## **RAYMOND JAMES**



## IN DEFENSE OF PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS

April 17, 2015

## UNFUNDED PENSION OBLIGATIONS ARE DEBT OF THE SPONSORING GOVERNMENT AND A FIXED INCOME ASSET OF THE PENSION FUND



## BANKRUPTCY DECISIONS ARE TEACHING US THAT UNFUNDED PENSION OBLIGATIONS ARE VERY HARD LIABILITIES THAT APPEAR TO ENJOY A PRACTICAL PRIORITY IN EXIT PLANS



#### CHANGES IN THE FUNDING STATUS OF A PENSION FUND ARE A FUNCTION OF THREE PARAMETERS



## PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS – WHETHER SOLD PUBLICLY OR PLACED DIRECTLY TO THE PENSION FUND - FIX THE TERMS OF THE DEBT AND MAY LOWER RECOVERY PRIORITY



## NEGATIVE AMORTIZATION OF PENSION PLANS' UNFUNDED LIABILITIES RESULTS FROM BOTH UNDERPAYMENT AND BACK-LOADED AMORTIZATION SCHEDULES

- Moody's recently reviewed 54 public pension plans each having liabilities of more than \$10 billion
- 75% were making contributions at levels that were not sufficient to cover Service Costs and interest on the unfunded liability Negative Amortization
- Employers in 19 plans made contributions equal to the Actuarially Determined Contribution. 13 of those 19 plans still had negative amortization created by actuaries using back-loaded repayment schedules.

# MOODY'S New Pension Accounting Increases Clarity of Plan Funding Trajectories - March 2015

Employer Contributions At and Below ADCs Often Drive Public Pension Funding Gaps Tread water benchmark at 0% on y-axis



Source: Plan CAFRs, Moody's Investors Service

## WHILE YOU WILL NOT FIND A REPAYMENT SCHEDULE IN ACTUARIAL REPORTS, THE PARAMETERS USED TO CALCULATE THE REPAYMENT OBLIGATION FOR UNFUNDED LIABILITIES ARE REQUIRED TO BE DISCLOSED

#### ACTUARIAL SECTION -- GASB 67

#### Section 3: Required Supplementary Information

There are several tables of Required Supplementary Information (RSI) that need to be included in the System's financial statements:

Paragraphs 32(a)-(c): The required tables are provided in Schedule A.

Paragraph 32(d): The money-weighted rates of return required are to be supplied by the System.

Paragraph 34: In addition the following should be noted regarding the RSI:

Changes of benefit terms. None

*Changes of assumptions.* In the 2011 valuation and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2000 Mortality Tables rather than the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table, which was used prior to 2011. In the 2011 valuation, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience. In the 2011 valuation, the Board adopted an interest smoothing methodology to calculate liabilities for purposes of determining the actuarially determined contributions.

Methods and assumptions used in calculations of actuarially determined contributions. The actuarially determined contribution rates in the schedule of employer contributions are calculated as of June 30, three years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported. The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used to determine contribution rates reported in the most recent year of that schedule:

Actuarial Cost <u>Method</u>	Amortization <u>Method</u>	Remaining Amortization <u>Period</u>	Asset Valuation <u>Method</u>	Inflation	Salary <u>Increase</u>	Ultimate Investment <u>Rate of Return*</u>
Entry Age	Level percent of pay open	30 years	5-year smoothed market	3.50%	4.00 to 8.20 percent, including inflation	7.50 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including
*The actuaria	Illy determined contribution	rates are determined us ted by the Board	ing			inflation

### **Interest Rate**

7.50%

### **Payment Slope**

Level percent of pay, 4% annual growth

### Initial Term 30 Years

### **Reamortization**

"Open" means a - new 30-year schedule is created every year

#### ACTUARIES STEALTHILY CREATE PERPETUALLY INCREASING NEGATIVE AMORTIZATION BY COMBINING **"LEVEL PERCENTAGE OF PAY" WITH "OPEN" AMORTIZATION**

"Closed" Amortization Schedule					"Ope				
	Unfunded Liability	Principal	Interest	Total	Unfunded Liability	Principal	Interest	Total	
1	\$10,000,000	(\$194,035)	\$750,000	\$555,965	\$10,000,000	(\$194,035)	\$750,000	\$555,965	
2	10,194,035	(186,349)	764,553	578,204	10,194,035	(197,800)	764,553	566,753	Interest Rate
3	10,380,384	(177,197)	778,529	601,332	10,391,835	(201,638)	779,388	577,750	
4	10,557,580	(166,433)	791,819	625,385	10,593,472	(205,550)	794,510	588,960	7.50%
5	10,724,014	(153,900)	804,301	650,401	10,799,022	(209,539)	809,927	600,388	
6	10,877,914	(139,427)	815,844	676,417	11,008,561	(213,604)	825,642	612,038	Dourmont Clone
7	11,017,341	(122,827)	826,301	703,473	11,222,165	(217,749)	841,662	623,913	Payment Slope
8	11,140,168	(103,900)	835,513	731,612	11,439,915	(221,974)	857,994	636,019	Level percent of
9	11,244,068	(82,428)	843,305	760,877	11,661,889	(226,281)	874,642	648,360	nav 4% annual
10	11,326,497	(58,175)	849,487	791,312	11,888,170	(230,672)	891,613	660,941	рау, <del>4</del> 70 ann aan
11	11,384,672	(30,886)	853 <i>,</i> 850	822,964	12,118,842	(235,148)	908,913	673,765	growth
12	11,415,558	(284)	856,167	855,883	12,353,989	(239,710)	926,549	686,839	
13	11,415,842	33,930	856,188	890,118	12,593,700	(244,362)	944,527	700,166	Initial Tarm
14	11,381,912	72,080	853,643	925,723	12,838,061	(249,103)	962,855	713,752	
15	11,309,833	114,514	848,237	962,752	13,087,164	(253,937)	981,537	727,601	30 Years
16	11,195,318	161,613	839,649	1,001,262	13,341,101	(258,864)	1,000,583	741,719	
17	11,033,705	213,785	827,528	1,041,312	13,599,965	(263,887)	1,019,997	756,111	
18	10,819,921	271,471	811,494	1,082,965	13,863,851	(269,007)	1,039,789	770,782	Reamortization
19	10,548,450	335,150	791,134	1,126,284	14,132,858	(274,227)	1,059,964	785,738	"Open" means a
20	10,213,300	405,337	765,998	1,171,335	14,407,085	(279,548)	1,080,531	800,984	now 20 yoar
21	9,807,963	482,591	735,597	1,218,188	14,686,633	(284,972)	1,101,497	816,526	new SU-year
22	9,325,372	567,513	699,403	1,266,916	14,971,604	(290,501)	1,122,870	832,369	schedule is
23	8,757,859	660,753	656,839	1,317,592	15,262,106	(296,138)	1,144,658	848,520	created every
24	8,097,106	763,013	607,283	1,370,296	15,558,243	(301,884)	1,166,868	864,984	created every
25	7,334,093	875,051	550,057	1,425,108	15,860,128	(307,742)	1,189,510	881,768	year
26	6,459,042	997,684	484,428	1,482,112	16,167,869	(313,713)	1,212,590	898,877	
27	5,461,358	1,131,795	409,602	1,541,397	16,481,582	(319,800)	1,236,119	916,319	
28	4,329,563	1,278,335	324,717	1,603,053	16,801,382	(326,005)	1,260,104	934,098	
29	3,051,227	1,438,333	228,842	1,667,175	17,127,387	(332,331)	1,284,554	952,223	
30	1,612,895	1,612,895	120,967	1,733,862	17,459,718	(338,779)	1,309,479	970,700	
		\$10.000.000	\$21.181.274	\$31.181.274		(\$7,798,498)	\$30.143.425	\$22,344,927	

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#### SOME POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF ISSUING PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS

- Publicly recognize the unfunded pension liability as real debt that is going to be repaid allowing it to be managed in conjunction with all the government's debt obligations.
- Consciously, and conscientiously, create a fixed repayment plan for paying off the pension's unfunded liability.
- Reduce the risk that future budget negotiations will reduce payments on the unfunded liability by either underfunding the ADC/ARC or through actuarial reamortization.
- Eliminate the continuing discussion among all stakeholders retirees, employees, elected officials, finance and budget staffs, rating agencies, investors and the press – about plan underfunding and how it is going to be addressed.
- Reduce projected payments on the unfunded liability by borrowing at interest rates that are lower than the assumed earnings rate used to calculate the unfunded liability.
- Reduce the real payments on the unfunded liability if the actual fund earnings rate exceeds the interest rates on POBs. Earnings below the POB borrowing rate create an economic loss.

#### PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS BY THEMSELVES ARE NOT "THE" ANSWER TO UNDERFUNDING

- A pension fund deficit is created through a combination of underfunding (scheduled and not), benefit increases, earnings that were below assumptions and other actuarial assumptions that were not realized or have been projected to change from original estimates.
- Simply issuing POBs will probably not change the fundamental dynamics that created an unfunded liability.
- If POBs are issued and nothing else is done to modify the pension fund parameters, the unfunded liability may grow again over time.
- POBs are most successful when they are part of decision among all stakeholders to change plan
  parameters to significantly reduce the probability that a material new unfunded liability will be recreated.

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