

**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 91101

9:00 A.M., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 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

Vivian H. Gray

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Wayne Moore

Antonio Sanchez

Herman Santos

ABSENT: Keith Knox

Les Robbins

Gina Zapanta

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Jonathan Gabel, Chief Investment Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Fern M. Billingsy, Senior Staff Counsel

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

Kathy Delino, Systems Interim Chief Information Technology Officer

Celso Templo, Systems Interim Information Technology Manager II

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

Nick Collier, Milliman – Consulting Actuary

Craig Glyde, Milliman – Consulting Actuary

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order virtually by Chair Pryor at 9:10 a.m.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 7, 2022

Mr. Santos made a motion, Mr. Kehoe seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 7, 2022. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

## III. PUBLIC COMMENT

A written comment from Jeffrey R. McKee's survivor regarding his application

(5269B) that will be part of the meeting record.

## IV. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

### A. For Information

#### 1. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Jennel Sarian, Hernan Barrientos, Rebecca Yu, and Soledad Cortez. The Rideshare winner was Liping Li.

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

Mr. Kreimann shared that staff is prepared for hybrid meetings starting in November. In addition, he shared an update on the OneMeeting (PrimeGov) project. Furthermore, it was shared that the safety member election will be certified by the Board of Supervisors at its October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Lastly, the recruitment status on outstanding positions was provided.

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

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

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
796D	JAIME CALOCA
797D	JOSEPH T. HUDSON
798D	PERRY R. VELLANOWETH
799D	JOSE J. GARCIA
800D*	MELVIN L. JOHNICAN
801D	MARK A. CARRILLO
802D	ADAM F. CORDOVA
803D	CARLOS A. SANCHEZ
804D	JOHN E. BARNICK
805D	DANIEL REYES
806D	JEFFREY D. CALE

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
807D	WENDY D. WIECHERT-HAROLD
808D	FRANK A. HIGUERA
809D	ALONA BAHAT
810D*	SARAH E. SASS
811D	DAVID B. VASQUEZ
812D	ANTHONY J. PARKER
813D	DALE M. FETTERLEIGH

Safety Fire, Lifeguards  
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. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Pryor, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1520B	RITCHIE A. SALISBURY
1521B	CRAIG R. ZIMMERMANN

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

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

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1522B	LEONARD A. CRUZ
1523B	CHRIS E. LAMBERT
1524B	JOHN J. KAULBACK
1525B*	ROBERT E. PRINCE
1526B	DAVID J. CHETWOOD

General Members  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Mr. Santos, seconded by Mr. 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. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2436C	SANTIAGO PEREZ
2437C	CAROLE FOURNIER
2438C**	CINTHIA M. LEAL

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

\*\*Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

V. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members (Continued)  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2439C*	KAREN L. BRISCO
2440C	KENNETH G. LAYMAN
2441C**	CANZATOR S. BOWENS
2442C***	YOLANDA Y. SMITH
2443C*	PETER S. LEE
2444C***	JENNIFER M. ZAMUDIO
2445C****	SARA BERRELLEZA
2446C***	GINNEH R. WILSON
2447C****	LOURDES P. ARAGON
2448C****	ROCHELLE M. CORUGEDO
2449C**	YOUNG O. SHIM
2450C*****	GERARDO SOTO-VASQUEZ (DEC'D)
2452C****	ALMA D. JAUREGUI

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

\*\*Granted SCD – Retroactive Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\*\*Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

\*\*\*\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\*\*\*\*Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

## VI. CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Harris made a motion, Ms. Gray seconded, to approve Consent Items A-D. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, 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 other public agencies still recommend social distancing such that each Board and its Committees shall hold teleconference meetings for the next 30 days, so long as the State of Emergency remains in effect, and direct staff to comply with the agenda and public comment requirements of Section 54953(e)(3). Action taken by each Board will only apply to that Board and its Committees. (Memo dated September 26, 2022)
- B. Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals. (Memo dated September 27, 2022)
- C. Recommendation as submitted by Tamara L. Caldwell, Acting Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board dismiss with prejudice the appeal of Megumi Yamamoto for a service-connected disability retirement. (Memo dated September 20, 2022)
- D. Recommendation as submitted by Fern M. Billingsy, Senior Staff Counsel: That the Board 1) Adopt the attached resolution, No. 2022-BR003, specifying that canine handlers pay earned on and after May 1, 2022, by Probation Department, Special Enforcement Operations Unit qualify as compensation earnable; 2) Instruct staff to implement this change by coordinating with the County Auditor-Controller to remit member and employer contributions; and 3) Instruct staff to collect arrears contributions for canine handlers pay in accordance with the Board's policy regarding implementation of new pensionable pay items. (Memo dated September 23, 2022)

## VII. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

There were no items pulled from the Consent Items.

## VIII. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Recommendation as submitted by Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer: 1) That the Board decide whether or not to award a STAR COLA for Program Year 2023, and 2) If awarded, determine whether the STAR COLA benefits will be on an ad-hoc basis at a cost of \$231,000, as determined by LACERA's consulting actuary, Milliman, to restore eligible retirees to an 80% benefit level effective January 1, 2023, or 3) If awarded, determine whether the STAR COLA benefits will be on a permanent basis at a cost of \$2,467,000, as determined by LACERA's consulting actuary, Milliman, to restore eligible retirees to an 80% benefit level effective January 1, 2023. (Memo dated September 27, 2022)

Mr. Granger and Messrs. Collier Glyde of Milliman were present and answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Harris made a motion, Mr. Moore seconded, to approve the STAR COLA, for Program Year 2023 on a permanent basis. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

- B. Recommendation as submitted by Kathy Delino, Systems Interim Chief Information Technology Officer, and Celso Templo, Systems Interim Information Technology Manager II: That the Board authorize staff to engage with Questica to provide software and consulting services to configure, customize, and implement an enterprise budget application for the Administrative Services Division at a first-year cost of \$136,251 (implementation cost of \$75,375 and licensing fee of \$60,876). The total five-year cost is \$398,634. This project is budgeted under the Systems Division Technology Modernization Projects for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for \$150,000. (Memo and presentation dated September 15, 2022)

VIII. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

Kathy Delino and Celso Templo provided a brief presentation and answered questions from the Board.

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

- C. Recommendation as submitted by Carlos Barrios, Interim Division Manager, Benefits Division: That the Board 1) Determine, based upon medical evaluation conducted on July 21, 2021, that Hector Inzunza is not incapacitated for the duties assigned to his in the position of Regional Park Superintendent III; and 2) Grant the application of Hector Inzunza for reinstatement to active membership.  
(Memo dated September 20, 2022)

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

IX. REPORTS

- A. For Information Only as submitted by Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer, regarding the Monthly Status Report on Legislation.  
(Memo dated September 27, 2022)

Mr. Lew was present to answer questions from the Board. The report was received and filed.

IX. REPORTS (Continued)

- B. For Information Only as submitted by Tamara L. Caldwell, Acting Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services, regarding the Application Processing Time Snapshot Reports.  
(Memo dated September 24, 2022)

Ms. Caldwell was present to answer questions from the Board. The report was received and filed.

- C. For Information Only as submitted by Fern M. Billingsy, Senior Staff Counsel, regarding the Report of Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation Items.  
(Memo dated September 22, 2022)

Ms. Billingsy was present to answer questions from the Board. The report was received and filed.

- D. For Information Only as submitted by Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer, regarding the following reports:

Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Reports for August 2022

(Public memo dated September 21, 2022)

(Confidential memo dated September 21, 2022 – Includes Pending Travel)

Mr. Granger was present to answer questions from the Board. The report was received and filed.

- E. For Information Only as submitted by Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel, regarding the September 2022 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report. (Memo dated September 26, 2022) (Privileged and Confidential Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney Work Product)

Mr. Rice was present to answer questions from the Board. The report was received and filed.

X. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

There were no requests for items for staff review.

XI. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no requests for future agendas.

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

The Board thanked staff for their hard work. Mr. Popowich announced that Carlos Barrios, Interim Benefits Division Manager, will be starting a new position at Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association. Trustees thanked Mr. Barrios for his many years of service at LACERA and wished him well in his new position.

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

<u>APPLICATION NO. &amp; NAME</u>	<u>BOARD ACTION</u>
-----------------------------------	---------------------

5269B – JEFFREY R. MCKEE (DEC'D)\*

Ms. Gray made a motion, Mr. Kehoe seconded, to grant a service-connected survivor benefit. The motion failed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Harris, and Bernstein voting no and Ms. Gray and Mr. Kehoe voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

\*Survivor Present

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

5269B – JEFFREY R. MCKEE (DEC'D)

Mr. Bernstein made a motion, Mr. Pryor seconded, to deny a service-connected disability survivor benefit. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Harris, and Bernstein voting yes, and Ms. Gray and Mr. Kehoe voting no. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

5270B – DAVID DIAZ (DEC'D)

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

5271B – TONY TAHERI

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

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>
5016B – KLEITH HUNTER	Ms. Gray made a motion, Mr. Kehoe seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Sections 31720 and 31724 since the employer cannot accommodate. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.
5230B – SYNTOSHIA L. CUNNINGHAM	Mr. Kehoe made a motion, Mr. Pryor seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement without prejudice. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins, and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.
6895A – ALAN D. GILLETTE	Mr. Harris made a motion, Ms. Gray seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code section 31720 since the employer cannot accommodate. The motion passed (roll call) with Messrs. Santos, Sanchez, Moore, Kehoe, Harris, Bernstein and Ms. Gray voting yes. Messrs. Knox, Robbins,

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

6895A – ALAN D. GILLETTE (Continued)

and Ms. Zapanta were absent for the vote.

2451C – LEE A. GOLDMAN

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

B. Disability Retirement Appeals

APPLICATION NO. & NAME

BOARD ACTION

DEBBIE KRAMER – Tamara Yeritsyan  
Eugenia W. Der for the Respondent

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

XIII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

C. Staff Recommendations

1. Recommendation as submitted by Tamara L. Caldwell, Acting Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoices for Perry R. Secor, M.D. c/o SoCal Medical Specialists, Medical Corp.  
(Memo dated September 16, 2022)

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

XIV. 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 Government Code Section 54957. There was nothing to report.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

***Signature on File***

---

ALAN BERNSTEIN, SECRETARY

***Signature on File***

---

WILLIAM PRYOR, CHAIR