



# OKLAHOMA TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM

## INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

**JULY 23, 2013**

**2:00 PM**

## MEETING MATERIALS

*ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS*

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

*Chair: James Dickson*

*Vernon Florence, Bill Peacher, Gary Trennepohl*

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**TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OKLAHOMA  
Investment Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, July 23, 2013 – 2:00 PM  
TRS Administration Board Room  
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Oklahoma City, OK**

**AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON INVESTMENT CONSULTANT MONTHLY REPORT**
- 3. PRESENTATION BY HOISINGTON**
- 4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ASSET ALLOCATION**
- 5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON INTERNATIONAL LARGE CAP REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
- 6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PORTFOLIO REBALANCING**
- 7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT**
- 8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON OTRS INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT ANNUAL PLAN**
- 9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MANAGER STATUS REPORT**
- 10. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

***ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS***

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE:**

*Chair: James Dickson*

*Members: Vernon Florence, Bill Peacher, Gary Trennepohl*

# Hoisington

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY

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## Quarterly Review and Outlook

### Second Quarter 2013

#### Lower Long Term Rates

The secular low in bond yields has yet to be recorded. This assessment for a continuing pattern of lower yields in the quarters ahead is clearly a minority view, as the recent selling of all types of bond products attest. The rise in long term yields over the last several months was accelerated by the recent Federal Reserve announcement that it would be “tapering” its purchases of Treasury and mortgage-backed securities. This has convinced many bond market participants that the low in long rates is in the past. The Treasury bond market’s short term fluctuations are a function of many factors, but its primary and most fundamental determinate is attitudes toward current and future inflation. From that perspective, the outlook for long term Treasury yields to fall is most favorable in light of: a) diminished inflation pressures; b) slowing GDP growth; c) weakening consumer fundamentals; and d) anti-growth monetary and fiscal policies.

#### Inflation

Sustained higher inflation is, and has always been, a prerequisite for sustained increases in long term interest rates. Inflation’s role in determining the level of long term rates was quantified by Irving Fisher 83 years ago (Theory of Interest, 1930) with the Fisher equation. It states that long term rates are the sum of inflation expectations and the real rate. This proposition has been reconfirmed in numerous sophisticated statistical studies and can also be empirically observed by comparing the Treasury bond yield to the inflation rate (Chart 1). On an annual basis, the Treasury bond yield and the inflation rate have moved in the same direction in 80% of the years since 1954.

Presently the inflation picture is most favorable to bond yields. The year-over-year change in the core personal consumption expenditures deflator, an indicator to which the Fed pays close attention, stands at a record low for the entire five plus decades of the series (Chart 2).

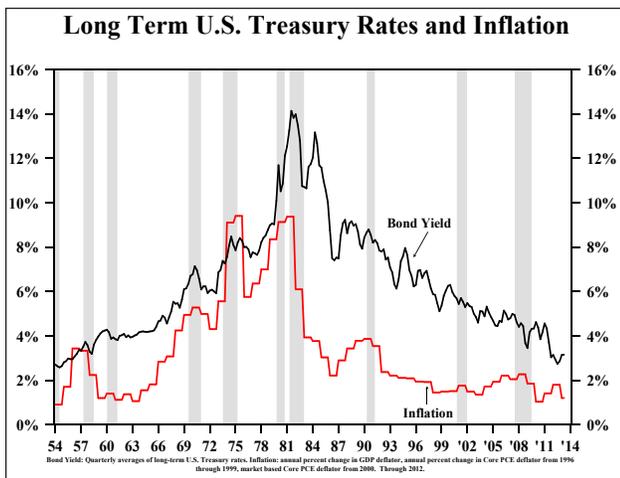


Chart 1

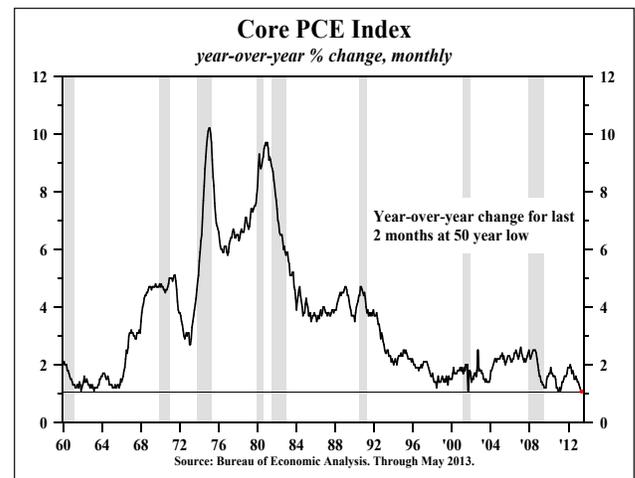


Chart 2

Additional factors restraining inflation are the appreciation of the dollar and the decline in commodity prices. The dollar is currently up 14% from its 2011 lows. A rise in the value of the dollar causes a “collapsing umbrella” effect on prices. A higher dollar leads to reduced prices of imports, which have been deflating at a 1% rate (ex-fuel) over the past year. When importers cut prices, domestic producers are forced to follow. Commodity prices have dropped more than 20% from their peak in 2011. This drop in commodity prices has also contributed to lower rates inflation.

Sustained higher inflation is not currently evident, and the forces that create inflation are absent. Thus, a period of sustained higher long term rates is improbable.

### GDP

GDP growth, whether if measured in nominal or real terms, is the slowest of any expansion since 1948. From the first quarter of 2012 through the first quarter of 2013, nominal GDP grew at 3.3%. This is below the level of every entry point of economic contraction since 1948 (Chart 3). Real GDP shows a similar pattern. For the past four quarters real economic growth was just 1.6%, which was even less than the 1.8% growth rate in the 2000s and dramatically less than the 3.8% average growth rate in the past 223 years. These results demonstrate chronic long term economic underperformance.

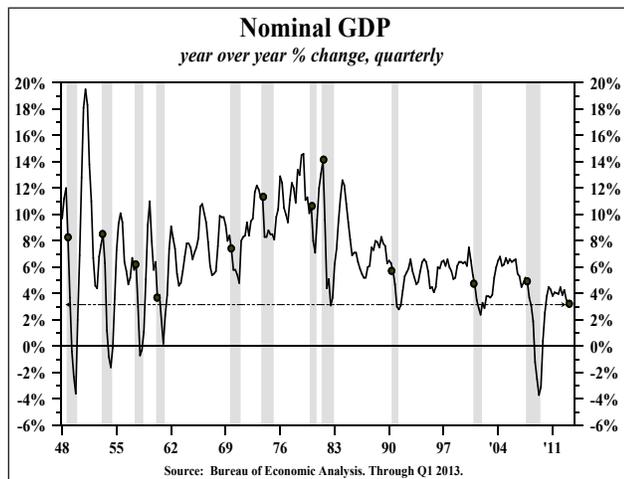


Chart 3

Over the past year, the Treasury bond yield rose as the nominal growth in GDP slowed. The difference between the Treasury bond yield and the nominal GDP growth rate (Chart 4) is important in two respects. First, when the bond yield rises more rapidly than the GDP growth rate, monetary conditions are a restraint on economic growth. This condition occurred prior to all the recessions since the 1950s, as indicated in the chart. This condition also signaled the growth recessions in 1962 and 1966-67. Second, the nominal GDP growth rate represents the yield on the total economy, a return that embodies greater risk than a 30 year Treasury bond. Thus, the differential is a barometer of cyclical value for investors in Treasury bonds versus more risky assets.

On two occasions in the 1990s the Treasury bond/GDP differential rose sharply. Neither a quasi- nor outright recession ensued, but in both cases bonds turned in a stellar performance over the next year or longer. This economic indicator simultaneously casts doubt on the prevailing pessimism on Treasury bonds and the optimism over U.S. economic growth.

### Consumer

Consumers have not yet healed from the great recession. Their income and employment situations have languished. Based on the standard of living, as measured by the real median household income, this entire recovery has bypassed the

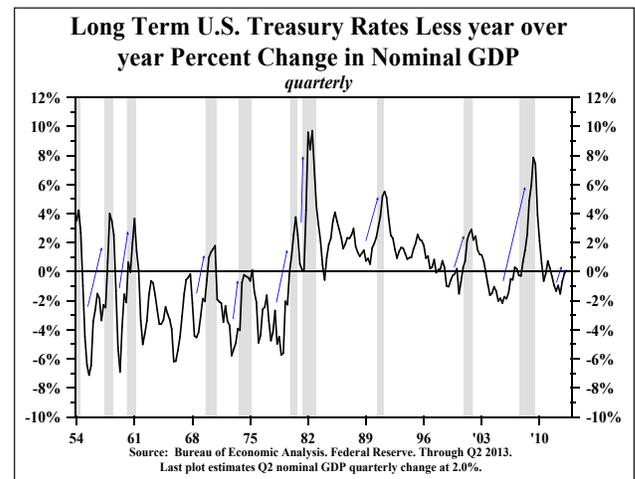


Chart 4

consumer sector. The standard of living has contracted regularly in recessions, but this is the first time deep into an expansion that it has continued to erode. The current standard of living is unchanged from 1995 (Chart 5).

In spite of job gains in the first half of 2013, the downward pressure on the standard of living actually intensified. Approximately three quarters of the increases in jobs were in four of the lowest paying industries – retail trade; the temporary help services component of professional and business services; hospitality and leisure; and the nursing and residential care facilities component of the medical category. These increases may reflect efforts of firms to minimize the increase in health care costs associated with full time employment under the Affordable Care Act. Part time jobs averaged increases of 93,000 per month in the first half of 2013, while full time jobs averaged increases of only 22,000 per month. Full time employment as a percentage of the adult population is currently 47%, which is near the lows of the last three decades.

Historically, when taxes are increased, the initial response of households results in a lower saving rate rather than an immediate reduction in spending. For some consumers, recognition of the tax changes in their income is a problem, particularly for those whose earnings are dependent on commissions, bonuses or seasonal work. This explains the sharp drop in the personal saving rate to 2.7% in the first five months of this year, a level

at or below the entry points of all the economic contractions since 1929. The 2013 slump in the saving rate is a precursor of the painful adjustments that lie ahead, and an additional restraint on economic growth. (Note: In late July the Bureau of Economic Analysis is expected to release a benchmark revision to the National Income and Product Accounts. As a result of the revision the personal saving rate may be raised by up to 1.5%. This is due to the change in consumer ownership of defined benefit pension plans. This revision will not change the trend of the saving rate, nor will this higher figure indicate a source of funds for immediate spending since consumers will only receive such pension benefits when they retire.)

The drop in the saving rate in 2013 also serves to explain why the primary drain from higher taxes occurs with a lag after the taxes take effect. Based on various academic studies there is a two or three quarter lag in curtailed spending after the tax increase. Thus, the main drag on growth will fall in the third and fourth quarters of this year, with negative residual influences persisting through the end of 2015. Approximately \$140 billion of the tax increase constitutes what might be termed a reduction in permanent income, or its equivalent life cycle income. In addition to working with a lag, over a three year period this portion will carry a negative multiplier of between two and three.

### Monetary & Fiscal

Astronomical sums of money have been expended by both monetary and fiscal authorities since the crisis. With the benefit of hindsight it is clear their efforts have not aided economic growth, but rather the balance of their actions has been counter productive. The Fed has maintained the Fed Funds rate at near-zero levels, and it has tried to lower longer term rates through a series of quantitative easings. The effect of each of the quantitative easings was the opposite of the Fed's intentions. During every period of balance sheet expansion long rates rose, yet when securities purchases were discontinued yields fell (Chart 6). The Fed cannot control long rates because long

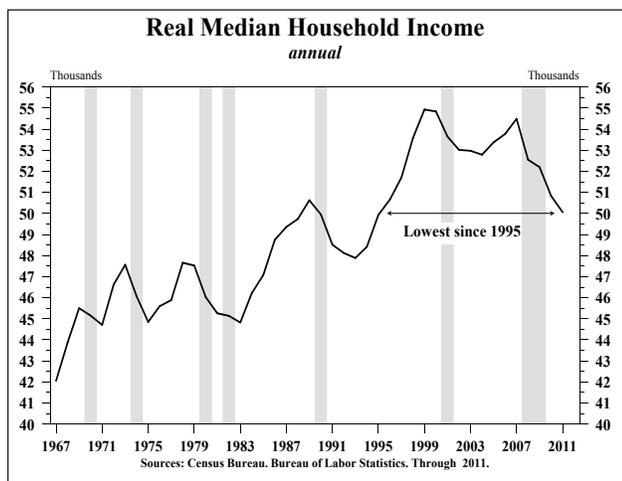


Chart 5

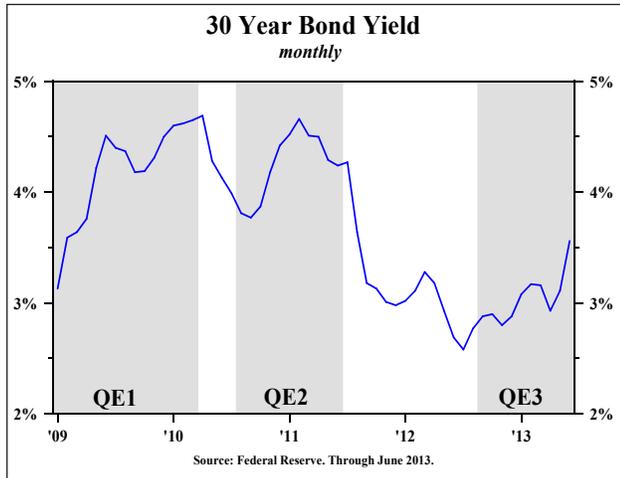


Chart 6

rates are affected by inflation expectations, not by supply and demand in the market place. This is extremely counter intuitive. With more buying, one would assume that prices would rise and thus yields would fall, but the opposite occurred. Why? When the Fed buys, it appears that the existing owners of Treasuries (now amounting to \$9.5 trillion) decide that the Fed’s actions are inflationary and sell their holdings, raising interest rates. When the Fed stops this program, inflation expectations fall creating a demand for Treasuries, bringing rates back down. The Fed’s quantitative policies have been counter productive to growth as interest rates have risen during each period of quantitative easing. During QE1 and QE2, commodity prices rose, the dollar fell and inflation rose temporarily. Wages, however, did not respond. Thus, the higher interest rates during all QEs and the fall in the real wage income during QE 1 & 2 served to worsen the income and wealth divide. This means many more households were hurt, rather than helped, by the Fed’s efforts.

In terms of government spending, fiscal policy has not, and will not, have a major affect on economic growth. The increased spending immediately following the financial crisis did little to encourage the economy to grow faster. Likewise, the decrease in spending associated with the “sequester” will unlikely be a drag on growth after the initial and lagged effects are fully exhausted. The research on government spending multipliers suggests that the multiplier on spending is very close to zero.

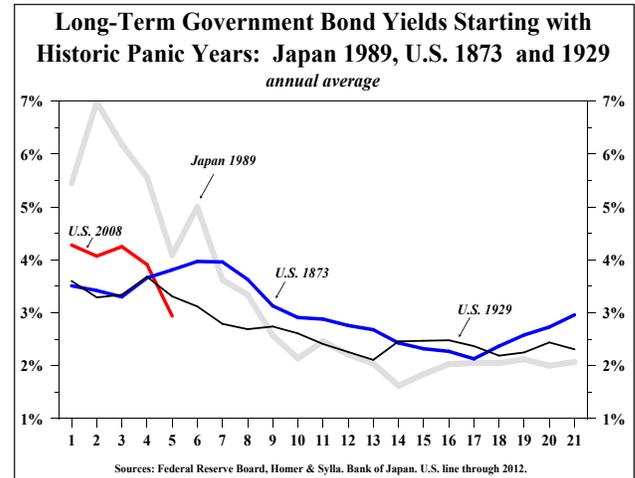


Chart 7

The impact of tax changes is not nearly as harmless. It has been argued that an expired “temporary payroll tax cut” would not effect spending as the initial increase in income was not seen as permanent. The facts seem to counter this opinion. The average monthly year-over-year growth rate of real personal income less transfer payments for 2011 was 3.4%, and in 2012 it was 2.2%. This year, with the payroll tax change in effect, the average is 1.8% through May. The slower income has resulted in a slowdown in spending. Like income, real personal consumption expenditures has trended lower, with average monthly year-over-year growth rates of 2.5% for 2011, 1.9% for 2012 and 1.8% through May of this year. This trend is expected to continue for some time.

**A Final Consideration Favoring Bonds**

In the aftermath of the debt induced panic years of 1873 and 1929 in the U.S. and 1989 in Japan, the long term government bond yield dropped to 2% between 13 and 14 years after the panic. The U.S. Treasury bond yield is tracking those previous experiences (Chart 7). Thus, the historical record also suggests that the secular low in long term rates is in the future.

Van R. Hoisington  
Lacy H. Hunt, Ph.D.

**PERFORMANCE**

HIMCO's long Treasury bond portfolio registered a return of -9.8% for the six months ending June of 2013, below the -2.4% return for the Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. However, for the past 3 years, on an annualized basis, HIMCO's composite returns outperformed the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index by 3.7%. Additionally, for the 5, 10, 15 and 20 year annualized periods, HIMCO's composite returns have exceeded the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index by 3.5%, 2.6%, 2.2% and 2.3%, respectively. The negative correlation between HIMCO's long term Treasury portfolio and the S&P 500 Index continued intact, as over the last year HIMCO was down 11%, and the S&P 500 Index was up 20%. But, over the last 15 years HIMCO's composite return was 7.7% annualized versus the S&P Index return of 4.2% annualized.

**Macroeconomic Fixed Income Composite Performance  
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013  
PERCENT CHANGE**

	YTD 2013 %	One Year %	Annualized				
			Three Year %	Five Year %	Ten Year %	Fifteen Year %	Twenty Year %
<b>HOISINGTON MANAGEMENT</b> <i>(gross of fees)</i>	<b>-9.8</b>	<b>-11.0</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<i>net of fees</i>	-9.9	-11.2	7.0	8.5	7.0	7.5	8.0
Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	-2.4	-0.7	3.5	5.2	4.5	5.5	5.9
Barclays Capital 30yr Bellwether	-9.0	-10.4	6.0	7.3	5.8	6.3	6.7
Barclays Capital 5yr Bellwether	-2.3	-1.5	3.2	5.2	4.2	5.3	5.4
Barclays Capital 3 mo. Bellwether	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	1.8	2.5	3.2
CPI (est.)	0.8	1.8	2.4	1.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
S&P 500	13.8	20.6	18.5	7.0	7.3	4.2	8.7

Hoisington Investment Management Company (HIMCO) is a registered investment adviser specializing in the management of fixed income portfolios and is not affiliated with any parent organization. The Macroeconomic Fixed Income strategy invests only in U.S. Treasury securities, investing in the long end of that market during a multi-year falling inflationary environment, and investing in the short Treasury market in times of a multi-year rising inflationary environment. The benchmark is the Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Bond Index which covers the dollar-denominated investment-grade fixed rate taxable bond market and represents the movement of the entire bond market.

HIMCO claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS). HIMCO has been independently verified for the period 12/31/01 - 12/31/11. Returns are shown in U.S. dollars both gross and net of management fees. The current management fee schedule is as follows: 45% on the first \$10 million; 35% on the next \$40 million; 25% on the next \$50 million; 15% on the next \$200 million; 05% on amounts over \$300 million. Minimum fee is \$22,500/year. Existing clients may have different fee schedules. To receive a list of composite descriptions of HIMCO and/or a presentation that complies with the GIPS standards, contact Janice Teague Bright at (800) 922-2755, or write HIMCO, 6836 Bee Caves Road, Building 2, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78746, or email jan@hoisington.com. Past performance is not indicative of future results. There is the possibility of loss with this investment.

Information herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but HIMCO does not warrant its completeness or accuracy; opinion and estimates constitutes our judgement as of this date, and are subject to change without notice. This material is for informational purposes only.

## July Manager Status Report

Material Status										
Manager	Mandate	Strategy	AUM	% of Portfolio	Current Status	Reason for Status Change	Status Change Effective Date	Date of Last Review	Date of Next Review	Expectations
Stephens Capital Management	Fixed Income	Duration Management	\$ 292,139,349	2.51%	Terminated	Performance	March 2013	March 2013	N / A	Transition the Portfolio and re-allocate within fixed income.
Epoch Investment Partners	Domestic Equity	All Cap Value	\$ 366,403,912	3.14%	Alert	Organizational Issues	October 2012	June 2013	December 2013	A smooth transition through the change in ownership with no material impact on portfolio construction and investment philosophy.
Epoch Investment Partners	International Equity	Small Cap Value	\$ 102,030,612	0.88%	Alert	Organizational Issues	October 2012	June 2013	December 2013	A smooth transition through the change in ownership with no material impact on portfolio construction and investment philosophy.
Wellington Management	Domestic Equity	Mid Cap Value	\$ 336,758,907	2.89%	Alert	Performance	October 2012	June 2013	September 2013	A positive trend in fund performance relative to the benchmark