

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA

9:00 A.M., THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017

PRESENT:       Shawn R. Kehoe, Chair  
  
                  Marvin Adams  
  
                  Alan Bernstein  
  
                  Anthony Bravo  
  
                  Joseph Kelly  
  
                  David L. Muir (Alternate Retired)  
  
                  Ronald A. Okum  
  
                  William Pryor (Alternate Member)

ABSENT:        Vivian H. Gray, Vice Chair

                  William de la Garza, Secretary

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

                  Gregg Rademacher, Chief Executive Officer

                  Robert Hill, Assistant Executive Officer

                  Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

                  Dr. Vito Campese, Medical Advisor

                  Bernie Buenaflor, Benefits Division Manager

                  Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Jason E. Waller, Senior Staff Counsel

Ricki Contreras, Division Manager  
Disability Retirement Services

Debbie Semnanian, Specialist Supervisor  
Disability Retirement Services

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel  
Legal Division

Thomas Wicke, Attorney

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kehoe at 9:02 a.m., in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Adams led the Board Members and staff in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2017
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 13, 2017
- C. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 3, 2017

Chair Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meetings of April 5, 2017 and April 13, 2017 and the special meeting of May 3, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

#### IV. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

No items were reported.

#### V. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

##### A. For Information

##### 1. March 2017 All Stars

Mr. Hill announced the eight winners for the month of March: Mary Phillips, Jay Fullwood, Elda Villarroel, Remigio Feliciano, Faustino Herrera, Deanna Hernandez, Maggie Luong, and Mureen Tsang for the Employee Recognition Program and Valerie Quiroz for the Webwatcher Program. Bonnie Nolley, Letha Williams-Martin, Freddie Verzosa, and Renee Copeland were the winners of LACERA's RideShare Program.

##### 2. Chief Executive Officer's Report (Memo dated May 2, 2017)

Mr. Rademacher provided a brief overview of his Chief Executive Officer's Report with a quick update on what transpired at the previous Board of Investments meeting.

(Board of Investments minutes are available to view on LACERA's Website

[www.lacera.com](http://www.lacera.com)).

Mr. Rademacher recognized staff and LACERA coordinator, Donna Hansen, for being recognized by the Board of Supervisors for being the top department for contributions towards charitable giving.

In addition, Mr. Rademacher recognized Theodore King and Louis Gittens for participating in the CALAPRS Reciprocity Round Table, Roxana Castillo for her

V. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

A. For Information

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report (Continued)

participation in the CALAPRS Information Technology Round Table, and Hernan Barrientos and Tamara Caldwell for their participation at the SACRS Conference.

Lastly, Mr. Rademacher recognized Arlene Owens for her academic achievement in receiving her Doctorate in Education from Pepperdine University.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests from the public to speak.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Adams seconded, to approve the following agenda items. The motion passed unanimously.

- A. Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals.
- B. Requests for an administrative hearing before a referee. (Memo dated April 24, 2017)
- C. Recommendation as submitted by Gregg Rademacher, Chief Executive Officer: That the Board approve attendance of Board members at the 2017 Conference on Corporate Governance on July 18 –19, 2017 in Tel Aviv, Israel and approve reimbursement of all travel costs incurred in accordance with LACERA's Education and Travel Policy. (Memo dated May 3, 2017) (Placed on the agenda at the request of Ms. Gray)

## VIII. NON-CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Recommendation as submitted by William de la Garza, Chair, Insurance, Benefits & Legislative Committee: That the Board approve the issuance of 1) A Request for Proposals for state legislative advocacy services on health, benefit, and plan administration issues; and 2) A Request for Proposals for federal legislative advocacy services on health, benefit, and plan administration issues. (Memo dated April 26, 2017)

Mr. Rice and Mr. Lew were present to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. Kelly made a motion, Mr. Pryor seconded, to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Recommendation as submitted by William de la Garza, Chair, Insurance, Benefits & Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt an “Oppose” position on Senate Constitutional Amendment 10 unless pulled from the Senate Committee, which requires retirement benefit increases to be approved by a two-thirds vote of the electorate. (Memo dated May 1, 2017)

Mr. Lew was present to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. Pryor made a motion, Mr. Adams seconded, to adopt an “Oppose” position on Senate Constitutional Amendment 10. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Recommendation as submitted by William de la Garza, Chair, Insurance, Benefits & Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt no position on Senate Bill 32, which would enact the California Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2018. (Memo dated April 27, 2017)  
(Supplemental memo dated April 27, 2017)

Mr. Lew was present to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to approve the recommendation.

Mr. Bernstein made a substitute motion, Mr. Kelly seconded, to adopt a “Watch” position. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. NON-CONSENT AGENDA (Continued)

- D. Recommendation as submitted by William de la Garza, Chair, Insurance, Benefits & Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt an "Oppose" position on Senate Constitutional Amendment 8 unless pulled from the Senate Committee, which provides authority to a government employer to reduce public employee retirement benefits. (Memo dated May 1, 2017)

Mr. Lew was present to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Muir seconded, adopt an "Oppose" position on Senate Constitutional Amendment 8. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. Recommendation as submitted by William de la Garza, Chair, Insurance, Benefits & Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt no position on Assembly Bill 1310, which relates to certain disclosures on member statements. (Memo dated April 20, 2017)  
(Supplemental memo dated April 20, 2017)

Mr. Lew was present to answer questions from the Board.

Chair Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Bernstein seconded, to adopt a "Watch" position on Assembly Bill 1310. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. Recommendation as submitted by Bernie Buenaflor, Division Manager, Benefits Division: That the Board 1) Determine that Keren M. Goldberg is not incapacitated for the duties assigned to her in the position of Health Program Analyst I; and 2) Grant the application of Keren M. Goldberg for reinstatement to active membership. (Memo dated April 24, 2017)

Mr. Buenaflor was present to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. Muir made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- A. For information only as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services, regarding the Application Processing Time Snapshot Reports. (Memo dated April 24, 2017)

This item was received and filed.

X. REPORT ON STAFF ACTION ITEMS

The Board requested for staff to clarify in hours and minutes the Emails Average Response Time under the Member Services Contact Center Section on the CEO Report.

XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER  
(For information purposes only)

There was nothing to report during Good of the Order.

XII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

- A. Applications for Disability

Safety Law Enforcement  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Bernstein, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who were found to be disabled for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof:

APPLICATION NO.

NAME

624C\*

ANGEL E. JAIMES

\* Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
625C*	PAMELA M. LANE
626C	TOMAS L. JIMENEZ
627C	JOHN T. FREDENDALL
628C**	BRIAN D. FITCH
629C	CYNTHIA L. SAMBOLICH-KIVLER
630C***	ALFONSO LOPEZ (DEC'D)
631C**	STEPHEN P. OPFERMAN
632C	DENNIS A. BARNHOORN
633C	ARTURO HERNANDEZ
634C*	ROSS J. MARTINEZ
635C*	NORMAN D. AYSON
636C	DANNY R. REGALADO
637C	PATRICK N. HAYES
638C	DANIEL R. JACKSON
639C**	DAVID A. GONZALEZ

\* Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\* Granted SCD – Retroactive

\*\*\* Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit



XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

Safety-Fire, Lifeguard

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Pryor, seconded by Chair Kehoe, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who were found to be disabled for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1859A	RONDA M. APODACA
1860A	LEE J. THOMPSON
1861A	MARIO F. DE FINA
1862A	RICKEY A. SEWELL
1863A	CLINT D. KALLER
1864A	STEVEN L. RALSTON
1865A	SCOTT A. ROSENFELD

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Okum, seconded by Mr. Bernstein, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who were found to be disabled for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2712B*	ANNETTE YOUNG
2713B**	MARIA E. GAITAN
2714B*	SHEILA Y. FOSTER-CHARLES
2715B	PHILIP O. LIM HING
2716B*/***	LOURDES JIMENEZ
2717B**	RICHARD T. JOHNSON
2718B**	VIVIAN L. ESKRIDGE
2719B*/***	WILLIAM J. PEREA
2720B*	APRIL A. THOMAS
2721B	CARMENCITA F. ROSCOE
2722B	GLENN T. ZOPPA

\* Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\* Granted SCD – Retroactive

\*\*\* Applicant Present

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

<u>APPLICATION NO. &amp; NAME</u>	<u>BOARD ACTION</u>
6943A – DEBBIE KRAMER	Mr. Muir made a motion, Mr. Okum, seconded, to deny a service connected disability retirement since the employer can accommodate. The motion passed unanimously.
6944A – JANET E. STEINBERG (Dec'd)	Mr. Okum made a motion, Mr. Muir, seconded, to deny a service connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated since the employer can accommodate. The motion passed unanimously.
6945A – FARAHNAZ HINOJOSA	Mr. Muir made a motion, Mr. Okum, seconded, to deny a service connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated. The motion passed unanimously.
6934A – KATHLEEN D. KOSKY	Mr. Adams made a motion, Mr. Okum, seconded, to grant a non-service connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724. The motion passed unanimously.
6940A – LORI A. AVILA	(This item was handled out of order in Open Session, prior to Case 6943A.)  Mr. Pryor made a motion, Mr. Muir seconded, to grant a non-service connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed unanimously

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

<u>APPLICATION NO. &amp; NAME</u>	<u>BOARD ACTION</u>
6935A – TOMAS H. CROUCIER	Mr. Muir made a motion, Mr. Adams seconded, to grant a service connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Referee Reports

<u>APPLICATION NO. &amp; NAME</u>	<u>BOARD ACTION</u>
PEGGY A. FOSTER – Thomas J. Wicke for the applicant Jason E. Waller for the respondent	<p>Mr. Okum made a motion, Mr. Bernstein seconded, to deny a service connected disability and find the applicant permanently incapacitated.</p> <p>Chair Kehoe made a substitute motion, Mr. Adams seconded, to return to staff for additional information. The motion passed with Mr. Kelly voting no.</p>

C. Staff Recommendations

1. Recommendation as submitted by Jason E. Waller, Senior Staff Counsel, Disability Litigation: That the Board find **Lisa T. Ha** permanently incapacitated due to service-connected injuries and grant a service-connected disability retirement in accordance with Government Code Section 31720. (Letter dated April 18, 2017)

Mr. Waller was present to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. Okum made a motion, Mr. Muir seconded, to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION  
(Continued)

C. Staff Recommendations (Continued)

2. Recommendation as submitted by JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Gutierrez, Preciado & House, LLP. (Memo dated April 28, 2017)

Mr. Kelly made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

3. For Information Only as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Manager, Disability Retirement Services Division, regarding the 2017 Quarterly Reports of Paid Invoices. (Memo dated April 27, 2017)

This item was received and filed.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation  
(Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of California Government Code Section 54956.9)

1. Agneta Dobos v. Board of Retirement

The Board met in Executive Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1), and there was nothing to report.

2. Administrative Appeal of Vernalea Panga

The Board met in Executive Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1). It was reported that the Board voted unanimously, on a motion by Chair Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Muir, to grant the appeal, with a July 6, 2011 disability retirement effective date and prejudgment interest from October 5, 2011 to the date of payment of the benefits.

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Green Folder Information (Information distributed in each Board Member's Green Folder at the beginning of the meeting)

1. Retirement Board Listing dated May 11, 2017
2. LACERA Legislative Report – Other (Dated May 9, 2017)
3. LACERA Legislative Report - Bills Amending CERL/PEPRA (Dated May 9, 2017)

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in memory of Mr. Yves Chery at 10:25 a.m.

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WILLIAM DE LA GARZA, SECRETARY

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SHAWN R. KEHOE, CHAIR