

**APPROVED**

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, JANUARY 14, 2021

This meeting was conducted by the Board of Retirement by teleconference under the Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20.

PRESENT: Alan Bernstein, Chair

Vivian H. Gray, Vice Chair

Gina Zapanta, Secretary

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Shawn R. Kehoe

Keith Knox

Wayne Moore

Ronald Okum

William Pryor (Alternate Safety) (Joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.)

Les Robbins

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer

John Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Vincent Lim, Disability Litigation Manager

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Allison E. Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Eugenia W. Der, Senior Staff Counsel

Jason E. Waller, Senior Staff Counsel

Ricki Contreras, Disability Retirement Services Manager

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Hernan Barrientos, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Kerri Wilson, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Ricardo Salinas, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bernstein at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2020

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Moore seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 10, 2020. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Zapanta and Ms. Gray voting yes.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests from the public.

IV. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE  
(For Information Purposes Only)

Mr. Kreimann shared that the Deputy Chief Executive Officer job bulletin has been posted. Alliance Resource Consulting LLC is assisting with the recruitment and selection process. In addition, he shared that Los Angeles County will be rolling out the “Know Your Tier” Vaccine Public Awareness Campaign across the County. As information becomes available, it will be shared with the Trustees and LACERA members. Lastly, a three-day Disaster Recovery Plan exercise and Business Continuity Plan exercise was recently conducted, and a presentation of the results will be provided to the Operations Oversight Committee.

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Okum, 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. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>NAME</u>       |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 373D                   | JAMES F. CORRIGAN |
| 374D*                  | DAVID W. EVANS    |
| 375D                   | MARK S. CLAAHSEN  |

\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>NAME</u>             |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 376D                   | CHRISTOPHER J. MCMASTER |
| 377D                   | MICHAEL L. HIATT        |
| 378D*                  | SEAN W. BURKE           |
| 379D*                  | JAMES P. WOLAK          |
| 380D                   | MILTON N. MURPHY        |
| 381D                   | JOSEPH A. ACEVEDO       |
| 382D*                  | VALENTINE ROSARIO, III  |
| 383D**                 | DENNIS A. CLARK, JR.    |
| 384D                   | KENNETH W. BROWN        |
| 385D**                 | JAIME GONZALEZ          |

\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\*Granted SCD - Retroactive

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Fire, Lifeguards  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Okum, 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. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Robbins, Pryor, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>NAME</u>         |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1311B                  | DAVID B. CRAIG      |
| 1312B                  | ANDREW M. DOYLE     |
| 1313B*                 | DENNIS J. DIMARZIO  |
| 1314B                  | SCOTT T. TUCKER     |
| 1315B                  | JOSEPH A. FELANDO   |
| 1316B                  | STEVEN M. AUGUSTINE |
| 1317B                  | RAUL J. GARCIA      |
| 1318B                  | STEVEN M. STRAIGHT  |
| 1319B                  | JEFFREY M. RANKIN   |
| 1320B                  | RICHARD D. HALL     |

\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Okum, seconded by Mr. Knox, the Board of Retirement made a motion to approve 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. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Robbins, Kehoe, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>NAME</u>       |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 2158C*                 | SURINDER KAUR     |
| 2159C**                | SONYA J. WALKER   |
| 2160C***               | JEE ANNA J. LEE   |
| 2161C*                 | EDNA M. ROCHES    |
| 2162C**                | AMBER N. OBREGON  |
| 2163C**                | CHANTE N. YOUNG   |
| 2164C****              | LYNNE A. GIPSON   |
| 2165C*                 | MARIVIC RECINTO   |
| 2166C**                | MISTY L. ANDERSON |
| 2167C                  | INCORRECT CASE    |

\* Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\* Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

\*\*\* Granted SCD – Retroactive

\*\*\*\* Granted SCD Retroactive - Employer Cannot Accommodate

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members (Continued)  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>NAME</u>      |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 2168C*                 | LESLIE D. GARCIA |
| 2169C**                | KAMEKA N. TURNER |

VI. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Recommendation as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board grant the appeals and request for an administrative hearing for applicants Sharinna Johnson and Rebecca Ramirez. (Memo dated December 31, 2020)

Ms. Gray made a motion, Mr. Knox seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Zapanta and Ms. Gray voting yes.

VII. REPORTS

- A. For Information Only as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services, regarding the Application Processing Time Snapshot Reports. (Memo dated December 31, 2020)

Ms. Contreras was present to answer questions from the Board.

VIII. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

There was nothing to report.

\*Granted SCD Retroactive - Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

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

Mr. Harris thanked the Disability Retirement Services staff for the work and efforts.

X. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Mr. Pryor arrived at 9:34 a.m.)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5159B –MISTY J. RITTER

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Knox seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Walsh, Bernstein, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes. Mr. Okum was experiencing technical difficulty.

5160B – SATYA VASHISHTHA\*

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Ms. Gray seconded, to deny and find the application untimely under Government Code Section 31722. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

5161B – MATTHEW J. BRADY

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to deny and find the application untimely under Government Code Section 31722. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

\*Applicant Present



X. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5162B – 2019-4SG

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720 and 31724. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

The motion was reconsidered without objection.

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to grant a nonservice connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720 and 31724 retroactive. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

5029B – ANGELINA LOVE

Ms. Gray made a motion, Mr. Okum seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

X. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5147B – LAURA C. GUILLEN

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Ms. Gray seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Moore, Okum, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

5148B – JAMES G. ROSS, JR.

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Ms. Gray seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Knox, Bernstein, Okum, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Santos, Ms. Gray and Ms. Zapanta voting yes.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation  
(Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (b) of California Government Code Section 54957)

Title: Chief Counsel

The Board met in Executive Session pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (b) of California Government Code Section 54957. There was nothing to report.

B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation  
(Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (b) of California Government Code Section 54957)

Title: Chief Executive Officer

The Board met in Executive Session pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (b) of California Government Code Section 54957. There was nothing to report.

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Green Folder Information (Information provided to the Trustees prior to the meeting)

1. Disability Retirement Correction Memo #5160B (Memo dated January 12, 2021)

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in memory of previous Trustee, Simon Russin, at 12:30 p.m.

*Signature on File*

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GINA ZAPANTA, SECRETARY

*Signature on File*

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ALAN BERNSTEIN, CHAIR