

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, NOVEMBER 6, 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)

Les Robbins, Vice Chair

Ronald Okum, Secretary

Elizabeth Ginsberg

Vivian H. Gray

Jason E. Green (Joined the meeting at 9:13 a.m.)

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Wayne Moore

David Ryu

Antonio Sanchez

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Nancy Durazo

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Office

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Jude Perez, Deputy Chief Investment Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Vincent Lim, Disability Litigation Manager

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Manager

Kathy Delino, Chief Information Technology

Carly Ntoya, Human Resources Director

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Manager

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kehoe at 9:03 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Moore 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

There were no requests to participate via AB 2449.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 2, 2024

Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Okum seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 4, 2024. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Ryu, Sanchez

Abstain: Robbins

Absent: Durazo

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

A written comment was received and filed on behalf of LACERA member, Donna M. Anderson, was received regarding her disability retirement application no. 5419B.

V. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

- A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Christian Perez, Linda El-Farra, David Choe, and Seema Parween. The Rideshare winner was Artesa Harris and Web Watcher winner was Linda El-Farra.

- B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Garrett Schiaretti.

V. EXECUTIVE UPDATE (Continued)

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.

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Robbins, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who met the burden of establishing permanent incapacity from the performance of their usual duties and a real and measurable connection between their incapacity and employment.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
490E	RODRIGUEZ, MICHAEL A.
491E	APOSTOL, JOHN P.
492E*	GROSS, MICHAEL W.
493E*	ALVAREZ, EDWIN E.
494E	HALFORD, JULIE A.
495E*	NICASSIO, JOSEPH E.
496E	RYAN, BARRY S.
497E	LOZANO-LOPEZ, ERICA F.
498E	ZABORNIAK, KEVIN R.
499E	ABERCROMBY, JOSEPH D.
500E**	MALDONADO, ROGELIO, JR.
501E***	DUONG, TOAN V.
502E*	NAGELMANN, DANIEL E.
503E	INZALACO, JOSEPH P.
504E*	CABRERA-ALDAY, NAOMI M.
505E	MALKI, MARTHA D.
506E	HORNIG, CHADREN K.
507E*	O'SULLIVAN, DAVID E.

*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted SCD – Retroactive Since Employer Cannot Accommodate

*** Granted SCD – Retroactive

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)
Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
508E	RICHARDSON, WILLIAM M.
509E	CASTRO, GUALBERTO P.
510E	VALDIVIA, JORGE
511E	RIVER, TERISA M.
512E	GOODWIN, STEVEN J.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

Safety Fire, Lifeguards (Trustee Green joined the meeting at 9:13 a.m.)
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Green, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who met the burden of establishing permanent incapacity from the performance of their usual duties and a real and measurable connection between their incapacity and employment.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1182B	MILLER, SCOTT R.
1183B	KAHAN, ARLIN S.
1184B	SANTHOFF, ROBERT C.
1185B	MAHLKE, DONALD D.
1186B	FLORES, CARL N.
1187B	DELABAR, WESTLEIGH A.
1188B*	WREN, ANTHONY J.
1189B**	VELA, JESSE J.
1190B	WEAVER, ROBERT E.

* Granted SCD – Retroactive

**Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Fire, Lifeguards (Continued)

Service-Connected Disability Applications

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Okum, seconded by Trustee Robbins, the Board of Retirement made a motion to approve a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who met the burden of establishing permanent incapacity from the performance of their usual duties and a real and measurable connection between their incapacity and employment.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2819C*	EVANS, JUANITA D.
2820C**	CALLEJA, JOSE C., JR.
2821C*	RIVERA, MOISES J.
2822C***	RECINOS, KARLA P.
2823C	MURAYAMA, VERONICA
2824C***	SKOPIK, HEATHER
2825C	BEYAH, TERESA
2826C*	BIRDEN, GINA T.
2827C*	SERNA, VALERIE N.
2828C****	MORTON, LAURA M.
2829C*	GAVIN, CHARNEDA D.
2830C*****	LE BLANC-BELLE, CONNIE
2831C***	ALVAREZ, RITA
2832C***	MEDINA, MIRIAM
2833C*	GUTIERREZ, CARMEN
2834C*****	REEVES, LAURIE D.

*Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

**Granted SCD – Salary Supplement Since Employer Cannot Accommodate

***Granted SCD –Employer Cannot Accommodate

****Granted SCD – Retroactive

*****Granted SCD – Retroactive Since Employer Cannot Accommodate

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members (Continued)
Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2835C*	GONZALEZ-VELETA, MARY
2836C*	JONES, KAYLA
2837C	MENDEZ, RAMON A.
2838C*	GOLD, SCOTT C.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

General Members
Nonservice-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Okum, the Board of Retirement made a motion to approve a nonservice-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who met the burden of establishing permanent incapacity from the performance of their usual duties.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
4507*	LEYKIS, SUSAN

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

* Granted SCD –Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted NSCD – Retroactive

VII. CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Okum made a motion, Trustee Ginsberg seconded, to approve consent items A-F.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

A. **Federal Engagement – Visit with Congress**

Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits, and Legislative Committee: That the Board 1) Approve visits 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 January 27, 2025, in Washington, D.C.; and 2) Approve reimbursement of all travel costs incurred in accordance with LACERA's Trustee Travel Policy. (Memo dated October 15, 2024)

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

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as October 29, 2024, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated October 29, 2024)

C. **Appeals for the Board of Retirement's Meeting**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board grant the appeals and requests for administrative hearing received from Terry F. Stevenson and Tanicia R. Trotter and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer each case to a referee. (Memo dated October 24, 2024)

D. **Dismiss with Prejudice the Appeal of Paul G. Murphy**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board dismiss with prejudice Paul G. Murphy's appeal for service-connected disability retirement. (Memo dated October 22, 2024)

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

E. **Service Provider Invoice Approval Request - Robert A. Moore, M.D.**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Robert A. Moore, M.D.

(Memo dated October 18, 2024 – Attachment is Non-Public and Exempt from Disclosure as Private Information and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.700, 54957.56(a))

F. **Service Provider Invoice Approval Request - Winet Patrick Gayer Creighton & Hanes**

Recommendation as submitted by Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel, Legal Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Winet Patrick Gayer Creighton & Hanes.

(Memo dated October 7, 2024 - Attachment is Non-Public and Exempt from Disclosure as Private Information and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.700, 54957.56(a))

IX. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

There were no items pulled for discussion.

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

A. **Retroactive Approval: Microsoft Licensing Expenses Fiscal Year 2024-25**

Recommendation as submitted by Kathy Delino, Chief, Information Technology: That the Board retroactively approve LACERA's Microsoft Licensing Expenses for FY 2024-25 and 1) Authorize staff to amend the final year of the contract with SoftwareONE to include additional licensing costs and scope of services for FY 2024-2025; and 2) Approve the expenditure for the additional licenses, bringing the final year total to \$617,975.78, which is \$162,094.94 over the annual contract amount of \$455,880.83. (Memo dated October 17, 2024)

Trustee Robbins made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to approve staff's recommendation.

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

B. **Provide Voting Directions on SACRS 2025 Legislative Platform**

Recommendation as submitted by Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer: That the Board direct its voting delegate to vote YES on sponsorship by the State Association of County Retirement Systems (SACRS) of an omnibus bill for the SACRS 2025 legislative platform. (Memo dated October 29, 2024)

Trustee Robbins made a motion, Trustee Ryu seconded, to approve staff's recommendation.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

XI. REPORTS

The following items were received and filed.

A. **Fiscal Year 2024-25 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments**

Ricki Contreras, Manager, Administrative Services Division
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 28, 2024)

B. **Fiscal Year 2023-24 Final Budget Control Report**

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 23, 2024)

C. **Monthly Status Report on Legislation**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 21, 2024)

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

D. **2025 Quarterly Reports of Paid Invoices**

1st Quarter – July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024

Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 11, 2024 – Attachment is
Non-Public and Exempt from Disclosure as Private Information and
Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections
7927.700, 54957.56(a))

E. **Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Report – September 2024**

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 24, 2024)

F. **October 2024 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 30, 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

There were no items for staff review.

XIII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for staff review.

XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER
(For Information Purposes Only)

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member and former employee, Michael Peterson, was passed.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5440B - CORONA, LUIS*

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

5441B - HAMMER, FRED P.*

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to refer back to staff for additional information.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

5442B - ORANTES, BENJAMIN

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Kehoe 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: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

*Attorney and/or Applicant Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

348E - ROTH, DIRK D.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to grant a service-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: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

5402B – WOOD, LAURA*

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 since the employer cannot accommodate.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

5414B - MCMILLAN, YOLANDA Y.

Trustee Gray made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement with the option of an earlier effective date pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724 since the employer cannot accommodate.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

*Attorney Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5419B – ANDERSON, DONNA M.*

Trustee Robbins made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

5434B - SIERAKOWSKI, JASON M.*

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Gray seconded, to return to staff for additional information.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

B. Disability Retirement Appeals

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

CRUMLISH, JUSTIN J. – Thomas Wicke for the Applicant
Jason E. Waller for the Respondent

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Okum seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement with the option of an earlier effective date.

*Attorney and/or Applicant Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

B. Disability Retirement Appeals (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

JACKSON, DENISE – In Pro Per
Eugenia W. Der for the Respondent

Trustee Okum made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

C. Staff Recommendations

1. **Application of Megan Arielle Smith (Deceased)**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board instruct staff to close Megan Arielle Smith's (deceased) application for Disability Retirement. (Memo dated October 23, 2024)

Trustee Ryu made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to approve staff's recommendation.


The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu, Sanchez

Absent: Durazo

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was Adjourned in memory of LACERA member and former employee, Michael Peterson, at 9:40 a.m.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald Okum", written in black ink.

RONALD OKUM, SECRETARY



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Shawn R. Kehoe", written in black ink.

SHAWN R. KEHOE, CHAIR

