

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, MAY 5, 2022

This meeting was conducted by the Board of Retirement by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953(e).

PRESENT: William Pryor (Alternate Safety), Chair

Shawn R. Kehoe, Vice Chair

Alan Bernstein, Secretary

Elizabeth Ginsberg, Alternate Ex-Officio for Keith Kox

Vivian H. Gray

Keith Knox

Wayne Moore (Joined the meeting at 9:01 a.m.)

Les Robbins

Antonio Sanchez

Herman Santos (Left the meeting at 11:05 a.m.)

ABSENT: JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Keith Knox

Gina Zapanta

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Michael Herrera, Senior Staff Counsel

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, KH Consulting Group

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Cassandra Smith, Retiree Healthcare Director

Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer

Carly Ntoya, Ph.D., Human Resources Director

Carlos Barrios, Interim Benefits Manager

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Ricki Contreras, Disability Retirement Services Division Manager

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Vickie Neely, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Kerri Wilson, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Hernan Barrientos, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Ricardo Salinas, Disability Retirement Specialist Supervisor

Vincent Lim, Disability Litigation Manager

Eugenia Der, Senior Staff Counsel

Allison E. Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Jason Waller, Senior Staff Counsel

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order virtually by Chair Pryor at 9:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2022

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Kehoe seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 6, 2022. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Kehoe, Sanchez, Robbins, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, Moore, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT (Mr. Moore joined the meeting at 9:01 a.m.)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

IV. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

A. For Information

1. March 2022 All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month of March: Debra Gonzalez, Michael Peterson, Faustino Herrera, and Vanessa Gonzalez and Rideshare winner was Regina Harris.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report
(Memo dated April 27, 2022)

Mr. Kreimann provided the Board with an update to staff's return to the office via a hybrid schedule. He also shared that the Member Service Center will be opening back up and providing in person appointments soon. In addition, he shared that the MOU COLA

IV. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS (Continued)

increase was received by County Counsel and that it will be agendized before the Board of Supervisors in the near future, possibly by the end of the fiscal year.

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Santos, seconded by Mr. Robbins, 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. Santos, Moore, Robbins, Bernstein, Sanchez, Pryor, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, Kehoe, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
671D	LUIS A. HERNANDEZ
672D	ROBERT D. WHEATCROFT
673D	AURELIO BICAD
674D*	RICHARD HERNANDEZ
675D	MICHAEL J. SCHAAP
676D	RONALD D. REYNOLDS
677D	JASON A. MCGINTY
678D	JANA T. MILLER (Pulled at the request of staff)

*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>
679D	CHARLES W. YOUNGSTROM
680D	JOHN S. DENNIS
681D	RYAN E. DEYOUNG
682D	JOAQUIN ZEPEDA
683D	TIM W. SIEDENTOPP
684D	MARK F. SLATER*
685D	EDGAR P. HONORES
686D	JEFFREY H. POHL
687D	ROBERT R. MORRIS
688D	SUKARNO L. BROWN**
689D	XAVIER A. BAUTISTA
690D	ROBERT L. ALEXANDER II
691D	WILLIAM J. MATTISON
692D	WILLIAM N. HOLVERSON
693D	YANCY L. WALDEN
694D	JAMES C. ATKINS

*Granted SCD – Retroactive 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. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Robbins, 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. Santos, Moore, Robbins, Bernstein, Sanchez, Pryor, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, Kehoe and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1466B	ERIC G. WRIGHT
1467B	MICHAEL S. PACHECO
1468B	BRUCE A. ALPERN
1469B	WILLIAM J. HAILEY
1470B	ANDY T. NICASSIO
1471B	ADAM K. DEHART
1472B*	MICHAEL L. HETHERINGTON
1473B	CHRISTOPHER S. PALMER
1474B	SEAN K. MERRITT
1475B	DEAN P. HELSEL
1476B	COLT A. LARSON

*Granted SCD – Retroactive

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR
(Continued)

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Pryor, seconded by Ms. Ginsberg, 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. Kehoe, Santos, Moore, Robbins, Sanchez, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2372C	KIM K. CADDICK
2373C*	TODJI D. THOMAS
2374C	HELEN RIVERA
2375C**	PAULA M. ORNELAS CAHHAL
2376C***	JOGINDER S. GILL
2377C	DORA SANCHEZ
2378C	DEBORAH LEWIS
2379C****	SHEILA R. CAMPBELL
2380C*****	MICHAEL E. WALL (DEC'D)
2381C	TONI R. BABERS

*Granted SCD – Salary Supplemental

**Granted SCD – Retroactive Employer Cannot Accommodate

***Granted SCD – Retroactive

**** Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

*****Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members (Continued)

Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2382C*	BONNIE L. JAMES
2383C**	CHRISTINE D. WHITE
2384C	LINDA L. THOMAS
2385C**	BENJAMIN E. ACOSTA GOMEZ

VI. CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Robbins seconded, to approve Consent Items A-F, H. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

- A. Recommendation as submitted by Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel: That, under AB 361 and Government Code Section 54953(e)(3) of the Brown Act, the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments separately consider whether to find that the Governor’s COVID-19 State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of each Board and its Committees to meet safely in person and that the County of Los Angeles and other agencies still recommend social distancing such that each Board and its Committees shall hold teleconference meetings for the next 30 days, subject to continuation of the State of Emergency, and if so, direct staff to comply with the agenda and public comment requirements of the statute. Action taken by each Board will only apply to that Board and its Committees. (Memo dated April 26, 2022)
- B. Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals. (Memo dated April 27, 2022)

*Granted SCD – Retroactive Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted SCD – Salary Supplemental

VI. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

- C. Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt a “Support” position on Assembly Bill 1824, which would provide clarification and technical updates to the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937.
(Memo dated April 22, 2022)
- D. Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt a “Support” position on Assembly Bill 1944, which would not require a nonpublic teleconference location to be identified or accessible to the public.
(Memo dated April 21, 2022) (Supplemental Memo dated April 21, 2022)
- E. Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee: That the Board 1) Approve a visit with Congress by Board trustees as designated by the Chair of the Board of Retirement and by staff as designated by the Chief Executive Officer during the week of May 23, 2022 in Washington, D.C.; and 2) Approve reimbursement of all travel costs incurred in accordance with LACERA’s Trustee Travel Policy.
(Memo dated April 21, 2022).
- F. Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee: That the Board authorize staff to allow temporary one-time waiver of the 6-month waiting period for eligible members electing to transfer to SCAN’s new expanded service areas.
(Memo dated April 7, 2022)
- G. Recommendation as submitted by Herman B. Santos, Chair, Joint Organizational Governance Committee: That the Board approve the revised Education and Travel Policies. (Memo dated April 25, 2022)

This Item was pulled from the Consent Calendar and was discussed in Item

VII. Excluded from Consent Items.

- H. Recommendation as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board grant the appeal and request for an administrative hearing for applicants Pratin Kraisoronkovit, Andrea Marie Serda, Angela M. Sorrels, Dawn M. Cross, Alvin D. Poff, Jr., and Bethly L. Mills. (Memo dated April 25, 2022)

VII. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

- G. Recommendation as submitted by Herman B. Santos, Chair, Joint Organizational Governance Committee: That the Board approve the revised Education and Travel Policies. (Memo dated April 25, 2022)

Mr. Rice was present for this item and answered questions from the Board.

Trustees provided feedback and requested revisions.

Mr. Santos made a motion, Mr. Bernstein seconded, to approve Consent Items G. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

VIII. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Recommendation as submitted by Carlos Barrios, Interim Manager, Benefits Division: That the Board authorize staff to forgo the collection of interest on the overpaid retirement benefits resulting from adjustments required by the Alameda Decision. (Memo dated March 23, 2022)

Mr. Barrios and Mr. Popowich were present and answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Santos made a motion, Mr. Robbins seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

VIII. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

- B. Recommendation as submitted by Kathy Delino, Interim Chief Information Technology Officer: That the Board authorize staff to engage and contract with Eccentex Corporation for consulting services to procure, configure, customize, and implement an enterprise Case Management Software Solution for Disability Retirement, Disability Litigation, and First Payment business processes at an implementation cost of \$285,000 plus annual licensing fees of \$259,200. (Memo dated April 20, 2022)

Ms. Delino provided a brief presentation and answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Santos made a motion, Mr. Sanchez seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Robbins, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

- C. Recommendation as submitted by Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer: That the Board provide the SACRS voting delegate direction on voting for the SACRS Slate of Officers. (Memo dated April 21, 2022)

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

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Santos seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

IX. REPORTS

- A. Presentation by KH Consulting Group, regarding LACERA Strategic Planning. (Memo dated April 25, 2022)

Ms. Kraetsch Hartsough provided a brief presentation and answered questions from the Board.

IX. REPORTS (Continued)

The following items were received and filed.

- B. For Information Only as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services, regarding the Application Processing Time Snapshot Reports. (Memo dated April 26, 2022)
- C. For Information Only as submitted by Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer, regarding the Monthly Status Report on Legislation. (Memo dated April 25, 2022)
- D. For Information Only as submitted by Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer, regarding the following reports:
 - Monthly Trustee Travel and Education Reports for March 2022
(Public Memo dated April 15, 2022)
(Confidential Memo dated April 15, 2022 – Includes Anticipated Travel)
- E. For Information Only as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Disability Retirement Services Division, regarding the 2022 Quarterly Reports of Paid Invoices. (Confidential Memo dated April 20, 2022)
- F. For Information Only as submitted by Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel, regarding the April 2022 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report. (Memo dated April 25, 2022) (Privileged and Confidential Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney Work Product)

X. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

There were no Items for Staff Review.

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

There was nothing to report.

XII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5247B – MARIE J. BROWN

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Moore seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

5248B – MICHAEL G. METAL

Mr. Robbins made a motion, Mr. Sanchez seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

5249B – TIMOTHY-JOHN T. LAMSON

Mr. Sanchez made a motion, Ms. Gray seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

XII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5250B – RESSIE L. DUCUT

Mr. Santos made a motion, Mr. Robbins seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

5251B – DANA NGO

This application was pulled by staff and will be placed on a future agenda.

5252B – JEAN-PAUL SCHILL

Mr. Robbins made a motion, Mr. Moore seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

5253B – MARCELO O. CORDOVA

Mr. Santos made a motion, Mr. Robbins seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

XII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5254B – AN NING*

Mr. Pryor made a motion, Mr. Robbins seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

2365C – CHRISTIE L. RODRIGUES

Mr. Santos made a motion, Mr. Sanchez seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

5186B – TIMOTHY P. FINN

Mr. Pryor made a motion, Mr. Robbins seconded, to table this application for next month. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Pryor, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

*Applicant Present

XII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5201B – DEBORAH K. BRAND

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Pryor seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

639D – ROBERT G. GILLIS

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Santos seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

6811A – STEVEN F. JIMENEZ

(Ms. Ginsberg recused herself from the discussion and returned after the vote on this item.)

Ms. Gray made a motion, Mr. Santos seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724 since the employer cannot accommodate. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote. Ms. Ginsberg was not present.

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

B. Disability Retirement Appeals

APPLICATION NO. & NAME BOARD ACTION

CYNTHIA A. CAMPBELL – Thomas J. Wicke for Applicant
Jason E. Waller for the Respondent

Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Pryor seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement.

Ms. Gray made a substitute motion, Mr. Moore seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, and Ms. Gray voting yes and Ms. Ginsberg and Mr. Bernstein voting no. Messrs. Knox, Harris, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

C. Staff Recommendations

1. Recommendation as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board adopt the Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law granting Crandlon R. McGinnis a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. (Memo dated March 29, 2022)

(Mr. Santos left the meeting at 11:02 a.m.)

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Knox seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, Santos, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

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

C. Staff Recommendations (Continued)

2. Recommendation as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Jeffrey A. Hirsch, M.D.
(Memo dated April 21, 2022)

Mr. Pryor made a motion, Mr. Kehoe seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously (roll call) with Messrs. Sanchez, Robbins, Moore, Kehoe, Bernstein, Ms. Ginsberg and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Harris, Santos, and Ms. Zapanta were absent from the vote.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Signature on File

ALAN BERNSTEIN, SECRETARY

Signature on File

WILLIAM PRYOR, CHAIR