

## **AGENDA**

### **THE MEETING OF THE DISABILITY PROCEDURES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE and BOARD OF RETIREMENT\***

#### **LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION**

**300 NORTH LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810  
PASADENA, CA 91101**

**9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, August 3, 2016 \*\***

*The Committee may take action on any item on the agenda  
and agenda items may be taken out of order.*

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Vivian H. Gray, Chair  
William de la Garza, Vice Chair  
Yves Chery  
Les Robbins  
David Muir, Alternate

#### **I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of July 6, 2016.

#### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **III. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Parking Fees Associated with Members' Medical Evaluation.

#### **IV. FOR INFORMATION**

#### **V. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

(For information purposes only)

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*The Board of Retirement has adopted a policy permitting any member of the Board to attend a standing committee meeting open to the public. In the event five (5) or more members of the Board of Retirement (including members appointed to the Committee) are in attendance, the meeting shall constitute a joint meeting of the Committee and the Board of Retirement. Members of the Board of Retirement who are not members of the Committee may attend and participate in a meeting of a Board Committee but may not vote on any matter discussed at the meeting. The only action the Committee may take at the meeting is approval of a recommendation to take further action at a subsequent meeting of the Board.**

**\*\*Although the meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., it can start anytime thereafter, depending on the length of the Board of Retirement meeting. Please be on call.**

**Assistive Listening Devices are available upon request. American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters are available with at least three (3) business days notice before the meeting date.**

**Any documents subject to public disclosure that relate to an agenda item for an open session of the Committee, that are distributed to members of the Committee less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, will be available for public inspection at the time they are distributed to a majority of the Committee, at LACERA's offices at 300 North Lake Avenue, suite 820, Pasadena, California during normal business hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.**

**Persons requiring an alternative format of this agenda pursuant to Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may request one by calling the Disability Retirement Services Division at 626-564-2419 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, but no later than 48 hours prior to the time the meeting is to commence.**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
DISABILITY PROCEDURES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE  
and  
Board of Retirement\*\*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
GATEWAY PLAZA - 300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

Wednesday, July 6, 2016, 10:39 A.M. – 10:49 A.M.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

PRESENT: Vivian H. Gray, Chair  
William de la Garza, Vice Chair  
Yves Chery  
Les Robbins  
David Muir, Alternate

ABSENT: None

**ALSO ATTENDING:**

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Anthony Bravo  
Shawn R. Kehoe  
William Pryor  
Vito M. Campese, M.D.

STAFF, ADVISORS, PARTICIPANTS

Gregg Rademacher  
JJ Popowich  
Steven Rice  
Vincent Lim  
Eugenia Der  
Allison E. Barrett  
Frank Boyd  
Sandra Cortez  
Angie Guererro  
Maria Muro  
Maisha Coulter  
Michelle Yanes

Ricki Contreras  
Vickie Neely  
Tamara Caldwell  
Anna Kwan  
James Pu  
Debbie Semnianian  
Mario Garrido  
Debra Martin  
Marco Legaspi  
Marilu Bretado  
Thomas Wicke  
Barbara Tuncay

Darren Huey  
Shamila Freeman  
Ricardo Salinas  
Maria Silva  
Nichelle Porter  
Danny Hang  
Robert Hill  
Mike Herrera

ATTORNEYS  
Thomas J. Wicke

GUEST SPEAKER  
None

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gray at 10:39 a.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of June 1, 2016

Mr. Chery made a motion, Mr. de la Garza seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 1, 2016. The motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consider application of Michael M. Bronshvag, M.D., as a LACERA Panel Physician.

Mr. Robbins made a motion, Mr. Chery seconded, to approve to accept staff's recommendation and submit the application of Michael M. Bronshvag, M.D. to the Board of Retirement for approval to the LACERA Panel of Examining Physicians. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Chery asked staff if there was a parking fee for members at Dr. Bronshvag's office. Ms. Contreras stated that there is a \$10.00 maximum parking fee.

Mr. Muir questioned why members are required to pay for parking when they go to Doctors appointments set up by LACERA. Mr. Muir asked staff to add to next meeting's agenda and Ms. Contreras confirmed that it will be added to the agenda for next meeting.

IV. FOR INFORMATION

V. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Muir directed staff to contact new panel physician, Dr. Tye Ouzounian, to ask him to follow the proper format when submitting reports. Ms. Contreras stated that staff will contact him to remind him of proper format to follow. Mr. Muir also directed staff to add "Retroactive Disability Cases" for discussion to next meeting's agenda. Mr. Boyd stated that Legal Office can create a memorandum to address all sides.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Disability Procedures and Services Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

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July 27, 2016

TO: Disability Procedures and Services Committee  
Vivian H. Gray, Chair  
William de la Garza, Vice Chair  
Yves Chery  
Les Robbins  
David Muir, Alternate

FROM: **Ricki Contreras, Manager**   
Disability Retirement Services

**Debbie Semnanian**   
Supervising Disability Retirement Specialist

FOR: August 3, 2016, Disability Procedures and Services Committee Meeting

SUBJECT: **PARKING FEES ASSOCIATED WITH MEMBERS' MEDICAL EVALUATIONS**

On July 6, 2016, the Disability Board of Retirement requested staff to provide a report indicating the amounts our members are charged for parking when attending physical examinations by our panel physicians.

Staff contacted each of the panel physician offices, and the following attached information (Attachment 1) was provided regarding these charges. This information reflects a total number of 147 locations for LACERA panel physicians and of these, 105 locations (or 71 percent) offer free parking. Of the remaining 29 percent of the locations, some have street parking available. The information also reflects the maximum fees charged by location and the ability to validate.

It was determined that most of the panel doctors' offices that do not provide free parking do not validate patient parking, as they have no formal contract with the company that provides parking for their building.

Currently members are sent appointment letters two to three weeks in advance of the medical appointment and are informed of the parking fees. To date there have been no noted incidents where members have complained that paying these parking fees has created a hardship for them.

Staff reviewed two possible processes for paying parking fees on a member's behalf. The first process considered was an advance payment method, where LACERA would send the member a check for the expected parking fee when the appointment is scheduled. Staff determined this process was problematic because it lacked verification of attendance before funds were issued. In addition, it would be impossible to predict an amount to forward to the member for parking in advance, as the fees and time required for examinations vary greatly.

The second process considered was the reimbursement of fees after the fact. The member would be advised to submit a receipt for the parking fees. LACERA would then review the receipt and validate the information matched the member's appointment and request a payment be made to the member for the value of the parking receipt.

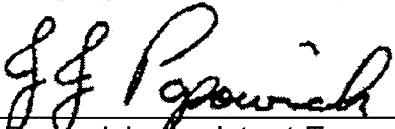
Staff then investigated the possible costs of administering the program if LACERA were to look at reimbursing fees. In addition to the actual receipt there would be costs incurred in three divisions: Administrative Services, Disability Retirement Services, and Financial and Accounting Services Division. Staff reached out to FASD to obtain their estimated costs. FASD indicated it would cost approximately \$15.00 (in addition to the parking fee) to process a check for each reimbursement request. This amount takes into consideration staff time, bank processing fees, postage, etc, in FASD. Additional costs would be incurred mostly by DRS for validation and processing the payment requests.

Staff consulted with legal counsel and has been advised there are no laws addressing the payment of parking fees.

In preparation for this report staff also researched to see if the Board of Retirement had previously discussed reimbursing parking fees for members. Our review indicated the Disability Procedures and Services Committee previously requested staff to address reimbursement of parking for panel medical examinations on October 2, 2002 (Attachment 2). At that time, the committee concluded that LACERA would not reimburse members for the parking expenses then because no complaints had been received and the cost of staff time generating a reimbursement check outweighed the actual cost of parking.

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMITTEE** take no further action regarding this matter due to the administrative costs of processing reimbursement checks.

NOTED AND REVIEWED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

RC:DS:mb

No. Of Office Sites	Fee Charged to Member	Ability to Validate
11	\$20.00 - \$25.00	No
10	\$16.00 - \$19.00	No
3	\$10.00 - \$15.00	No
13	\$5.00 - \$9.00	No
2	\$1.00 - \$4.50	Partial
105	\$0.00	N/A
3	\$0.00 With Validation	Yes





October 17, 2002

TO: Disability Procedures and Services Committee  
 William Pryor, Chair  
 Edgar Twine, Vice Chair  
 Mark Saladino  
 Sadonya Antebi

FROM: *Sylvia R. Miller*  
 Alternate: Les Robbins  
 Sylvia R. Miller, Manager  
 Disability Retirement Services

Shari Altmark  
 Supervising Disability Retirement Specialist

**SUBJECT: PARKING FEES ASSOCIATED WITH MEMBER'S MEDICAL EVALUATION**

On October 2, 2002, the Disability Procedures and Services Committee requested that staff provide a report showing the variance in the amounts our members are charged for parking when attending physical examination by our panel physicians.

Staff contacted each of the panel physician offices, and the following information was provided:

No. of Office Sites	Fee charged to member	Willing to charge LACERA	Ability to Validate
1	\$15.00	No	No contract.
4	\$11-12.00	No	No contract. One free street parking
8	\$10.00	No	No contract. One has free street parking
7	\$5.00 - 9.00	No	No contract. Two have free, the other metered street parking

No. of Office Sites	Fee charged to member	Willing to charge LACERA	Ability to Validate
6	\$1.00 - 4.50	No	No contract.
4	\$6.00 - 15.00	Yes	Will now validate for LACERA members
73	\$0.00	No	Already validate or no fee necessary.

It was determined that many of the doctor's offices that do not validate for parking are unable to do so because they have no formal contract with the company that provides parking for their building. In addition, all amounts noted above represent fees based on the maximum fees charged by the location, per visit.

Another important issue to consider is that since the amounts of the parking fees varies greatly, and are usually charged in fractions of hours, it would be impossible to predict an amount to forward the member in advance. In addition, staff obtained information from the Accounting Division that it would cost approximately \$6.50 per check request for reimbursement. This amount is figured based on staff time, bank processing fees, etc.

It should be noted that in obtaining the above information, staff learned that to date there has been no noted incidents where members have complained regarding their having to pay for parking. This may be a result of each member receiving notice, usually sent at least two to three weeks in advance of the appointment, of what the maximum amount to expect to pay for parking will be while attending the examination.

Based on the information obtained, staff recommends that the Disability Procedures and Services Committee take no further action regarding this matter. As no complaints have been received from LACERA members that the parking fees have created any hardship, and the cost of staff time and cost of generating a reimbursement check outweigh the actual cost of parking itself.

Noted and approved:



Gregg Rademacher  
Assistant Executive Officer

SRM:SA:tlc