

Sauk County Deferred Compensation Plan

Investment Policy Statement

Part I. THE PLAN

Sauk County (the "County") sponsors a defined contribution plan (the "Plan") for the benefit of its employees and their designated beneficiaries. The County will appoint a Committee to fulfill the County's fiduciary duties in regards to Plan investments. The Plan is intended to provide participating employees the ability to create long-term accumulation of savings through contributions to individual participant accounts and the earnings thereon.

The Plan's participants and beneficiaries are expected to have different investment objectives, time horizons and risk tolerances. To meet these varying investment needs, participants and beneficiaries will be able to direct their account balances among a range of investment options to construct diversified portfolios that reasonably span the risk/return spectrum. Participants and beneficiaries alone bear the risk of gains or losses of their investment options and their asset allocation.

Part II. THE PURPOSE OF THE INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

This Investment Policy Statement is intended to assist the Plan's fiduciaries by establishing nonbinding guidelines for making investment-related decisions in a prudent manner. It outlines the underlying philosophies and processes for the selection, periodic monitoring and evaluation of the investment options offered by the Plan.

Specifically, this Investment Policy Statement:

- Defines the Plan's investment objectives.
- Defines the roles of those responsible for the Plan's investments.
- Describes the criteria and procedures for selecting the investment options.
- Establishes investment procedures, measurement standards and monitoring procedures.
- Describes potential corrective actions the Committee (or an independent investment financial professional, if delegated authority pursuant to Part III, hereinafter financial professional) can take should investment options (or their respective managers) fail to satisfy established objectives, if the Committee (or financial professional, if applicable) determines that such actions are prudent and advisable given the circumstances.
- Describes the types of educational materials to be provided to Plan participants and beneficiaries.
- Describes certain fiduciary obligations and related applicable laws and regulations.

The guidelines provided in this Investment Policy Statement do not constitute a contract. These guidelines are also not meant to be a statement of mandatory requirements. Rather, these guidelines are only an explanation of general principles and guidelines being currently applied for investment option selection, retention and replacement. Furthermore, these guidelines are not the sole factors considered by the Committee (or financial professional, if applicable) in the process. This Investment Policy Statement is not intended to, and shall not be deemed to expand the fiduciary duties of the Committee, or its individual members, (or financial professional, if applicable).

This Investment Policy Statement will be reviewed periodically, and, if appropriate, may be amended by the Committee at any time to reflect changes in the capital markets, Plan objectives, or other factors relevant to the Plan.

Part III. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the relevant terms of the Plan document, the Committee has delegated investment discretion to an independent investment financial professional (as limited by the last paragraph of Part VII). The financial professional will select the Plan's investment options (as limited by the last paragraph of Part VII) based on criteria deemed relevant, from time to time, by the financial professional. These criteria may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Maximization of return within reasonable and prudent levels of risk.
- Provision of returns comparable to returns for similar investment options.
- Provision of exposure to a wide range of investment opportunities in various asset classes and vehicles.
- Control administrative and management fees.
- Provision of appropriate diversification within investment vehicles.
- Investment manager's adherence to stated investment objectives and style.

Part IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Subject to the terms of the Plan document, the Committee is responsible for:

- Selecting the trustee(s).
- Hiring the recordkeeper.
- Hiring, and periodically monitoring the financial professional.
- Establishing and maintaining the Investment Policy Statement.
- Periodically monitoring the performance and fees charged by service providers.
- Periodically monitoring any other Plan fees.
- Providing for Plan participant investment education and communication.

Subject to the terms of the Plan document and any contract or agreement entered into by and between the Company and financial professional, the financial professional is responsible for:

- Selecting the investment options (as limited by the last paragraph of Part VII).
- Periodically evaluating the Plan's investments' performances and considering investment option changes (as limited by the last paragraph of Part VII).

In executing its responsibilities, the Committee and financial professional will make decisions in accordance with all applicable fiduciary standards as follows:

- Solely in the interest of Plan participants and beneficiaries, for the exclusive purpose of providing Plan benefits and defraying reasonable administrative fees;
- With the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and of like aims.

Part V. MONITORING OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Committee should monitor service providers on an ongoing and regular basis. Administrative and/or recordkeeping service providers may be benchmarked against, but not limited to, industry averages and/or other provider quotes. Monitoring for these service providers should include, but not be limited to, an evaluation of the provider's:

- Investment offerings and services
- Recordkeeping technology and services
- Compliance services and support
- Technology
- Participant access and communications
- Fees

The ongoing monitoring of the Plan's service providers is to ensure that total Plan fees, services and investment opportunities are competitive and reasonable.

Financial professional, and any other investment consultant service providers (Plan and participant level) should be monitored regularly and the evaluation should include, but not be limited to, consideration of the provider's:

- Investment due diligence processes
- Fiduciary guidance and services
- RFP/Benchmarking scope and services
- Technology
- Participant-level access, communications and advice (if applicable)
- Fees

Part VI. SELECTION OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Set forth below are the considerations and guidelines that the financial professional should employ in fulfilling the fiduciary responsibility of selecting investment options for the Plan.

The Plan intends to provide an appropriate range of investment options that, in the aggregate, will allow Plan participants to construct portfolios consistent with their unique individual circumstances, goals, time horizons and tolerance for risk. The Plan will make available to participants at a minimum, at least three broadly diversified investment options, each of which shall offer materially different risk and return characteristics and which in the aggregate are sufficient in permitting the participants, by choosing among them, to materially affect the potential return and degree of risk on their accounts, as well as minimizing the risk of large losses within the range normally appropriate for the participant. The financial professional, shall be responsible for the Plan-level investment selection process, as set forth in this Investment Policy Statement, but cannot guarantee investment results for any selected investment option.

Major asset classes to be considered may include, but are not limited to:

Conservative Investments

Cash and liquid investments including, but not limited to, money market, stable value and guaranteed interest accounts.

Income Investments

Income oriented investments including, but not limited to, low, medium and high-quality bond investments, with short, intermediate and/or long-term duration. Management investment styles may be indexed and actively managed international, global and domestic styles.

Equity Investments

Investments that invest in equity securities, both domestic and foreign, including, but not limited to, small, medium and large market capitalization, with value, blend and growth investment objectives, which may be actively managed or indexed.

Asset Allocation Investments

Investments or accounts that invest in a combination of conservative, income, and equity investments, "fund of funds" accounts combining several of the above investments into one or a series of investments, and "manager of managers" accounts combining several different investment styles and fund managers into one account or a series of accounts.

Other Investments

In addition to the foregoing major assets classes, the financial professional may also consider other appropriate investments in other styles or asset classes offered through vehicles such as commingled trusts, insurance company separate accounts through a group annuity contract and mutual funds. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the financial professional may consider, but is not required, to include in the investment menu any specific investment asset class, option or style.

After considering the desired asset classes, the financial professional will evaluate and choose the appropriate investment option(s) desired to be offered by the Plan's investment menu. If an investment manager (responsible for the underlying investment vehicle, such as a mutual fund,

commingled account, collective trust, or separate account) is chosen as a potential investment option, the following minimum criteria should be considered:

1. The investment manager should be a bank, insurance company, investment management, mutual fund company or an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940;
2. The investment's manager should operate in good standing with regulators and clients, with no material pending or concluded legal actions against it; and
3. All relevant quantitative and qualitative information on the manager and investment should be made available by the manager and/or vendor.

In addition to the minimum criteria above, the financial professional should consider the following standards for selection of all investments:

1. Investment performance should be competitive with an appropriate style-specific benchmark and the median return for an appropriate, style-specific peer group (where appropriate and available, long-term performance of an investment manager may be inferred through the performance of another investment with similar style attributes managed by such investment manager);
2. Specific risk and risk-adjusted return measures should be reviewed by the financial professional and be within a reasonable range relative to appropriate, style-specific benchmark and peer group;
3. The investment should demonstrate adherence to the stated investment objective, without excess style drift over trailing performance periods;
4. Fees and fee structures should be competitive compared with similar investments reasonably available to the Plan; part of this examination includes a review of the proper use of investment-generated fees (and related revenue) to offset Plan recordkeeper fees, which should also be reviewed on a periodic basis;
5. The investment should exhibit attractive qualitative characteristics, including, but not limited to, acceptable manager tenure; and
6. The investment should be able to provide performance, holdings and other relevant information in a timely fashion with specified frequency.

Furthermore, investments will be evaluated and selected utilizing a "score card," detailed below in Part VII (Investment Monitoring and Reporting).

Part VII. INVESTMENT MONITORING AND REPORTING

The ongoing monitoring of investments is a regular and disciplined process intended to ensure that a previously selected investment option continues to satisfy the selection process and that an investment option continues to be a prudent option offered for investment in the Plan. The process of monitoring investment performance relative to specified guidelines will be consistently applied. Frequent change of investments is neither expected nor desired.

The financial professional will bear in mind any and all political, social, economic or other changes that may potentially require more frequent review and consideration of investments. The following are some, but not all, general factors that may be considered in ongoing monitoring:

- Current regulatory environment,
- Current state of capital markets,

- Performance of investment alternatives,
- Utilization of accounts by Plan demographic,
- The prudent applicability of this Investment Policy Statement as written, in light of prevailing facts and circumstances.

Monitoring will generally utilize the same investment selection criteria used in the original selection analysis, or such other criteria as deemed prudent by the financial professional. Unusual, notable, or extraordinary events should be communicated by each investment and/or provider on a timely basis to the financial professional. Examples of such events include portfolio manager or team departure, violation of investment guidelines, material litigation against the investment management firm, or material changes in firm ownership structure and announcements thereof.

If overall satisfaction with the investment option is acceptable, no further action is required. If areas of dissatisfaction exist, the financial professional will monitor whether the investment is taking appropriate and prudent steps to remedy the deficiency. If over a reasonable period the issue remains unresolved, removal of the investment option may result.

For supported asset classes, a "score card" will be maintained and documented (see addendum) to substantiate acceptable levels of performance and appropriate style characteristics. Based upon objective criteria, derived from modern portfolio theory concepts, each investment option will receive a score reflecting its overall performance.

If an investment fails to meet the criteria standards, as determined by its score, it may be placed on a "watch list" (as defined in the attached Addendum). If the investment maintains a watch list score for four consecutive quarters, or five out of eight quarters, the investment may be considered for further action (see Part IX below) by the financial professional. In the event an investment receives a score which is below that of "watch list" status, or experiences extraordinary circumstances which may render it imprudent to maintain, it may be considered for action (see Part IX below) by the financial professional at the earliest administratively practicable date.

If the investment meets criteria standards, as determined by its score as "acceptable" or "good" (as defined in the attached Addendum) for four consecutive quarters, it may be removed from the watch list.

Cash, or principal preservation, alternatives should be reviewed with a primary focus on the investment's ability to preserve capital and minimize risk. Criteria reviewed should include, but not be limited to, credit quality, diversification, and stability of insurance provider, if applicable.

Asset allocation investments should be scored and monitored in the same manner as all other investments, using the previously described guidelines in Part VII. Because many of these investments contain separate underlying investment funds, it may also be appropriate to score and monitor those, as available and applicable. Unlike other investments which are monitored and scored individually, target-date investments, though potentially scored individually, should be evaluated as a group. Due to the unique importance of these investment options for participants in the Plan, investments or suites of investments (as may be applicable), or managed accounts failing to achieve criteria standards should be carefully reviewed before removal from the Plan (in the absence of a reasonable alternative).

In the event asset allocation investments have too brief a time history to be scored, the investment or suite should be evaluated both qualitatively and quantitatively on the underlying investments that may have a longer time history available, using a proxy, or a qualitative framework for all other instances.

Investments where no score is applied due to specialty focus, short time history or other unique circumstances should be reviewed using a proxy, where applicable and prudent, or a qualitative framework for all other instances.

The foregoing investment monitoring criteria shall not, under any circumstances, be taken as definitive, conclusive, or controlling for removal, termination or continuation of an investment option. All determinations should be made by the financial professional, in its sole discretion, taking into consideration all relevant facts and circumstances.

PART VIII: ASSET ALLOCATION AND DEFAULT STRATEGY

The financial professional will evaluate and choose an investment or set of investments, or multiple investments, to serve as the default investment(s) for the Plan. The default investment(s) will be the designated investment for dollars contributed to the Plan by participants and/or the employer for which the Plan has no active employee direction on file.

Asset allocation investments and/or accounts (risk-based or target date-based) should be considered as the Plan's default investment strategy due to the inherent benefits these options provide to participants including the diversification of assets across multiple asset classes. The intent on selection of an asset allocation investment(s) as the default is to meet the requirements of a qualified default investment alternative (QDIA).

In the event the financial professional selects a target-date asset allocation solution, a critical component is the respective glidepath which should be reviewed to make sure it is appropriate and prudent as a default, and further that it continues to be appropriate and prudent, for the Plan and Plan's participants. The following criteria should be considered in the selection, and ongoing monitoring, of a target-date asset allocation solution:

- Plan objectives, including, but not limited to; the Plan being a "supplemental" plan versus the County's sole retirement plan which participants are relying on to retire, the existence of additional plans (i.e., defined benefit plan, deferred compensation plan, money purchase pension plan, etc.), potentially impactful additional Plan design elements (i.e., automatic features, level of matching contributions, profit sharing contributions, etc.), whether the Plan's objectives in offering the suite have changed, whether proprietary, custom, or nonproprietary solutions best meet the objectives of a prudent number of eligible employees and whether the glidepath, equity landing point, and age 65 equity exposure, most closely meets the objectives of a prudent number of eligible employees;
- Plan demographic information, including, but not limited to: participant deferral rates, account balances and their general degree of investment knowledge (level of investment sophistication), whether a single or multiple glidepath approach would be most prudent for the demographics of the eligible employee population; and
- Participant behavior information, including, but not limited to; the level of participant involvement in the plan before and after retirement and how participants behave with investment and market risk within the plan.

Other considerations may include:

- Whether the Plan's objectives in offering the existing suite have changed;
- Whether there have been significant changes in the suite's investment strategy or management team;
- Whether the fees and expenses of the suite are reasonable given the investment management (including glidepath construction, rebalancing, etc.) involved;

- Additional information such as number, and construct, of asset classes used to promote diversification and growth potential within each investment; and
- The management style of the underlying investments be it passive, active, or a core-satellite approach.

In the event the financial professional selects a risk-based asset allocation solution, the investment chosen as a default should be reviewed to make sure it is appropriate and prudent as a default, and further that it continues to be appropriate and prudent for the Plan and Plan's participants. The risk level is a critical component that should be reviewed and considered in the selection and ongoing monitoring of the investment. The chosen investment and its associated risk level should be suitable for the Plan and Plan's participants.

Part IX. FINANCIAL PROFESSIONAL ACTION

An investment may be removed when the financial professional has lost confidence in the investment manager's ability to:

- Achieve performance, style, allocation and/or risk objectives.
- Maintain acceptable qualitative standards (e.g., stable organization, compliance guidelines).

If the investment manager has failed to adhere to and/or remedy one or both of the above conditions, the investment may be considered for removal from the Plan. The financial professional may also remove an investment option for any reason it deems necessary and prudent.

Any decision by the financial professional to remove such an investment will be made on an individual basis, and will be made based on all the known facts and circumstances, including, but not limited to:

- The objective analysis (described above)
- Administrative impact on the Plan
- Timing
- Employee communication issues
- The availability of other (potential replacement) investments
- Underwriting and Plan provider limitations
- Financial considerations (hard and soft dollar fees)
- Professional or client turnover
- A material change in the investment process
- Other relevant factors

Considerable judgment should be exercised in the financial professional decision-making process. The financial professional may administer the following approaches with an investment that fails to consistently meet criteria of this Investment Policy Statement:

- Remove and replace (map assets) with a reasonably similar alternative investment.
- Freeze the assets in the investment and direct new assets to an alternative, reasonably similar, investment.
- Phase out the investment over a specific time period.

- Remove the investment and do not provide a replacement investment and default assets into the Plan's QDIA.

Replacement of a removed investment follows the criteria outlined in Part VI (Selection of Investment Options).

Part X. PARTICIPANT EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Plan should communicate to employees that they can direct their own investments and investment changes. Investment communications materials, educational materials, and enrollment support should be available to help Plan participants make educated and informed choices, and may include:

1. Periodic enrollment and investment education, through one or more of the following: on-site meetings, phone conference, web conference, Internet, phone (voice-response and live representatives), or written materials;
2. Appropriate participant level disclosure;
3. Summary plan description made available to all participants;
4. General information regarding investment risk, inflation, potential taxation impact, investment earnings, and asset classes;
5. Other investment tools (e.g., investment risk profile questionnaire) to assist participants and beneficiaries in making educated and informed investment decisions; and
6. All additional information required for disclosure by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and all other Federal and state statutes and all regulations promulgated hereunder, and all regulatory guidance provided thereto.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, all investment education provided by the Plan and/or Committee, and all communications connected thereto, is not intended, nor shall it be construed, as investment advice to Plan participants.

Part XI. COORDINATION WITH THE PLAN DOCUMENT AND APPLICABLE LAWS

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any term or condition of this Investment Policy Statement conflicts with any of the Internal Revenue Code, or regulations promulgated hereunder, or any term or condition in the Plan document, the Internal Revenue Code and Plan document shall control.

Part XII. INVESTMENT INFORMATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The Committee and financial professional should require the investment manager and/or service provider (administrator, recordkeeper) to offer the following administrative information and support, competitive to that provided by other investment managers and/or service providers as it deems appropriate, which may include:

1. Daily valuation of all investments;
2. Daily access to account information via toll-free number and Internet access;
3. The ability to make investment transfers for both existing and future individual account balances on a daily basis (nonbusiness days and holidays excluded). Certain trading practices may be limited to comply with market timing, excess trading, liquidity driven and/or related policies and procedures of the service provider and/or specific investment options;

4. Participant account investment reports produced no less frequently than annually, with similar information available via the Internet at least quarterly; and
5. Quarterly investment performance updates available for participant review via the Internet.

Part XIII. REVIEW PROCEDURES

This Investment Policy Statement will be periodically reviewed and may be amended, if appropriate, at any time and without notice, by action of the Committee.

It is not expected that this Investment Policy Statement will change frequently. In particular, short-term changes in the financial markets should not require amendments to this Investment Policy Statement.

NOTE: This document provides SAMPLE wording and should be reviewed by legal counsel prior to signing and executing.

Brent Miller		
Name of Plan Fiduciary	Signature	Date

B.M. Miller *11/16/2021*

Name of Plan Fiduciary	Signature	Date
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Name of Plan Fiduciary	Signature	Date
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Scorecard System Methodology™

The **Scorecard System Methodology** incorporates both quantitative and qualitative factors in evaluating fund managers and their investment strategies. The **Scorecard System** is built around pass/fail criteria, on a scale of 0 to 10 (with 10 being the best) and has the ability to measure active, passive and asset allocation investing strategies. Active and asset allocation strategies are evaluated over a five-year time period, and passive strategies are evaluated over a three-year time period.

Eighty percent of the fund's score is quantitative (made up of eight unique factors), incorporating modern portfolio theory statistics, quadratic optimization analysis, and peer group rankings (among a few of the quantitative factors). The other 20 percent of the score is qualitative, taking into account things such as manager tenure, the fund's expense ratio relative to the average fund expense ratio in that asset class category, and the fund's strength of statistics (statistical significance). Other criteria that may be considered in the qualitative score includes the viability of the firm managing the assets, management or personnel issues at the firm, and/or whether there has been a change in direction of the fund's stated investment strategy. The following pages detail the specific factors for each type of investing strategies.

Combined, these factors are a way of measuring the relative performance, characteristics, behavior and overall appropriateness of a fund for inclusion into a plan as an investment option. General fund guidelines are shown in the "Scorecard Point System" table below. The Scorecard Point System is meant to be used in conjunction with our sample Investment Policy Statement, in order to help identify what strategies need to be discussed as a "watch-list" or removal candidate; what strategies continue to meet some minimum standards and continue to be appropriate; and/or identify new top-ranked strategies for inclusion into a plan.

Scorecard Point System	
Good:	9-10 Points
Acceptable:	7-8 Points
Watch:	5-6 Points
Poor:	0-4 Points

Scorecard System Methodology™

Target Date Fund Strategies

Target Date Fund strategies are investment strategies that invest in a broad array of asset classes that may include U.S. equity, international equity, emerging markets, real estate, fixed income, high yield bonds and cash (to name a few asset classes). These strategies are managed to a retirement date or life expectancy date, typically growing more conservative as that date is approached). For this type of investment strategy, the **Scorecard System** is focused on how well these managers can add value from asset allocation. Asset allocation is measured using our **Asset allocation strategies methodology** and manager selection is measured using either our **Active and/or Passive strategies methodologies**, depending on the underlying fund options utilized within the Target Date Fund strategy.

Risk-based strategies follow the same evaluation criteria and are evaluated on both their asset allocation and security selection.

Weightings	Target Date Fund Strategies	Maximum Points
Asset Allocation Score (Average) 50%	The individual funds in this Score average require five years of time history to be included. See Asset Allocation strategies methodology for a detailed breakdown of the Scoring criteria. Funds without the required time history are not included in the Score average.	5
	The Funds included in this average are from the Conservative, Moderate Conservative, Moderate, Moderate Aggressive and Aggressive categories, where Funds (also referred to as “vintages”) are individually Scored according to their standard deviation or risk bucket.	
Selection Score (Average) 50%	Active strategies: The individual active funds in this Score average require five years of time history to be Scored. See Active strategies methodology for a detailed breakdown of the Scoring criteria. Funds without the required time history are not included in the Score average.	5
	Passive strategies: The individual passive funds in this Score average require three years of time history to be Scored. See Passive strategies methodology for a detailed breakdown of the Scoring criteria. Funds without the required time history are not included in the Score average.	
Total		10

Scorecard System Methodology™

Asset Allocation Strategies

Asset allocation strategies are investment strategies that invest in a broad array of asset classes that may include U.S. equity, international equity, emerging markets, real estate, fixed income, high yield bonds and cash (to name a few asset classes). These strategies are typically structured in either a risk-based format (the strategies are managed to a level of risk, e.g., conservative or aggressive) or, in an age-based format (these strategies are managed to a retirement date or life expectancy date, typically growing more conservative as that date is approached). For this type of investment strategy, the **Scorecard System** is focused on how well these managers can add value, with asset allocation being the primary driver of investment returns and the resulting Score.

Multisector Bond (MSB) asset class follows the same evaluation criteria with some slightly different tolerance levels where noted. These managers are also evaluated on both their asset allocation and security selection.

Weightings	Asset Allocation Strategies	Maximum Points
Style Factors 30%	Risk Level: The fund's standard deviation is measured against the category it is being analyzed in. The fund passes if it falls within the range for that category.	1
	Style Diversity: Fund passes if it reflects appropriate style diversity (returns-based) among the four major asset classes (Cash, Fixed Income, U.S. & International Equity) for the given category. <i>MSB</i> funds pass if reflect some level of diversity among fixed income asset classes (Cash, U.S. Fixed Income, Non-U.S. Fixed Income and High Yield/Emerging Markets).	1
	R-Squared: Measures the percentage of a fund's returns that are explained by the benchmark. Fund passes with an R-squared greater than 90 percent. This statistic measures whether the benchmark used in the analysis is appropriate.	1
	Risk/Return: Fund passes if its risk is less than the benchmark or its return is greater than the benchmark. Favorable risk/return characteristics are desired.	1
Risk/Return Factors 30%	Up/Down Capture Analysis: Measures the behavior of a fund in up and down markets. Fund passes with an up capture greater than its down capture. This analysis measures the relative value by the manager in up and down markets.	1
	Information Ratio: Measures a fund's relative risk and return. Fund passes if ratio is greater than 0. This statistic measures the value added above the benchmark, adjusted for risk.	1
Peer Group Rankings 20%	Returns Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 50 th percentile.	1
	Sharpe Ratio Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 50 th percentile. This ranking ranks risk-adjusted excess return.	1
Qualitative Factors 20%	Two points may be awarded based on qualitative characteristics of the fund. Primary considerations are given to manager tenure, fund expenses and strength of statistics, however, other significant factors may be considered. It is important to take into account nonquantitative factors, which may impact future performance.	2
Total		10

Scorecard System Methodology™

Active Strategies

Active strategies are investment strategies where the fund manager is trying to add value and outperform the market averages (for that style of investing). Typically, these investment strategies have higher associated fees due to the active involvement in the portfolio management process by the fund manager(s). For this type of investment strategy, the **Scorecard System** is trying to identify those managers who can add value on a consistent basis within their own style of investing.

Weightings	Active Strategies	Maximum Points
Style Factors 30%	Style Analysis: Returns-based analysis to determine the style characteristics of a fund over a period of time. Fund passes if it reflects the appropriate style characteristics. Style analysis helps ensure proper diversification in the Plan.	1
	Style Drift: Returns-based analysis to determine the behavior of the fund/manager over multiple (rolling) time periods. Fund passes if the fund exhibits a consistent style pattern. Style consistency is desired so that funds can be effectively monitored within their designated asset class.	1
	R-Squared: Measures the percentage of a fund's returns that are explained by the benchmark. Fund passes with an R-squared greater than 80 percent. This statistic measures whether the benchmark used in the analysis is appropriate.	1
	Risk/Return: Fund passes if its risk is less than the benchmark or its return is greater than the benchmark. Favorable risk/return characteristics are desired.	1
Risk/Return Factors 30%	Up/Down Capture Analysis: Measures the behavior of a fund in up and down markets. Fund passes with an up capture greater than its down capture. This analysis measures the relative value by the manager in up and down markets.	1
	Information Ratio: Measures a fund's relative risk and return. Fund passes if ratio is greater than 0. This statistic measures the value added above the benchmark, adjusted for risk.	1
Peer Group Rankings 20%	Returns Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 50 th percentile.	1
	Information Ratio Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 50 th percentile. This ranking ranks risk-adjusted excess return.	1
Qualitative Factors 20%	Two points may be awarded based on qualitative characteristics of the fund. Primary considerations are given to manager tenure, fund expenses and strength of statistics, however, other significant factors may be considered. It is important to take into account nonquantitative factors, which may impact future performance.	2
Total		10

Scorecard System Methodology™

Passive Strategies

Passive strategies are investment strategies where the fund manager is trying to track or replicate some area of the market. These types of strategies may be broad-based in nature (e.g., the fund manager is trying to track/replicate the entire U.S. equity market like the S&P 500) or may be more specific to a particular area of the market (e.g., the fund manager may be trying to track/replicate the technology sector). These investment strategies typically have lower fees than active investment strategies due to their passive nature of investing and are commonly referred to as index funds. For this type of investment strategy, the **Scorecard System** is focused on how well these managers track and/or replicate a particular area of the market with an emphasis on how they compare against their peers.

Weightings	Passive Strategies	Maximum Points
Style & Tracking Factors 40%	Style Analysis: Returns-based analysis to determine the style characteristics of a fund over a period of time. Fund passes if it reflects the appropriate style characteristics. Style analysis helps ensure proper diversification in the Plan.	1
	Style Drift: Returns-based analysis to determine the behavior of the fund/manager over multiple (rolling) time periods. Fund passes if the fund exhibits a consistent style pattern. Style consistency is desired so that funds can be effectively monitored within their designated asset class.	1
	R-Squared: Measures the percentage of a fund's returns that are explained by the benchmark. Fund passes with an R-squared greater than 95 percent. This statistic measures whether the benchmark used in the analysis is appropriate.	1
	Tracking Error: Measures the percentage of a fund's excess return volatility relative to the benchmark. Fund passes with a tracking error less than 4. This statistic measures how well the fund tracks the benchmark.	1
	Tracking Error Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 75 th percentile.	1
Peer Group Rankings 40%	Expense Ratio Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 75 th percentile.	1
	Returns Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 75 th percentile.	1
	Sharpe Ratio Peer Group Ranking: Fund passes if its median rank is above the 75 th percentile.	1
Qualitative Factors 20%	Two points may be awarded based on qualitative characteristics of the fund. Primary considerations are given to fund expenses and strength of statistics, however, other significant factors may be considered. It is important to take into account nonquantitative factors, which may impact future performance.	2
Total		10

Manager Research Methodology

Beyond the Scorecard

The **Scorecard System™** uses an institutional approach which is comprehensive, independent, and utilizes a process and methodology that strives to create successful outcomes for plan sponsors and participants. The **Scorecard** helps direct the additional research the investment team conducts with fund managers throughout the year. Three of the primary factors that go into the fund manager research are people, process and philosophy.

PEOPLE

Key Factors:

- Fund manager and team experience
- Deep institutional expertise
- Organizational structure
- Ability to drive the process and performance

PROCESS

Key Factors:

- Clearly defined
- Consistent application
- Sound and established
- Clearly communicated
- Successfully executed process

PHILOSOPHY

Key Factors:

- Research and ideas must be coherent and persuasive
- Strong rationale
- Logical and compelling
- Focus on identifying skillful managers

Scorecard System Disclosures

Investment objectives and strategies vary among fund, and may not be similar for funds included in the same asset class.

All definitions are typical category representations. The specific share classes or accounts identified above may not be available or chosen by the Plan. Share class and account availability is unique to the client's specific circumstances. There may be multiple share classes or accounts available to the client from which to choose. All recommendations are subject to vendor/provider approval before implementation into the Plan. The performance data quoted may not reflect the deduction of additional fees, if applicable. If reflected, additional fees would reduce the performance quoted.

Performance data is subject to change without prior notice.

The information used in the analysis has been taken from sources deemed to be reliable, including, third-party providers such as *Markov Processes International*, *Morningstar*, firms who manage the investments, and/or the retirement plan providers who offer the funds.

Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure completeness and accuracy; however, the final accuracy of the numbers and information is the responsibility of the investment manager(s) of each fund and/or the retirement plan providers offering these funds. Discrepancies between the figures reported in this analysis, and those reported by the actual investment managers and/or retirement plan providers, may be caused by a variety of factors, including: Inaccurate reporting by the manager/provider; Changes in reporting by the manager/provider from the time this report was prepared to a subsequent retro-active audit and corrected reporting; Differences in fees and share-classes impacting net investment return; and, Scriveners error by your financial professional in preparing this report.

The enclosed Investment Due Diligence report, including the **Scorecard System**, is intended for plan sponsor and/or institutional use only. The materials are not intended for participant use. The purpose of this report is to assist fiduciaries in selecting and monitoring investment options. A fund's score is meant to be used by the Plan sponsor and/or fiduciaries as a tool for selecting the most appropriate fund.

Fund scores will change as the performance of the funds change and as certain factors measured in the qualitative category change (e.g., manager tenure). Fund scores are not expected to change dramatically from each measured period, however, there is no guarantee this will be the case. Scores will change depending on the changes in the underlying pre-specified Scorecard™ factors.

Neither past performance nor statistics calculated using past performance are guarantees of a fund's future performance. Likewise, a fund's score using the **Scorecard System**™ does not guarantee the future performance or style consistency of a fund.

This report was prepared with the belief that this information is relevant to the Plan sponsor as the Plan sponsor makes investment selections.

Fund selection is at the discretion of the investment fiduciaries, which are either the Plan sponsor or the Committee appointed to perform that function.

Cash Equivalents (e.g., money market fund) and some specialty funds are not scored by the **Scorecard System**.

The enclosed Investment Due Diligence report and Scorecard™ is not an offer to sell mutual funds. An offer to sell may be made only after the client has received and read the appropriate prospectus.

For the most current month-end performance, please contact your financial professional.

The Strategy Review notes section is for informational purposes only. The views expressed here are those of your financial professional and do not constitute an offer to sell an investment. An offer to sell may be made only after the client has received and read the appropriate prospectus.

Carefully consider the investment objectives, risk factors and charges and expenses of the investment company before investing. This and other information can be found in the fund's prospectus, which may be obtained by contacting your Investment Professional/Consultant or Vendor/Provider. Read the prospectus carefully before investing.

For a copy of the most recent prospectus, please contact your Investment Professional/Consultant or Vendor/Provider.

[SECURITIES DISCLOSURE] ACR# 359949 10/20

Exhibit A

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
SOLICITOR DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to Rule 206(4)-3 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, I hereby disclose that I will receive compensation as solicitor from Global Retirement Partners LLC (GRP), an SEC Registered Investment Adviser, for referring you to Grant Argall (IAR).

The IAR is an employee of M3 Financial who is licensed to provide investment advisory services through GRP. I am an employee of M3; however, I am not licensed to provide investment advisory or other services through GRP. My only affiliation with GRP is through a solicitation agreement between me and GRP pursuant to which, as a result of referring you to GRP, I will receive from GRP 25% of the first year fee you pay to GRP as set forth in its Investment Advisor Agreement. You will not pay any more in advisory fees to GRP than you would have paid if you had dealt directly with GRP without being referred by me.

GRP will not be responsible for any service that I provide to you. It will only be responsible for the services GRP provides to you under its Registered Investment Advisor Agreement with you. All elements of the relationship between you and GRP are described and controlled by GRP's Investment Advisory Agreement with you.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have received a copy of this Disclosure Statement and GRP's Registered Investment Advisory Agreement, Form ADV Parts 2A and 2B, and Privacy Notice.

Signature
Date: _____

Jeff Ireland
M3 Partner, Senior Account Executive

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the above Disclosure Statement, and received a copy of GRP's Registered Investment Advisory Agreement, Form ADV Parts 2A & 2B, and Privacy Notice.

Signature
Date: 11/16/2021

Brent Miller
Title: Administrator

Oh behalf of the Sauk County Deferred Compensation Plan

