,765
Dividends	628,224		563,009
Net increase (decrease) in fair value of investments, net of expenses	2,025,385		(4,716,190)
Other security receipts	1,330		58,235
Employer contributions	939,218		800,000
Other contribution - plan sponsor	 35,000		35,000
Total additions	 4,333,768		(5,452,146)
DEDUCTIONS			
Deductions to fiduciary net position attributed to:			
Benefits paid to participants	 2,958,542		2,528,889
Total deductions	 2,958,542	_	2,528,889
Net increase (decrease)	1,375,226		(7,981,035)
FIDUCIARY NET POSITION			
Beginning of period	 31,976,720	_	39,957,755
Fiduciary net position - end of period	\$ 33,351,946	\$	31,976,720

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (1) Description of plan

The following brief description of the Retirement Plan for Employees of Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for more complete information. The Plan is a fiduciary component unit of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. The Plan will be presented in Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's financial statements as a fiduciary component unit.

#### General

GBRA contributes to the Retirement Plan for Employees of Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (the Plan) which was established June 1, 1966, and restated effective January 1, 2013 and amended effective December 31, 2018. The Plan is a single employer, non-contributory, defined benefit plan. The Plan's benefits provisions were established and may be amended by GBRA's Board of Directors. The Plan is administered by the Retirement and Benefit Committee appointed by the GBRA Board. GBRA does not have access to nor can it utilize assets within the Retirement Plan Trust.

All full-time GBRA employees who were hired before January 1, 2011 participate in the Plan. Effective December 31, 2018, the plan was amended to be frozen and to provide a supplemental benefit in addition to the frozen accrued benefit as of December 31, 2018. The supplemental benefit is designed to make up for the difference between (a) the projected benefit if the plan were to continue as it was before the amendment and (b) the sum of (i) the frozen accrued benefit in the plan and (ii) the employer-funded portion of the benefit in a plan in the Texas County and District Retirement System (TCDRS) that began January 1, 2019.

The table below summarizes the membership of the Plan included in the January 1, 2023 and 2022 actuarial valuation of the Plan.

	<u>2023</u>	<u> 2022</u>
Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	117	110
Terminated members entitled to benefits but not yet receiving them	39	37
Active participants (vested and nonvested)	_50	60
	206	<u>207</u>

Employees are 100% vested in the frozen accrued benefit. Normal retirement age is 65. A unreduced benefit is also provided for retirement at ages 60 to 64 with the sums of age and service equal to or greater than 85. The Plan also provides benefits for early and late retirement, death, and disability. The retirement benefit at normal retirement is equal to 1.3% of final average earnings times the number of years of credited service. The normal form of payment is a ten (10) year certain and lifetime monthly benefit. Other lifetime monthly benefit optional forms are available, but there is no partial lump sum option.

There is no provision for automatic postretirement benefit increases. The Plan has the authority to provide, and has periodically in the past provided, ad hoc postretirement benefit increases.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

### (1) Description of plan (continued)

#### Pension benefits

The standard pension benefit is monthly payments for life or 120 months whichever is longer. Members can elect not to take the standard benefit; instead they may receive actuarially equivalent benefits of:

- A monthly annuity for life of the member with no payment made after the death of the member,
- A monthly annuity for the life of the member with 60, 180, or 240 months certain payments,
- A monthly annuity for the life of the member with 50%, 66 2/3%, or 100% of such monthly income continuing after the members death, or
- A single lump-sum provided that the actuarial equivalent of the benefit payable to the member does not exceed \$20,000 at the time of the distribution.

#### Death benefits

Death benefits are payable to the member's beneficiary as if the beneficiary were a member. If the member's death occurs before their normal retirement date, the benefit is the actuarial equivalent of the member's vested interest as determined on the member's date of death. If the member's death occurs before they have commenced receiving payments under the Plan and the actuarially equivalent present value of the member's vested benefit does not exceed \$5,000, the member's beneficiary may request a lump-sum payout of the vested benefit.

### Tax status

The Plan is not subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act because Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority is a governmental entity, and as such the information return (Form 5500) is not required to be filed.

### (2) Summary of significant accounting policies

### Basis of accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared using the accrual method of accounting. Because GBRA is a government entity, the applicable GASB pronouncements are followed.

#### **Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

### (2) Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

## Investment policy

The Plan's investment policy was adopted and may be amended by the Retirement and Benefit Committee of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. The policy outlines the prudent and acceptable investment philosophy of the Plan to make clear the understanding of the investment objectives and management practices. The Plans single investment objective is to achieve the actuarial assumed rate of return over a reasonable period of time while maintaining sufficient liquidity to timely meet all payment obligations of the Plan. There were no changes to the policy during 2023 and 2022.

#### Investment risk

State and local governments have deposits and investments that are subject to various risks. GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures—an amendment of GASB Statement Number 3*, provides disclosure requirements related to deposit and investment risk: custodial credit risk, credit risk, concentration of credit risk, interest rate risk, and foreign currency risk.

#### Custodial credit risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank or counterparty failure, the Plan's deposits or investments might not be recovered. At December 31, 2023 and 2022 the Plan did not maintain any depository accounts. At December 31, 2023 and 2022 all investment securities held by custodians were registered in the Plan's name.

## Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Plan's Investment Policy Statement manages credit risk for the Global Fixed Income portfolio by requiring minimum credit ratings. The minimum quality rating on all issues in which the Plan may invest is BBB- or the security must be a government bond or a bond of a supranational authority which does not have a recognized credit rating. For investment grade fixed income managers the weighted average credit quality of the portfolio must be at least A-. The minimum requirements for fund managers may be waived in advance by the Plan's investment oversight committee.

Investment	Rating
Brandywine Portfolio Johnson Institutional Core Bond Fund	A A+

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (2) Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Investment risk (continued)

### Concentration of credit risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of the Plan's investment in a single issuer. The Plan's Investment Policy Statement establishes an asset allocation by class to mitigate the concentration of credit risk. The minimum and maximum authorized investment exposures to the various asset classes are as follows:

Asset Class	<u>Exposure</u>	Percentage of Plan
Domestic equities	Maximum	60%
	Minimum	25%
International equities	Maximum	25%
	Minimum	0%
Alternatives	Maximum	25%
	Minimum	0%
Real estate	Maximum	10%
	Minimum	0%
Global fixed income	Maximum	50%
	Minimum	20%
Short-term investments	Maximum	25%
	Minimum	0%

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Plan's Investment Policy Statement establishes an overall investment objective of achieving the actuarial assumed rate of return (6.25% in 2023 and 2022). The Plan's oversight committee will assess returns from investments against market indices weighted in proportion to the actual structure of the Plan portfolio.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (2) Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Investment risk (continued)

Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Plan's investment policy statement limits investments in international equity holdings in one company of an investment manager's portfolio to 7%. Also, the Plan's exposure to any one currency should not exceed the following:

	Maximum
Currency	<u>Exposure</u>
Euro	70%
Japanese Yen	50%
British Sterling	40%
Other	25%

Investment valuation and income recognition

The fair value framework uses a hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to the valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

## Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets in active markets.
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets in inactive markets.
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset.
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

### (2) Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Investment valuation and income recognition (continued)

The valuation methodologies described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable values or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with those of other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

Investments in equity securities and fixed income securities are valued based on quoted market prices from active markets. Alternative investments and short-term investments are valued at net asset value at the date of the valuation. There have been no changes in methodologies used at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Payment of benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

### Contribution policy

The GBRA Board of Directors has sole authority to establish or amend the obligations to contribute to the Plan by participants or the employer. Employees are not required to contribute to the Plan. GBRA management intends to fully fund the Plan in not more than 10 years beginning January 1, 2019, expecting to contribute more in the first few years than the minimum required amount to fully fund the Plan with level dollar payments over that 10-year period. GBRA will contribute at least the minimum amount each year, usually in December, that will amortize the unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) over the 10-year closed period. All of the costs of administering the Plan, except investment management fees, are paid by GBRA and are not considered in the determination of the employer contribution.

Based on this contribution policy, the actuaries' recommended contribution for the Plan years ending December 31, 2023 and 2022 was \$939,218 and \$708,115, respectively. The 2023 and 2022 contributions are expected to amortize the UAL as a level dollar amount over the 10-year period that began January 1, 2019. There are no required contributions by the participants. GBRA contributed \$939,218, the required minimum contribution, in 2023 and contributed \$800,000, more than the recommended minimum of \$708,115 in 2022.

Ultimately, the contribution policy also depends upon the total return of the Plan's assets, which varies from year to year. Investment policy decisions are established and maintained by the Retirement and Benefit Committee. The committee selects and employs investment managers with the advice of their investment consultant who is completely independent of the investment managers. For the years ending December 31, 2023 and 2022, the money-weighted rate of return on pension plan investments were 10.96% and -16.19% respectively. This measurement of the investment performance is net of investment-related expenses, reflecting the effect of the timing of the contributions received and the benefits paid during the year.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (2) Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

### Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made in the presentation of the December 31, 2022 financial statement. All comparative information for prior periods has been reclassified to match the new presentation. The changes in presentation had no impact on the changes in net position.

## (3) Fair value of investments

	December 31, 2023		December 31 2023			Level 1	Level 2		Lev	el 3
Investments measured by fair value level:								-		
Equity securities	\$	15,379,188	\$	15,379,188	\$	-	\$	-		
Fixed income		5,589,853	_	5,589,853		_				
Total investments measured by fair value level		20,969,041	_	20,969,041		_				
Investments measured at net asset value (NAV):										
Cash equivalents/short-term investment funds		1,262,782								
Fixed income		2,766,687								
Alternative investments		8,343,057								
Total investments measured at NAV		12,372,526								
Total	\$	33,341,567								

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (3) Fair value of investments (continued)

	December 31, 2022				Level 2			Level 3	
Investments measured by fair value level:									
Equity securities	\$	15,445,678	\$	15,445,678	\$		-	\$	-
Fixed income		3,599,409	_	3,599,409			_		
Total investments measured by fair value level		19,045,087		19,045,087			_		<del>-</del>
Investments measured at net asset value (NAV):									
Cash equivalents/short-term investment funds		2,084,030							
Fixed income		2,045,354							
Alternative investments		8,789,347							
Total investments measured at NAV		12,918,731							
Total	\$	31,963,818							

## (4) Investments representing 5% of fiduciary net position

		2023	3	2022			
	MARKET PERCENT VALUE OF TOTAL		PERCENT	N	MARKET	PERCENT	
				VALUE	OF TOTAL		
Equity securities:							
Diamond Hill Large Cap Fund	\$	3,268,510	9.80%	\$	4,071,808	12.73%	
Vanguard INTL Equity Index Fund		4,025,238	12.92%		4,131,536	12.39%	
Wells Fargo Advantage Growth Fund		3,345,725	10.03%		3,083,612	9.64%	
Fixed income securities:							
JIC Institutional Bond III		5,589,853	16.76%		3,599,409	11.26%	
Brandywine Global Opp Fixed Income Fund		2,766,687	8.30%		2,045,354	6.40%	
Alternative investments:							
Ironwood Institutional Multi-Strategy Fund, LLC		3,329,229	9.98%		3,483,827	10.89%	
Eastern Shore CIT		2,607,125	7.82%		2,482,145	7.76%	

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (5) Investments held

## Investments held are as follows:

d die ds follows.	202	3	2022			
	MARKET PERCENT		MARKET	PERCENT		
	VALUE	OF TOTAL	VALUE	OF TOTAL		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,262,782	<u>3.79%</u>	\$ 2,084,030	6.52%		
Equity securities:						
Abbvie Inc	\$ 36,883	0.11%	\$ 38,463	0.12%		
AES Corp	105,298	0.32%	69,427	0.22%		
Altria Group Inc	75,274	0.23%	40,545	0.13%		
American Express CO	54,329	0.16%	-	0.00%		
Ameriprise Finl Inc	175,102	0.53%	143,542	0.45%		
Amgen Inc.	106,567	0.32%	43,073	0.13%		
Apollo Global Management Inc	132,237	0.40%	90,518	0.28%		
Apple Inc.	118,791	0.36%	110,830	0.35%		
AT & T Inc.	-	0.00%	57,992	0.18%		
Automatic Data Processing Inc	43,332	0.13%	· _	0.00%		
Blackstone Inc	99,761	0.30%	56,533	0.18%		
Boeing Co	102,439	0.31%	74,863	0.23%		
Bristol Myers Squibb Co	33,865	0.10%	47,487	0.15%		
Capital One Financial Corp	· -	0.00%	59,773	0.19%		
Carlyle Group Inc	97,615	0.29%	71,586	0.22%		
Caterpillar Inc	47,899	0.14%	-	0.00%		
Celanese Corp	119,013	0.36%	78,316	0.24%		
Clorox Co	46,770	0.14%	46,028	0.14%		
Coca Cola Co.	72,425	0.22%	78,177	0.24%		
Conocophillips	97,151	0.29%	143,606	0.45%		
Corebridge Financial Inc	94,329	0.28%		0.00%		
Cummins Inc.	46,956	0.14%	_	0.00%		
Devon Energy Corp	90,736	0.27%	66,492	0.21%		
Discover Financial Services	122,179	0.37%	106,341	0.33%		
Dow Inc	86,592	0.26%	36,835	0.12%		
Eastman Chemical Co	-	0.00%	52,040	0.16%		
Eli Lilly & Co	_	0.00%	66,949	0.21%		
EOG Resources Inc.	91,438	0.27%	143,897	0.45%		
Franklin Resources Inc	71,130	0.00%	87,555	0.27%		
Gilead Sciences Inc.	99,075	0.30%	126,886	0.40%		
Goldman Sachs Group Inc	-	0.00%	87,562	0.27%		
Home Depot Inc.	49,210	0.15%	44,852	0.14%		
Internation Paper Co.	73,674	0.22%	26,769	0.08%		
Interpublic Group COS Inc	49,515	0.15%	86,739	0.27%		
Illinois Tool Work Inc.	83,821	0.25%	70,496	0.22%		
Kimberly Clark Corp	89,431	0.27%	49,685	0.16%		
Lockheed Martin Corp	82,490	0.25%	81,244	0.25%		
Lowes Cos Inc.	109,495	0.33%	98,026	0.31%		
Lyondellbasell Industries	82,339	0.25%	71,904	0.22%		
Marathon Petroleum Corp	56,525	0.17%	71,504	0.00%		
M astercard Inc	80,184	0.17%	65,373	0.20%		
M erck & CO Inc.	98,554	0.24%	54,476	0.20%		
Meta Platforms Inc	70,334	0.30%	27,678	0.17%		
Moodys Corp	116,777					
•	110,///	0.35%	83,307 53,470	0.26%		
Northrop Grumman Corp Nvidia Corp	49,522	0.00% 0.15%	53,470	0.17% 0.00%		
Omnicom Group	50,262		52 296			
Onancom Group	30,262	0.15%	52,286	0.16%		

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (5) Investments held (continued)

Investments held are as follows (continued)

		2023			2022			
		MARKET	PERCENT		MARKET	PERCENT		
		VALUE	OF TOTAL		VALUE	OF TOTAL		
Equity securities continued:								
Oneok Inc Com	\$	-	0.00%	\$	86,987	0.27%		
Oracle Corp		114,919	0.34%		89,097	0.28%		
Pfizer Inc.		58,185	0.17%		103,556	0.32%		
Pepsico Inc.		81,523	0.24%		42,274	0.13%		
Phillip Morris International Co.		33,681	0.10%		36,233	0.11%		
Phillips 66		145,522	0.44%		113,759	0.36%		
Pioneer Nat Res Co		92,651	0.28%		94,097	0.29%		
Qualcomm Inc		108,906	0.33%		-	0.00%		
Regions Finl Corp New		38,547	0.12%		-	0.00%		
Ross Stores Inc.		71,686	0.21%		60,124	0.19%		
S&P Global Inc.		-	0.00%		77,371	0.24%		
Synchrony Financial		106,168	0.32%		-	0.00%		
T Rowe Price Group Inc.		-	0.00%		64,236	0.20%		
TJX Companies Inc		95,499	0.29%		81,033	0.25%		
United Parcel Service		70,282	0.21%		77,706	0.24%		
United Rental Inc Com		129,020	0.39%		81,391	0.25%		
US Bancorp		40,986	0.12%		-	0.00%		
Valero Energy Corp		50,960	0.15%		-	0.00%		
Vangaurd INTL Equity Index		4,025,238	12.07%		4,131,536	12.92%		
Verizon Communications		49,915	0.15%		65,759	0.21%		
Viatris Inc.		-	0.00%		46,312	0.14%		
Visa Inc. Class A Shrs		93,986	0.28%		32,411	0.10%		
Yum Brands Inc.		-	0.00%		67,626	0.21%		
3M Co		89,424	0.27%		47,129	0.15%		
Diamond Hill Large Cap Fund		3,268,510	9.80%		4,071,808	12.73%		
Wells Fargo Allspring Growth Fund		3,345,725	10.03%		3,083,612	9.64%		
m	•	15 250 100	46.1107	•	15 445 650	40.2007		
Total equity securities	\$	15,379,188	<u>46.11</u> %	\$	15,445,678	48.30%		
Fixed income securities:								
JIC Institutional Bond III	\$	5,589,853	16.76%	\$	3,599,409	11.26%		
Brandy wine Global Opp Fixed Income Fund	_	2,766,687	8.30%	_	2,045,354	6.40%		
Total fixed income securities	\$	8,356,540	25.06%	\$	5,644,763	17.65%		
Alternative investments:								
Ironwood Institutional Multi-Strategy Fund, LLC	\$	3,329,229	9.98%	\$	3,483,827	10.89%		
Eastern Shore CIT	Ψ	2,607,125	7.82%	Ψ	2,482,145	7.76%		
BTG Pactual Open Ended Core US Timberland Fund LI	)	1,371,014	4.11%		1,329,974	4.16%		
Terracap Partners LP		1,035,689	3.11%		1,493,401	4.67%		
Tendenp Turners 21		1,000,000	<u>311170</u>	_	1,133,101	110770		
Total alternative investments	\$	8,343,057	<u>25.02</u> %	\$	8,789,347	<u>27.49</u> %		
Accrued interest	\$	10,379	0.03%	\$	12,902	0.04%		
Total investments	\$	33,351,946	100.00%	\$	31,976,720	100.00%		

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

### (6) Net pension liability

#### 2023 plan year

The Plan's net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined based on the actuarial valuation as January 1, 2023 and rolled forward to December 31, 2023.

Total pension liability	\$ 40,339,665
Plan fiduciary net position	(33,351,946)
Plan's net pension liability (asset)	<u>\$ 6,987,719</u>

Plan fiduciary net position as a

percentage of the total pension liability (asset) 82.7%

## Actuarial assumptions

The total pension liability in the January 1, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation 2.75%

Salary increases 3.50%, for the supplemental benefit, none for the frozen accrued benefit Investment rate of return 6.25%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the PubG-2010 total dataset tables for employees and for retirees (sex distinct), projected for mortality improvement generationally using the projection scale MP 2018.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is reviewed for each biennial actuarial valuation and was determined using a building-block method in which expected future net real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These components are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future net real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage (currently resulting in 4.33%) and by adding expected inflation (2.75%). In addition, the final 6.25% assumption was selected by rounding down and thereby reflects a reduction of 0.83% for adverse deviation.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (6) Net pension liability (continued)

2023 plan year (continued)

Actuarial assumptions (continued)

The target allocation and expected arithmetic net real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Net Real <u>Rate of Return</u>
Equities		
Large cap domestic	30%	5.58%
Small cap domestic	7	5.85
International developed	12	6.68
Emerging markets	3	7.40
Hedge fund of funds	12	2.55
Real estate	10	4.00
Fixed income	26	1.99
Cash	0	0.00
Total	<u>100</u> %	
Weighted Average		4.33%

#### Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.25%. No projection of cash flows was used to determine the discount rate because the January 1, 2023 actuarial valuation showed that expected contributions would amortize the unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) in the remaining seven years of the closed amortization period. Because of the seven-year amortization period of the UAL, the pension plan's fiduciary net position is expected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 6.25% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments as the discount rate to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the net pension liability (asset) to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the net pension liability (asset) of the Plan, calculated using the discount rate of 6.25%, compared to what the Employer's net pension liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.25%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.25%) than the current rate:

	Current			
	1% Decrease (5.25%)	Discount Rate (6.25%)	1% Increase (7.25%)	
Plan's net pension liability (asset)	<u>\$11,084,371</u>	<u>\$6,987,719</u>	\$3,512,714	

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (6) Net pension liability (continued)

#### 2022 plan year

The Plan's net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined based on the actuarial valuation as January 1, 2022 and rolled forward to December 31, 2022.

Total pension liability	\$ 40,188,775
Plan fiduciary net position	<u>(31,976,720)</u>
Plan's net pension liability (asset)	<u>\$ 8,212,055</u>

Plan fiduciary net position as a

percentage of the total pension liability (asset) 79.6%

### Actuarial assumptions

The total pension liability in the January 1, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation 2.75%

Salary increases 3.50%, for the supplemental benefit, none for the frozen accrued benefit Investment rate of return 6.25%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the PubG-2010 total dataset tables for employees and for retirees (sex distinct), projected for mortality improvement generationally using the projection scale MP 2018.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is reviewed for each biennial actuarial valuation and was determined using a building-block method in which expected future net real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These components are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future net real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage (currently resulting in 4.23%) and by adding expected inflation (2.75%). In addition, the final 6.25% assumption was selected by rounding down and thereby reflects a reduction of 0.73% for adverse deviation.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (6) Net pension liability (continued)

2022 plan year (continued)

Actuarial assumptions (continued)

The target allocation and expected arithmetic net real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Net Real <u>Rate of Return</u>
Equities		
Large cap domestic	30%	5.58%
Small cap domestic	7	5.85
International developed	12	5.87
Emerging markets	3	7.40
Hedge fund of funds	12	2.55
Real estate	10	4.00
Fixed income	26	1.99
Cash	0	0.00
Total	<u>100</u> %	
Weighted Average		4.23%

#### Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.25%. No projection of cash flows was used to determine the discount rate because the January 1, 2022 actuarial valuation showed that expected contributions would amortize the unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) in the remaining seven years of the closed amortization period. Because of the seven-year amortization period of the UAL, the pension plan's fiduciary net position is expected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 6.25% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments as the discount rate to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the net pension liability (asset) to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the net pension liability (asset) of the Plan, calculated using the discount rate of 6.25%, compared to what the Employer's net pension liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.25%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.25%) than the current rate:

	Current			
	1% Decrease (5.25%)	Discount Rate (6.25%)	1% Increase (7.25%)	
Plan's net pension liability (asset)	\$12,419,337	\$8,212,055	\$4,653,477	

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

### (7) Plan termination

The Board of Directors of GBRA may terminate the Plan at any time. On December 12, 2018 the Board approved an amendment to freeze the plan effective December 31, 2018 and provide supplemental benefits through TCDRS to its employees effective January 1, 2019. GBRA will continue to fund the Plan through contributions as may be required to fund the frozen Plan and the Plan shall continue to hold and administer the Trust Fund in accordance with the Plan documents.

### (8) Risks and uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect Plan's net position and the amounts reported in the statement of net position.

Plan contributions are made and the actuarial present value of accumulated Plan benefits are reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, employee demographics and inflation rates which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is reasonably possible that changes in these estimates in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

#### (9) Investment expenses

Investment expenses are summarized in the following table:

	Management Fees				
		Paid fro	om Trust 2022		
Asset Class		2023			
Public Equity	\$	28,787	\$	19,497	
Fixed Income		9,269		14,482	
Alternative/Other		_		12,799	
Total Investment Management Fees	\$	38,056	\$	46,778	
Investment Services Investment Consulting	<u>\$</u>	35,000	<u>\$</u>	35,000	
Investment Expenses					
Investment Management Fees	\$	38,056	\$	46,778	
Investment Services		35,000		35,000	
Total Investment Expenses	\$	73,056	\$	81,778	

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

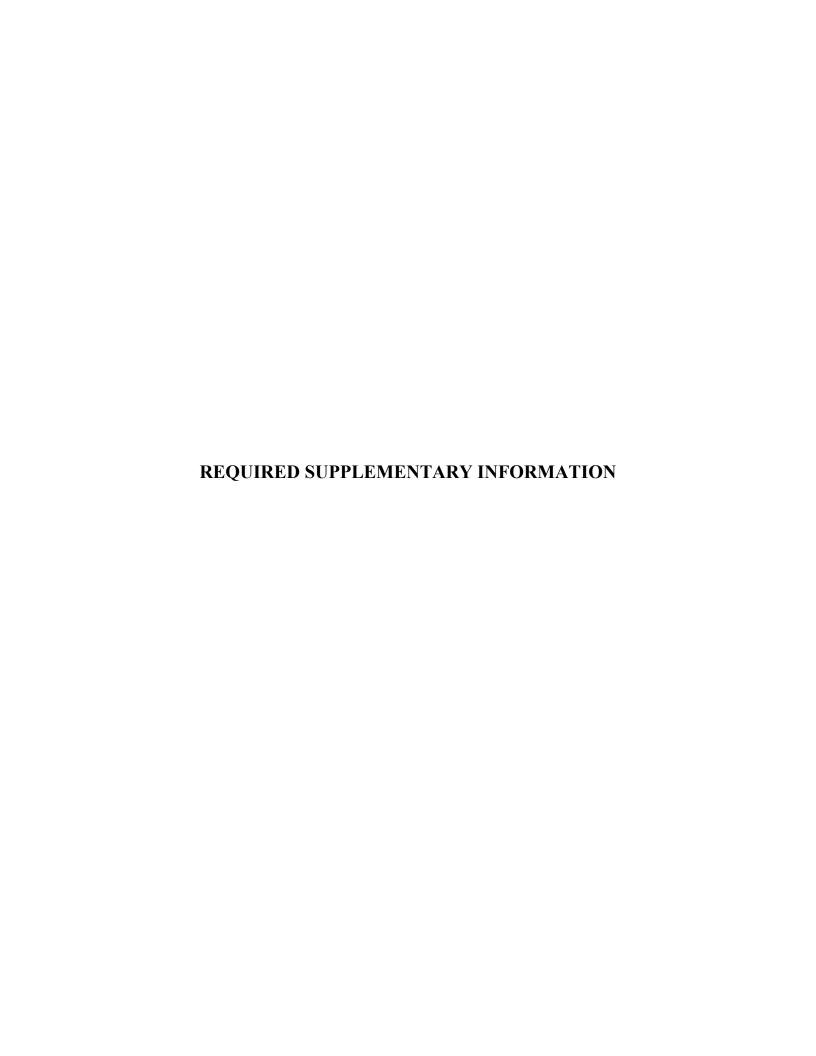
## December 31, 2023 and 2022

## (9) Investment expenses (continued)

Alternative investments and investment managers are summarized in the following table:

## Alternative Investments

Ironwood Institutional Multi-Strategy Fund, LLC Eastern Shore CIT BTG Pactual Open Ended Core US Timberland LP Terracap Partners LP



## SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY

## December 31,

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total pension liability Service cost Interest Changes of benefit provisions	\$ - 2,459,937 -	\$ - 2,438,425 -	\$ - 2,504,337	\$ - 2,393,378 -
Difference between expected and actual experience Changes in assumptions Benefit payments	649,495 - (2,958,542)	(907,550) 1,357,471 (2,528,889)	1,253,538 236,272 (2,406,550)	756,092 972,932 (1,945,699)
Net change in total pension liability	150,890	359,457	1,587,597	2,176,703
Total pension liability - beginning	40,188,775	39,829,318	38,241,721	36,065,018
Total pension liability - ending	\$ 40,339,665	\$ 40,188,775	\$ 39,829,318	\$ 38,241,721
Plan fiduciary net position Contributions by the employer Net investment income Benefit payments	\$ 974,218 3,359,550 (2,958,542)	\$ 835,000 (6,287,146) (2,528,889)	\$ 977,428 3,439,736 (2,406,550)	\$ 1,035,000 5,465,317 (1,945,699)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	1,375,226	(7,981,035)	2,010,614	4,554,618
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	31,976,720	39,957,755	37,947,141	33,392,523
Plan fiduciary net position - ending	33,351,946	31,976,720	39,957,755	37,947,141
Plan's net pension liability (asset) - ending	\$ 6,987,719	\$ 8,212,055	<u>\$ (128,437)</u>	\$ 294,580
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	82.7%	79.6%	100.3%	99.2%
Covered payroll	\$ 3,863,645	\$ 4,731,852	\$ 4,797,538	\$ 6,031,498
Employer's net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	180.9%	173.5%	-2.7%	4.9%

24

2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
¢.	¢ 202.744	¢ 210.415	¢ 262.222	Ф 292.72 <i>5</i>	¢ 270.925
\$ - 2,337,907	\$ 283,744 2,454,094	\$ 310,415 2,377,209	\$ 363,322 2,251,021	\$ 383,725 2,146,004	\$ 370,825 2,046,056
(3,504,857)	2,434,094	2,311,209	2,231,021	2,140,004	2,040,030
(3,501,057)					
-	135,472	502,207	553,030	54,130	_
2,358,552	(177,119)	-	477,891	605,445	-
(1,817,087)	(1,644,165)	(1,397,727)	(1,124,173)	(841,560)	(698,521)
(625,485)	1,052,026	1,792,104	2,521,091	2,347,744	1,718,360
26.600.502	25 (20 155	22.046.252	24 22 7 222	20.055.520	25.25.15.
36,690,503	35,638,477	33,846,373	31,325,282	28,977,538	27,259,178
¢ 26.065.019	\$ 26 600 502	¢ 25 629 477	¢ 22 946 272	¢ 21 225 292	¢ 20 077 520
\$ 36,065,018	\$ 36,690,503	\$ 35,638,477	\$ 33,846,373	\$ 31,325,282	\$ 28,977,538
\$ 1,003,540	\$ 1,128,049	\$ 1,067,716	\$ 1,338,202	\$ 1,733,464	\$ 1,684,302
5,474,367	(1,390,831)	4,336,286	650,186	(440,231)	486,549
(1,817,087)	(1,644,165)	(1,397,727)	(1,124,173)	(841,560)	(698,521)
4,660,820	(1,906,947)	4,006,275	864,215	451,673	1,472,330
28,731,703	30,638,650	26,632,375	25,768,160	25,316,487	23,844,157
22 202 522	20.521.502	20.620.650	26 622 255	25.760.160	25.216.405
33,392,523	28,731,703	30,638,650	26,632,375	25,768,160	25,316,487
Φ 2.672.405	Ф. <b>7.05</b> 0.000	ф. 4.000.0 <b>27</b>	ф. <b>7.212.00</b> 0	Ф. <i>5.557</i> ,122	Ф 2.661.051
\$ 2,672,495	\$ 7,958,800	\$ 4,999,827	\$ 7,213,998	\$ 5,557,122	\$ 3,661,051
92.6%	78.3%	86.0%	78.7%	82.3%	87.4%
Φ 5 60 6 050	Ф. <b>5.00</b> ( <b>51.</b> 0	Φ (250.212	Φ 7.004.501	Ф. 7.566.000	Φ 7.400.007
\$ 5,636,970	\$ 5,826,719	\$ 6,2/9,213	\$ 7,096,581	\$ 7,566,022	\$ 7,428,025
47.4%	136.6%	79.6%	101.7%	73.4%	49.3%
17.170	150.070	75.070	101.770	75.170	15.570

## SCHEDULE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RATIOS

## December 31,

			FIDUCIARY NET NET PENSION				
			NET	POSITION AS A	ANNUAL	LIABILITY AS A	
	TOTAL		PENSION	PERCENTAGE	COVERED	PERCENTAGE OF	
	PENSION	FIDUCIARY	LIABILITY	OF THE TOTAL	<b>EMPLOYEE</b>	ANNUAL COVERED	
YEAR	LIABILITY	NET POSITION	(ASSET)	PENSION LIABILITY	PAYROLL	EMPLOYEE PAYROLL	
2023	\$ 40,339,665	\$ 33,351,946	\$ 6,987,719	82.70%	\$ 3,863,645	180.90%	
2022	40,188,775	31,976,720	8,212,055	79.60%	4,731,852	173.50%	
2021	39,829,318	39,957,755	(128,437)	100.30%	4,797,538	-2.70%	
2020	38,241,721	37,947,141	294,580	99.20%	6,031,498	4.90%	
2019	36,065,018	33,392,523	2,672,495	92.60%	5,636,970	47.40%	
2018	36,690,503	28,731,703	7,958,800	78.30%	5,826,719	136.60%	
2017	35,638,477	30,638,650	4,999,827	86.00%	6,279,213	79.63%	
2016	33,846,373	26,632,375	7,213,998	78.69%	7,096,581	101.65%	
2015	31,325,282	25,768,160	5,557,122	82.26%	7,566,022	73.45%	
2014	28,977,538	25,316,487	3,661,051	87.37%	7,423,408	49.32%	

## SCHEDULE OF PLAN CONTRIBUTIONS

## December 31, 2023 and last nine years

FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,	DET CONT	UARIALLY ERMINED RIBUTION PLOYER	ACTUAL TRIBUTION	DET	UARIALLY FERMINED S ACTUAL	C	NNUAL OVERED AYROLL	ACTUAL CONTRIBUTION AS A PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL COVERED PAYROLL
2023 2022 2021	\$	939,218 708,115 942,428	\$ 939,218 800,000 942,428	\$	91,885	\$	3,863,645 4,731,852 4,797,538	24.31% 16.91% 19.64%
2020 2019		897,338 653,540	1,000,000 1,003,540		102,662 350,000		6,031,498 5,636,970	16.58% 17.80%
2018 2017		1,128,049 1,067,716	1,128,049 1,067,716		- -		5,826,719 6,279,213	19.36% 17.00%
2016 2015 2014		1,038,202 1,033,464 984,302	1,338,202 1,733,464 1,684,302		300,000 700,000 700,000		7,096,581 7,566,022 7,428,025	18.86% 22.91% 22.67%

## SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS

## December 31,

	ANNUAL MONEY - WEIGHTED
YEAR	NET REAL RATE OF RETURN
2023	10.96%
2022	-16.19%
2021	9.36%
2020	16.86%
2019	19.62%
2018	-4.66%
2017	16.72%
2016	2.58%
2015	-1.75%
2014	2.05%

## NOTE TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

## December 31,

## (1) Methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates

Actuarially determined contribution (ADC) for the plan year ending December 31, 2023 was calculated in the actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2023. Methods and assumptions used to determine the ADC for the plan year ending December 31, 2023 are as follows:

Actuarial cost method: None since plan is frozen

Amortization method: Level dollar, closed period

Remaining amortization period: 6-years

Asset valuation method: 5-year smoothed market

Inflation: 2.75%

Salary increases: None for frozen accrued benefit; 3.5% per year for supplemental benefit

Investment rate of return: 6.25%

Retirement age: Later of age 65 and one year after valuation date

Mortality: PubG-2010 total dataset mortality tables for employees and for retirees

(sex distinct), projected for mortality improvement generationally using

the projected scale MP-2018

Actuarially determined contributions began with the 2019 plan year. Prior to 2019 the recommended contributions were determined as 12% of the total payroll of all full-time employees.