**Financial Statements** 

June 30, 2020 and 2019

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

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#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

The Board of Trustees Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Irrevocable OPEB Trust

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

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Irrevocable OPEB Trust (the Trust), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2020 and 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

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

#### Auditors' Responsibility

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

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

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



#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the Trust as of June 30, 2020 and 2019, and the change in fiduciary net position for the fiscal years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Other Matters**

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis (located on pages 3 and 4) and certain other postemployment benefits information (located on pages 14 through 17) be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board 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.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Boston, Massachusetts August 25, 2020

Management's Discussion and Analysis

June 30, 2020 and 2019

(Unaudited)

This section of the financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Irrevocable Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust (the Trust) financial performance during the fiscal years ended June 30, 2020 and 2019. Please read it in conjunction with the Trust's financial statements, which immediately follow this section.

#### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

The financial section of this annual report consists of four parts: management's discussion and analysis (this section), the financial statements and related notes to the financial statements, and required supplementary information.

The financial statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the Trust's overall financial status. The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements.

#### **Financial Analysis of the Trust**

#### Net Position and Change in Net Position

The Trust's total net position at June 30, 2020 was approximately \$43.7 million, a \$6.6 million increase from June 30, 2019. The change in net position is comprised of the actuarially determined employer contributions to the Trust of \$10.9 million and net investment income of \$0.7 million, less deductions for actuarially determined benefit payments of \$4.9 million. Actual cash contribution by the Authority to the Trust was \$6 million in fiscal year 2020.

The Trust's total net position at June 30, 2019 was approximately \$37.1 million, a \$7.3 million increase from June 30, 2018. The change in net position is comprised of the actuarially determined employer contributions to the Trust of \$10.7 million and net investment income of \$1.7 million, less deductions for actuarially determined benefit payments of \$5.1 million. Actual cash contribution by the Authority to the Trust was \$5.6 million in fiscal year 2019.

#### Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Irrevocable Trust

In April 2015, the Authority established the MWRA Irrevocable Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust. The Trust was established for the sole purpose of providing for the advance funding of future costs of retired employee health insurance and other benefits provided to retirees. It is intended that the Trust shall constitute a "Qualified OPEB Trust" according to the standards set forth in GASB Statement No. 43, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions and the standards of GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans. The OPEB Trust Agreement establishes a five-member Board of Trustees, made up of Authority senior managers, to control and manage the trust.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

June 30, 2020 and 2019

(Dollars in 000s)

An initial deposit of \$10.8 million was made to the trust upon establishment of the trust in April 2015. The balance of the trust at June 30, 2020, 2019, and 2018 was \$43.7 million, \$37.1 million and \$29.8 million, respectively.

#### **Investments**

The Board of Trustees has prepared an Investment Policy to manage the growing portfolio of trust assets. For the periods ended June 30, 2020 and 2019, investment income was \$0.7 million and \$1.7 million, respectively.

#### **Contacting the Trust's Financial Management**

This report is designed to provide all interested parties with a general overview of the Trust's finances. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Finance Division, 100 First Avenue, Boston, MA 02129.

# Statements of Fiduciary Net Position June 30, 2020 and 2019 (Dollars in 000s)

Assets	 2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents (note 3)	\$ 6,126	5,684
Investments	37,603	31,388
Total assets	 43,729	37,072
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	_	_
Total liabilities		_
Net position restricted for OPEB	\$ 43,729	37,072

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019 (Dollars in 000s)

	 2020	2019
Additions:		
Employer contributions	\$ 10,885	10,656
Investment income:		
Net increase in fair value of investments	829	1,847
Interest	53	33
Less investment expense	 (187)	(156)
Net investment income	695	1,724
Total additions	 11,580	12,380
Deductions:	 _	_
Benefits paid	 4,923	5,082
Total deductions	4,923	5,082
Change in net position restricted for OPEB	6,657	7,298
Net position restricted for OPEB, beginning of the period	 37,072	29,774
Net position restricted for OPEB, end of period	\$ 43,729	37,072

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2020 and 2019

(Dollars in 000s)

#### (1) Organization and Nature of Activities

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Irrevocable OPEB Trust (Trust) was established in April, 2015 as a single-employer other post-employment benefits (OPEB) plan, for the purpose of accumulating and investing assets to fund certain post-retirement medical and life insurance for retirees of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (the Authority). The Trust is not a component unit of another governmental entity.

The Trust's Board of Trustees has fiduciary responsibility for the investment of monies and administration of the Trust pursuant to the Trust Agreement. The Board of Trustees is currently composed of five members including the following MWRA employees: Executive Director, Director of Finance, Treasurer, Budget Director and Director of Human Resources. The Trustees term of service shall continue for as long as each is willing to perform the duties and obligations of the position.

The Authority provides OPEB for retired employees through the Group Insurance Commission (GIC). The GIC is a quasi-independent state agency that administers an agent multi-employer defined benefit OPEB plan. The benefits, benefit levels, employee contributions and employer contributions are governed by the Authority and can be amended by the Authority. The Authority provides medical, prescription drug, mental health/substance abuse and life insurance to retirees and their covered dependents. All active employees who retire from the Authority and meet the eligibility criteria will receive these benefits.

#### (2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Basis of Presentation

The accompanying basic financial statements of the Trust are presented in conformity with the U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

The Trust's financial statements are presented in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans. This statement requires, among other things, additional disclosures and descriptive information about classes of plan members, plan investments and significant assumptions used to measure the total OPEB liability.

The Trust has also implemented GASB Statement No. 85, *Omnibus 2017*. This statement addressed various topics, including requirements related to presenting payroll measures in required supplementary information related to OPEB plans.

#### (b) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Trust are presented as a fiduciary fund type. The economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting are used in the preparation of the financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2019 and 2018
(Dollars in 000s)

Employer contributions to the plan are recognized when due and the employer has made a formal commitment to provide the contributions. Benefits paid represents the gross up of amounts paid directly by the plan sponsor, the MWRA, for retiree OPEB costs and the implicit rate subsidy associated with such costs. The implicit rate subsidy is the inherent subsidy of retiree healthcare costs by active employee healthcare costs when healthcare premiums paid by both actives and retirees are the same. Benefits paid are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the employer/sponsor's plan.

#### (c) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### (3) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are checking, savings and money market accounts, or highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less.

The custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Trust's deposits may not be recovered. The deposits are covered by \$250 of FDIC insurance.

The bank deposits at June 30, 2020 and 2019 were \$6,126 and \$5,684, respectively. Of these amounts, \$5,876 and \$5,434 were exposed to custodial credit risks as uninsured and uncollateralized.

#### (4) Investments

The Trustees have adopted a formal cash and investment policy. All funds will be invested with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Trust (PRIT) fund through the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund.

The investment in the PRIT fund is not subject to custodial or concentration risk and the Trust does not have policies to address such risks. The investment in PRIT is subject to foreign currency risk to the extent exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of PRIT's international investments. The Trust does not have a policy to address this risk. The PRIT fund is unrated.

Investments are recorded at fair value. The Trust categorizes its fair value measurements with the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. Debt securities classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using prices quoted in active markets for those securities. Debt securities classified in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using a matrix pricing technique. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on the securities' relationship to benchmark quoted prices. The Trust has no securities classified in Level 3.

The Trust's investment in the PRIT fund is classified as Level 2.

Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2020 and 2019
(Dollars in 000s)

#### (5) Other Postemployment Benefits

#### (a) Plan Description

*Plan Administration.* The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Irrevocable OPEB Trust (the Trust) administers the MWRA other postemployment benefits plan – a single-employer defined benefit plan that is used to provide postemployment benefits other than pensions (OPEB) for all permanent employees of the Authority.

Management of the Trust is vested in the Trust's Board of Trustees, which consists of five members, all of whom are current MWRA employees.

Plan Membership. At June 30, 2020, plan membership consisted of the following:

Inactive plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	862
Inactive plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	34
Active plan members	939
Total	1,835

*Benefits Provided.* The Trust provides healthcare and life insurance benefits for retirees and their dependents. Benefits are provided through a third-party insurer, and the full cost of benefits is covered by the plan.

Contributions. The Authority's Board of Directors approves the annual employer contribution to the Trust. Plan members contribute between 10% and 20% of the premium cost and the Authority pays the balance.

#### (b) Investments

*Investment policy*. The Trust's assets are invested with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Trust (PRIT) fund. The Trust's Board of Trustees may vote to approve a different investment vehicle, at its discretion. The following was the PRIT fund's asset allocation at June 30, 2020 and 2019:

Asset Class	Target Allocation (%)
Domestic Equity	21%
International Equity	18
Fixed Income	23
Private Equity	13
Real Estate	10
Other	15
Total	100 %

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Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2020 and 2019
(Dollars in 000s)

Rate of return. For the years ended June 30, 2020 and 2019, the annual money-weighted rate of return on investments, net of investment expense, was 1.88% and 5.80%, respectively. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

## (c) Net OPEB Liability of the Authority

The components of the net OPEB liability of the Authority at June 30, 2020 and 2019, were as follows:

	Jun	e 30, 2020	June 30, 2019		
Total OPEB liability	\$	132,819	\$	161,064	
Plan fiduciary net position		(43,729)		(37,072)	
Net OPEB liability	\$	89,090	\$	123,992	
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability		32.9%		23.0%	

Actuarial assumptions. The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2019 and 2017, and update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability to June 30, 2020 and 2019. The following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	3.0	percent
Salary increases	5.75	percent, decreasing over 9 years to an ultimate level of 4.0 percent
Discount rate	7.0	percent, net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation
Healthcare cost trend rates	7.0	percent for 2019, decreasing 0.5 percent per year for three years to 5.5 percent for 2 years, then decreasing by 0.5 percent for 2 years to an ultimate rate of 4.5 percent and 8 percent for 2018, decreasing 0.5 percent per year to an ultimate rate of 5 percent

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table for Employees projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2017 for active employees, the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Tables for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2017 for retirees and the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Tables for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2017 set forward one year for the disabled.

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2020 and 2019

(Dollars in 000s)

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of June 30, 2020 and 2019 (see discussion of the Trust's investment policy) are summarized in the following table:

	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return (%)					
Asset Class	<b>June 30, 2020</b>	June 30, 2019				
Domestic Equity	6.15%	6.16%				
International Equity	6.78 - 8.65	6.69 - 9.47				
Fixed Income	1.11 - 3.51	1.89 - 4.00				
Private Equity	9.99	10.00				
Real Estate	4.33	4.58				
Other	3.19 - 4.13	3.68 - 4.77				

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.0% for both June 30, 2020 and 2019. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that Authority contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rates. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability. The discount rate used in the prior actuarial valuation was 7.0%.

Sensitivity of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the net OPEB liability of the Authority, as well as what the Authority's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.0%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.0%) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (6.0%)		Discount Rate (7.0%)		1% Increase (8.0%)		
Net OPEB Liability as of		_					
June 30, 2020	\$	106,574	\$	89,090	\$	74,561	

Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2020 and 2019
(Dollars in 000s)

	1% Decrease (6.0%)		Discount Rate (7.0%)		1% Increase (8.0%)		
Net OPEB Liability as of					-		
June 30, 2019	\$	146,464	\$	123,992		\$	105,452

Sensitivity of the net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates. The following presents the net OPEB liability of the Authority, as well as what the Authority's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower (6.0% - 7.0% as of June 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.0% - 9.0% as of June 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively) than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

NA OPER List items of	1% Decrease (6.0% - 3.5%)	Base Rate (7.0% - 4.5%)	1% Increase (8.0% - 5.5%)	
Net OPEB Liability as of June 30, 2020	\$ 72,456	\$ 89,090	\$ 109,595	
	1% Decrease (7.0% - 4.0%)	Base Rate (8.0% - 5.0%)	1% Increase (9.0% - 6.0%)	
Net OPEB Liability as of June 30, 2019	\$ 99,237	\$ 123,992	\$ 152,589	

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Required Supplementary Information – Schedule of Changes in Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios (1)

June 30, 2020 and 2019

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in 000s)

	2020	2019		2018	2017
Total OPEB Liability					 
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	161,064	150,978		154,254	146,143
Service Cost	4,604	4,463		2,820	2,705
Interest	11,425	10,705		10,821	10,253
Differences between expected and actual experience	(5,863)	-		(11,860)	-
Change of assumptions	(33,488)	-		-	-
Benefit Payments	(4,923)	(5,082)		(5,057)	(4,847)
Net Change in total OPEB liability	(28,245)	10,086		(3,276)	8,111
Total OPEB Liability - Ending	 132,819	 161,064	_	150,978	 154,254
Plan Fiduciary Net Position					
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	37,072	29,774		22,782	16,123
Contributions - employer (claims + additional funding)	10,885	10,656		10,093	9,723
Net Investment Income	695	1,724		1,956	1,783
Benefit Payments	(4,923)	(5,082)		(5,057)	(4,847)
Net Change in plan fiduciary net position	 6,657	 7,298		6,992	 6,659
Plan fiduciary net position - end	43,729	 37,072		29,774	 22,782
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 89,090	\$ 123,992	\$	121,204	\$ 131,472
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	32.9%	23.0%		19.7%	14.8%
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 103,778	\$ 98,238	\$	94,816	\$ 86,475
MWRA's net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	85.8%	126.2%		127.8%	152.0%

#### Notes to Schedule

Changes in Assumptions - December 31, 2019 Valuation: the per capital health care costs were updated to reflect recent experience (reduced to 7% starting from 8%), trend assumptions were revised to better reflect future expectations, the excise tax on high cost health plans beginning in 2022 was repealed effective December 20, 2019 and removed from the valuation, spouse election percentage assumptions was lowered from 75% to 65% after analysis of past experience

(1) Data is being accumulated annually to present 10 years of the reported information.

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

Required Supplementary Information – Schedule of Employer Contributions – Last 10 Fiscal Years

June 30, 2020 and 2019

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in 000s)

	_	2020	2019	2018	2017
Actuarially determined contribution	\$	8,997	11,812	11,400	10,948
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ <u></u>	10,885 (1,888)	10,656 1,156	10,093 1,307	9,723 1,225
Covered- Employee Payroll (1) Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-	\$	103,788	98,238	94,816	86,475
Enployee Payroll (1)		10.5%	10.8%	10.6%	11.2%

#### **Notes to Schedule**

#### Methods and assumptions used to determine contributions rates:

Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization method	30 years (closed)
Asset valuation method	Market value of assets
Inflation	3%
Healthcare cost trend rates	7% for 2019, decreasing 0.5% per year to an ultimate rate of 4.5%
Discount rate	7%
Mortality	Actives: RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table for employees projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2017

Retirees: RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality tables for healthy annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2017

projected using generational mortality and scale ivii -2017

*Disabled:* RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality tables for healthy annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2017. Set forward one year.

(1) Data is being accumulated annually to present 10 years of the reported information.

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
14,996	14,564	15,621	14,482	19,151	17,433
9,804	14,852	3,493	2,813	3,986	3,293
5,192	(288)	12,128	11,669	15,165	14,140

 $\label{eq:continuous} Required \ Supplementary \ Information - Schedule \ of \ Investments \ Returns \ (1)$   $\ June \ 30, \ 2020$ 

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in 000s)

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Annual money-weighted rate of return,				
net of investment expense	1.88%	5.80%	8.58%	10.58%

(1) Data is being accumulated annually to present 10 years of the reported information

See accompanying independent auditors' report