such funds, subject to all the terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions imposed by the law of Maryland upon life insurance companies in the making and disposing of their investments; and subject to like terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions, said trustees shall have full power to hold, purchase, sell, assign, transfer and dispose of any of the securities and investments in which any of the funds created herein shall have been invested, as well as the proceeds of said investments and any moneys belonging to said funds.

- (2) The Board of Trustees annually shall allow regular interest on the mean amount for the preceding year in each of the funds with the exception of the Expense Fund. The amounts so allowed shall be due and payable to said funds, and shall be annually credited thereto by the Board of Trustees from interest and other earnings on the moneys of the retirement system. Any additional amount required to meet the interest on the funds of the retirement system shall be paid by the State of Maryland, and any excess of earnings over such amount required shall be deductible from the amounts to be contributed by the State of Maryland.
- (3) The Treasurer of the State of Maryland shall be the custodian of the several funds. All payments from said funds shall be made by him or by a Deputy Treasurer, only upon vouchers signed by two persons designated by the Board of Trustees. A duly attested copy of a resolution of the Board of Trustees designating such persons and bearing on its face specimen signatures of such persons shall be filed with the Treasurer as his authority for making payments upon such vouchers. No voucher shall be drawn unless it has previously been authorized by resolution of the Board of Trustees.
- (4) For the purpose of meeting disbursements for pensions, annuities, and other payments there may be kept available cash, not exceeding ten per centum of the total amount in the several funds of the retirement system, on deposit in one or more banks or trust companies of the State of Maryland, organized under the laws of the State of Maryland, or of the United States, provided, that the sum on deposit in any one bank or trust company shall not exceed twenty-five per centum of the paid up capital and surplus of such bank or trust company.
- (5) Except as otherwise herein provided, no trustee and no employee of the Board of Trustees shall have any direct interest in the gains or profits of any investment