

APPROVED

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

300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024

This meeting was conducted by the Board of Retirement both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953 (f).

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Shawn R. Kehoe, Chair (Alternate Safety) (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953 (f))

Nancy Durazo

Elizabeth Ginsberg

Vivian H. Gray

Jason E. Green

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Wayne Moore

Antonio Sanchez

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Ronald Okum, Secretary

Les Robbins, Vice Chair

David Ryu

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Jon Grabel, Chief Investment Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Jean Kim, Senior Staff Counsel

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Vincent Lim, Disability Litigation Manager

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

Carly Ntoya, Human Resources Director

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Manager

Milliman Consultants

Craig Glyde, Consulting Actuary

Robert Schmidt, Consulting Actuary

Janet Jennings, Consulting Actuary

CavMac

Alisa Bennett, Consulting Actuary

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Durazo led the Trustees and staff in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER AB 2449, California Government Code Section 54953(f)

- A. Just Cause
- B. Action on Emergency Circumstance Requests
- C. Statement of Persons Present at AB 2449 Teleconference Locations

A physical quorum was present at the noticed meeting location. There was a request received from Trustee Kehoe to participate by teleconference for Just Cause (C) Physical Disability. Trustee Kehoe confirmed that there were no individuals 18 years or older present at the teleconference location.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 7, 2024

Trustee Gray made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 7, 2024. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore

Abstain: Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Applicant Terry F. Stevenson (5429B) addressed the Board regarding her disability application.

VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

- A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Rosetta Chang,

VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE (Continued)

A. LACERA All Stars

Brittany Moyer, Maritza Perez, and Carla Quezada. The Web Watcher winner was Indee Brooke and Liping Li was the Rideshare winner.

B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Irma Guerrero.

C. Chief Executive Officer’s Report

Mr. Kreimann provided a brief presentation on the Chief Executive Officer’s Report and answered questions from the Board.

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Harris, 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

447E

MATTHEWS, SCOTT P.

448E

ORTIZ, VINCENT D.

449E

FLUMERFELT, THANH

450E*

STEWART, TRACY D.

451E

MORA, ALDRIN A.

452E

CASAS, CRUZ

453E

AREVALO, ARMANDO J.

454E

COMPARAN, BEATRIZ

455E

GORSKI, BRIAN S.

456E

WALLER WILSON,

CORREY J.

457E

GIPSON, PATRICK L.

*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)
Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
458E	BRYNE, CHRISTINA L.
459E	ROTH, HANNAH R.
460E	CABRERA, RONALD C.
461E	NALE, DOUGLAS R.
462E	SHACKELFORD, BETSY S.
463E	CHIRINO, ALEXANDER
464E*	CHAVEZ, RAYMOND A., II
465E	STEELE, JOHN M.
466E*	ROBLES, JESSICA J.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Harris, Kehoe, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

Safety Fire, Lifeguards
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Harris, 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>
1867B	PEREZ, CARLOS
1868B	RAYGOZA, RAPHAEL
1869B	QUALLS, CHARLES R.
1870B*	ZERMENO, PILAR S.
1871B	HAMBURG, PATRICK A.
1872B**	HALEY, CHASE A.

*Granted SCD – Retroactive

**Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Fire, Lifeguards (Continued)
Service-Connected Disability Applications

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

General Members
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Gray, seconded by Trustee Harris, 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.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2793C*	MONTGOMERY, NINA R.
2794C**	MORENO, DOLORES
2795C	RODRIGUEZ, GARY C.
2796C**	BYRD, STEFANIE W.
2797C*	ALLEN, KENNETH A.
2798C*	GARCIA, JENNIFER M.
2799C*	FOLLINGS, FLOYD M., JR.
2800C**	STURDIVANT, DELBRA
2801C	HEITZ, VIRGINIA A.
2802C	RIVERA-BLUE, LOURDES M.
2803C***	HATCHER, COREY D.
2804C*	HODGES, RICKEY A., JR.
2805C	DOSTA, JOHN C.
2806C	HORAN, ROBERT G.
2807C	CHAPPLE, AYOKA J.

*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted SCD – Retroactive Employer Cannot Accommodate

***Granted SCD – Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members (Continued)
Service-Connected Disability Applications

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

General Members
Nonservice-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Gray, seconded by Trustee Harris, the Board of Retirement made a motion to approve a nonservice-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>
4504*	ESTRADA, MARTHA B.
4505	ZEIGLER, ROBERT C.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to approve consent items A, C-E.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

*Granted NSCD - Retroactive

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

A. **Ratify Chief Negotiator – Irma Rodriguez Moisa**

Recommendation as submitted by Vivian Gray, Chair, Joint Organizational Governance Committee: That the Board ratify Irma Rodriguez Moisa to serve as LACERA’s Chief Negotiator for negotiations with Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 721. (Memo dated August 21, 2024)

B. **H.R. 5241 – Governmental Plans**

Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt an “Oppose” position on H.R. 5241, which would enable full-time first responders employed by nonprofit public safety agencies to participate in governmental pension plans. (Memo dated August 19, 2024)

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, that, on consent item B, the Board adopt a “Watch” position on H.R. 5241.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

C. **Pensionability Analysis Under CERL and PEPRA for New Pay Items**

Recommendation as submitted by Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel: That the Board 1) Approve the recommendation as to each of the pay items; and 2) Instruct staff to coordinate with the Auditor-Controller to establish necessary reporting mechanism and procedures to permit LACERA implement such determinations when calculating final compensation for legacy and PEPRA members. (Memo dated August 15, 2024)

D. **Service Provider Invoice Approval Request – Winet Patrick Gayer Creighton & Hanes**

Recommendation as submitted by Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel, Legal Office: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Winet Patrick Gayer Creighton & Hanes. (Memo dated August 8, 2024 – Attachment is Non-Public and Exempt from

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

Disclosure as Private Information and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.700, 54957.5(a))

E. **Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals**

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as of August 28, 2024, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated August 28, 2024)

IX. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

Item VIII. B. was pulled for further discussion.

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

A. **2025 STAR COLA Program Cost**

Recommendation as submitted by Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer: (1) That the Board of Retirement make public at its meeting on September 4, 2024, the cost of approving an award under the ad-hoc and permanent STAR COLA Program in 2025 at an 80% benefit level. If a benefit is approved, the projected cost for the ad-hoc STAR COLA award is \$154,000, while the cost for awarding a permanent STAR COLA is \$1,595,000 as determined by LACERA's consulting actuary, Milliman; and (2) Direct staff to place this item on the Board of Retirement's October agenda to decide at that time whether or not to award a STAR COLA for Program Year 2025, and if awarded, determine whether the STAR COLA benefits will be ad-hoc or permanent. (Presentation) (Memo dated August 26, 2024)

A brief presentation was provided, and staff answered questions from the Board. Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to approve staff's recommendation.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

B. **2023 Actuarial Valuation of the Los Angeles County Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Program**

Recommendation as submitted by Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer and Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer: That the Board approve the July 1, 2023, Los Angeles County OPEB Program Actuarial Valuation Report prepared by LACERA's consulting actuary, Milliman. (Memo dated August 21, 2024)

Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

C. **Vendor Recommendation: Global Relay e-Discovery Solution**

Recommendation as submitted by Chait Errande, Information Security Officer and Kathy Delino, Chief of Information Technology: That the Board authorize staff to engage with Global Relay Archive to provide eDiscovery services for LACERA. The term of the contract is for 5 years where there would be a one-time setup fee of \$8,480 and monthly recurring costs of \$10,240. The total cost over the term of the contract of 5 years is \$622,880.

(Presentation) (Memo dated August 28, 2024)

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Sanchez seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

- D. **Revised Policy for the Procurement of Goods and Services**
Recommendation as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager, and Elsy Gutierrez, Administrative Services Supervising Administrative Assistant II: That the Board of Retirement adopt the Revised Policy for the Procurement of Goods and Services. (Memo dated August 9, 2024)

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to approve staff's recommendation with the inclusion of adding guidelines for reporting of contracts under \$500,000 to the Board. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

- E. **Ratification of Reciprocal Disability Retirements**
Recommendation as submitted by Louis Gittens, Benefits Manager: That the Board approve the reciprocal disability retirement for deferred members Jesse M. Nordquist, Jeffrey W. Cross, and Jaime Lopez who were found to be disabled by the current reciprocal agency for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof. (Memo dated August 20, 2024)

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

- F. **Assembly Bill 2284 - Compensation**
Recommendation as submitted by Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer: That the Board discuss whether to reconsider its "Oppose" position on Assembly Bill 2284, which would authorize a retirement system to define "grade" for the purposes of determining compensation earnable. (Memo dated August 28, 2024)

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to rescind the prior motion, which was to “Oppose”.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to approve a “Watch” position and direct staff to correct the board’s previous actions related to the opposition of bill.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

XI. REPORTS

The following items were received and filed.

A. **Report of Revised Pay Items**

Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated August 20, 2024)

B. **Monthly Status Report on Legislation**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated August 22, 2024)

C. **Semi-Annual Interest Crediting for Reserves as of June 30, 2024 (Unaudited)**

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 23, 2024)

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

D. **Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Reports – July 2024; Quarterly Trustee Travel & Education Reports - 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2024; Quarterly Staff Travel & Education Reports - 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2024**

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

(For Information Only) (Memos dated August 23, 2024)

E. **August 2024 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated August 23, 2024)

(Privileged and Confidential/Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney Work Product and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.705, 54957.5(a))

XII. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

Regarding Item X. A 2025 STAR COLA Program Cost, Trustee Kehoe requested staff to agendize a future discussion regarding the STAR COLA Program and future funding options.

Regarding Item X. B 2023 Actuarial Valuation of the Los Angeles County OPEB Program, Trustee Kehoe requested that a future presentation be provided to the Board on the funding ratio and how LACERA can enhance OPEB funding.

XIII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There was nothing to report.

XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER

(For Information Purposes Only)

There was nothing to report.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5429B - STEVENSON, TERRY F.*

*Applicant Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

Trustee Sanchez made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement with the option of an earlier effective date pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

5430B - FINN, DENNIS P.

Trustee Gray made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

5431B - SALAS, JUAN A.

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720 and deny a service-connected disability salary supplemental allowance.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5432B - DRC-2407-02063

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

5433B - CONTRERAS, EUGENE R.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and find the applicant not permanently incapacitated.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Harris, Kehoe, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

5434B - SIERAKOWSKI, JASON M.

This application was pulled for further development.

5267B - MUNOZ, LESLIE M. (DEC'D)

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to deny service-connected survivor benefits.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

5417B - LOFTON-THOMAS, DEMICHA L.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement.

Trustee Green made a substitute motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to refer back to staff for further development.

Trustee Gray made a second substitute motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement.

The second substitute motion failed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Gray, Moore, Sanchez

No: Gray, Moore, Harris, Ginsberg

Absent: Okum, Ryu

The first substitute motion to refer back to staff for further development passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Moore, Sanchez

Absent: Okum, Ryu

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

B. Disability Retirement Appeals

SANDRA CORRAL* – Thomas Wicke for the Applicant
Eugenia Der for the Respondent

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement.

Trustee Kehoe made a substitute motion, Trustee Green seconded, to refer back to staff for further development.

The substitute motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Harris, Sanchez

No: Moore

Absent: Okum, Ryu

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Conference with Labor Negotiators
(Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6)

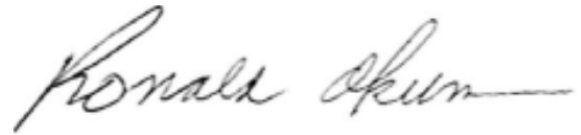
Agency Designated Representatives:
Chief Negotiator Irma Rodriguez Moisa, Carly Ntoya, Santos H. Kreimann, Luis Lugo, Laura Guglielmo, JJ Popowich, Annette Cleary, and Jasmine Bath

Employee Organization: SEIU Local 721

There was nothing to report.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.



RONALD OKUM, SECRETARY



SHAWN R. KEHOE, CHAIR

