

**NJ MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT FUND
2018 CASH MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT POLICY**

1.) **Cash Management and Investment Objectives**

The NJ Municipal Environmental Risk Management Fund (hereinafter referred to as the FUND) objectives in this area are:

- a.) Preservation of capital.
- b.) Adequate safekeeping of assets.
- c.) Maintenance of liquidity to meet operating needs, claims settlements and dividends.
- d.) Diversification of the FUND's portfolio to minimize risks associated with individual investments.
- e.) Maximization of total return, consistent with risk levels specified herein.
- f.) Investment of assets in accordance with State and Federal Laws and Regulations.
- g.) Accurate and timely reporting of interest earnings, gains and losses by line of coverage in each Fund year.
- h.) Where legally permissible, cooperation with other local municipal joint insurance funds, and the New Jersey Division of Investment in the planning and execution of investments in order to achieve economies of scale.
- i.) Stability in the value of the FUND's economic surplus.

2.) **Permissible Investments**

Investments shall be limited to the following:

- a.) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America.
- b.) Government money market mutual funds.
- c.) Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.
- d.) Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the local unit is a part or within which the school district is located.
- e.) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not exceeding 397 days, approved by the Division of Investments of the Department or Treasury for investment by local units.
- f.) Debt obligations of federal agencies or government corporations with maturities not greater than ten (10) years from the date of purchase, excluding mortgage backed obligations, providing that such investments are purchased through the New Jersey Division of Investment and are consistent the Division's own investment guidelines, and providing that the investment a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.

- g.) Local Government Investment Pools
- h.) Repurchase agreements of fully collateralized securities, subject to rules and conditions established by the N.J. Department of Community Affairs.

No investment or deposit shall have a maturity longer than ten (10) years from date of purchase. At any given time, the Fund's investment portfolio shall conform to the following criteria:

- a) Any bonds or other obligations held by the FUND shall have a minimum long-term investment grade underlying credit rating, or equivalent rating provided by a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization as outlined by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, with the exception of bonds issued pursuant to the Municipal Qualified Bond Act, which may have an underlying credit rating below investment grade so long as the Municipal Qualified Enhanced Rating is investment grade, or equivalent rating provided by NRSRO.
- b) A minimum of thirty-five (35) percent of aggregate total par amount of bonds and other obligations shall have a minimum long-term, underlying credit rating of AA-, or equivalent rating by an NRSRO.
- c) The aggregate par amount of bonds or other obligations with a long-term underlying credit rating below A-, or equivalent rating by an NRSRO, shall not exceed thirty (30) percent of the aggregate total par amount of bonds, investments and other obligations held by the Fund.
- d) The aggregate par amount of bonds or other obligations with maturities longer than five (5) years shall not exceed sixty (60) percent of the aggregate total par amount of bonds, investments and other obligations held by the FUND.

Any exception to or deviations from the above criteria must be approved by the New Jersey Division of Local Governmental Services and the New Jersey Division of Investment.

3.) **Authorized Depositories**

In addition to the above, the FUND is authorized to deposit funds in certificates of deposit and other time deposits in banks covered by the Governmental Unit Depository Protection Act, NJSA 17:9-14 et seq. (GUDPA). Specifically authorized depositories are as follows:

Wells Fargo Bank
Investors Bank
Wilmington Trust

The FUND is also authorized to invest its assets in the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

4.) **Authority for Investment Management**

The Treasurer is authorized and directed to make investments, with a maturity of three months or longer, through asset managers that may be selected by the Executive Board. Such asset managers shall be discretionary trustees of the FUND.

Their actions and decisions shall be consistent with this plan and all appropriate regulatory constraints.

In executing investments, asset managers shall minimize transaction costs by querying prices from at least three (3) dealers and purchasing securities on a competitive basis. When possible, federal securities shall be purchased directly from the US Treasury. Transactions shall not be processed through brokerages which are organizationally affiliated with the asset manager. Transactions may also be processed through the New Jersey Division of Investment by the Fund's asset managers.

5.) **Preservation of Capital**

Securities shall be purchased with the ability to hold until maturity.

6.) **Safekeeping**

Securities purchased on behalf of the FUND shall be delivered electronically or physically to the FUND's custodial bank, which shall maintain custodial and/or safekeeping accounts for such securities on behalf of the FUND.

7.) **Selection of Asset Managers, Custodial Banks and Operating Banks**

Asset managers, custodial banks and operating banks shall be retained for contract periods of one (1) year. Additionally, the FUND shall maintain the ability to change asset managers and/or custodial banks more frequently based upon performance appraisals and upon reasonable notice, and based upon changes in policy or procedures.

8.) **Reporting**

Asset managers will submit written statements to the treasurer and executive director describing the proposed investment strategy for achieving the objectives identified herein. Asset managers shall also submit revisions to strategy when justified as a result of changing market conditions or other factors. Such statements shall be provided to the Treasurer and Executive Director. The statements shall also include confirmation that all investments are made in accordance with this plan. Additionally, the Investment Manager shall include a statement that verifies the Investment Manager has reconciled and determined the appropriate fair value of the Funds portfolio based on valuation guidelines that shall be kept on file in the Executive Director's office.

The Treasurer shall report to the Executive Committee at all regular meetings on all investments. This report shall include information on the balances in all bank and investment accounts, and purchases, sales, and redemptions occurring in the prior month.

9.) **Audit**

This plan, and all matters pertaining to the implementation of it, shall be subject to the FUND's annual audit.

10.) **Cash Flow Projections**

Asset maturity decisions shall be guided by cash flow factors payout factors supplied by the Fund Actuary and reviewed by the Executive Director and the Treasurer.

11.) **Cash Management**

All moneys turned over to the Treasurer shall be deposited within forty-eight (48) hours in accordance with NJSA 40A:5-16.

In the event a check is made payable to the Treasurer rather than the Fund, the following procedure is to be followed:

- a.) The Treasurer endorses the check to the Fund and deposits it into the Fund account.
- b.) The Treasurer notifies the payer and requests that in the future any check be made payable to the Fund.

Cash may be withdrawn from investment pools under the discretion of asset managers only to fund operations, claims imprest accounts, or approved dividend payments.

The Treasurer shall escheat to the State of New Jersey checks which remain outstanding for twelve or more months after the date of issuance. However, prior to implementing such procedures, the Treasurer, with the assistance of the claims agent, as needed, shall confirm that the outstanding check continues to represent a valid claim against the FUND.