

**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 1, 2023

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

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Shawn R. Kehoe, Chair

Alan Bernstein, Vice Chair

Elizabeth Ginsberg, Alternate Ex-Officio Trustee attending for Keith Knox, Ex-Officio Trustee

Vivian H. Gray, Secretary

Jason E. Green (Joined the meeting at 9:51 a.m.)

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Ronald Okum

Les Robbins

Herman Santos

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Antonio Sanchez

Elizabeth Greenwood

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

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STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Jonathan Grabel, Chief Investment Officer

Jude Perez, Deputy Chief Investment Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Jasmine Bath, Senior Staff Counsel

Elaine Salon, Interim Senior Staff Counsel

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Chait Errande, Information Security Officer

Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

Carly Ntoya, Human Resources Director

Ricki Contreras, Disability Retirement Services 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

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Craig Glyde, Milliman

Nick Collier, Milliman

Naomi Padron, MKP Government Relations

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kehoe at 9:20 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Gray 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

No requests were received for (A) Just Cause or (B) Emergency Circumstances.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2023

Trustee Okum made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2023. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Abstain: Gray

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests from the public to speak.

V. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Cynthia Martinez, John Kim, Lisa Garcia, and Veronica Yi-Martinez.

B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Tyrone Brown.

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 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.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
200E	KAUFMAN, MICHAEL
201E	RADOVIC, PETER
202E	BUTTS, GARY
203E	PARKS, BRIAN
204E	MANNING, ROBERT
205E	WELCH, RICHARD
206E*	ANDERSON, JUDY
207E	ALVARADO, ARMANDO
208E	HERNANDEZ, DAVID

\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
209E	RIDDLE, ERIK
210E	MORRIS, DANIEL
211E*	RHODES, TAB
212E	CAMPANA, TAMECA
213E	MULLER, BRIAN
214E	BUSCH, RICHARD

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

Safety Fire, Lifeguards  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Okum, seconded by Trustee 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.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1750B	BURSEY, ALLEN
1751B	APPLEGATE, KEVIN
1752B	ANZAI, WESLEY
1753B	LOWELL, JEFFREY
1754B**	DAVEY, CAMERON
1755B	ROBINSON, JAMES
1756B**	GILMAN, TIMOTHY
1757B	ARGUELLES, EDDIE
1758B**	HOLDEN, DOMINIQUE
1759B*	WHITTLE, ANTHONY

\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

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: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

General Members  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Santos, seconded by Trustee Gray, 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>
2650C	GAMEZ, ANA
2651C*	CROSBY, JANICE
2652C	SANCHEZ, JOSE
2653C**	MORGAN-MITCHELL, TRACY
2654C***	KIDD, ROCHELLE
2655C	WEINREICH, ROBERT III
2656C***	CORTES, JENNYLYN
2657C*	PEARSON, JAMES

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

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

VI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Nonservice-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Santos, seconded by Trustee Okum, 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.

APPLICATION NO.  
4500

NAME  
HARRIS, RONALD

VII. CONSENT ITEMS

On a motion by Trustee Bernstein, Trustee Harris seconded, to approve consent items A-F. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

A. **H.R. 82 – Social Security Fairness Act of 2023**

Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt a “Support” position on H.R. 82, which would enact the “Social Security Fairness Act of 2023.” (Memo dated October 17, 2023)

B. **S. 597 – Social Security Fairness Act**

Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt a “Support” position on S. 597, which would enact the “Social Security Fairness Act.” (Memo dated October 18, 2023)

C. **Request for Proposal - Member Experience Communications Platform**

Recommendation as submitted by Alan Bernstein, Chair, Operations Oversight Committee: That the Board authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposal for software and consulting services to procure,

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

configure, customize and implement a Member Experience Communications Platform for LACERA.

(Memo dated October 11, 2023)

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

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as of October 24, 2023, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated October 24, 2023)

**E. Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation**

Recommendation as submitted by Elaine K. Salon, Interim Senior Staff Counsel: That the Board 1. Adopt Resolutions, No. 2023-BR009, and No. 2023-BR010, specifying pay items as included and excluded from the definitions of "compensation earnable" and "pensionable compensation." 2. Instruct staff to coordinate with the Auditor-Controller to establish necessary reporting mechanism and procedures to permit LACERA to include or exclude these items when calculating final compensation. (Memo dated October 17, 2023)

**F. Appeal(s) for the Board of Retirement's Meeting of November 1, 2023**

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board of Retirement grant the appeal(s) and request(s) for administrative hearing received from the following member(s) and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer each case to a referee: Doris Ticsay.

(Memo dated October 20, 2023)

IX. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

There were no items excluded from Consent items.

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

A. **Board Approval of Appointment to a Special Step Placement for the CEO's Proposed Appointee for Senior Staff Counsel, LACERA (Benefits) – Jean J. Kim**

Recommendation as submitted by Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer: That the Board approve the appointment to a Special Step Placement for the Chief Executive Officer's proposed appointee for the position of Senior Staff Counsel, LACERA (Benefits) – Jean J. Kim LS 16 (Step 18, \$274,297.32/annual). (Memo dated October 25, 2023)

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

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

B. **Provide Voting Directions on SACRS 2024 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 2024 legislative platform. (Memo dated October 19, 2023)

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

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

XI. REPORTS

A. **PEPRA Impact Presentation**

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

(This item was held following Item XI. B.)

Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer  
Nick Collier, Consulting Actuary, Milliman  
Craig Glyde, Consulting Actuary, Milliman  
(Presentation) (Memo dated October 23, 2023)

Mr. Granger and Messrs. Collier and Glyde of Milliman provided a presentation to the Board. This item was received and filed.

**B. State Legislative Update**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer  
Naomi Padron, MKP Government Relations  
(Presentation) (Memo dated October 20, 2023)

(This item was held prior to Item XI. A.) (Trustee Green joined the meeting at 9:51 a.m.)

Ms. Padron of MKP Government Relations provided a presentation to the Board. This item was received and filed.

**C. Monthly Status Report on Legislation**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 18, 2023)

This item was received and filed.

**D. Tier I Merit Salary Adjustment and Tier II Step Advancement**

Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 25, 2023)

This item was received and filed.

**E. Report on Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation**

Elaine K. Salon, Interim Senior Staff Counsel  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 11, 2023)

This item was received and filed.

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

F. **2023 Quarterly Reports of Paid Invoices**

Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 17, 2023) (Attachment to  
Memo is Confidential)

This item was received and filed.

G. **Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Reports – September 2023**

Ted Granger, Interim Chief Financial Officer  
(Public memo dated October 19, 2023)  
(Confidential memo dated October 19, 2023 - Includes Pending Travel)

This item was received and filed.

H. **October 2023 Fiduciary Counsel Contract and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 23, 2023)  
(Privileged and Confidential/Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney  
Work Product)

This item was received and filed.

XII. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

Trustee Kehoe requested that staff advance the request for members to have the option to predesignate their retirement option. Legislative Affairs Officer, Barry Lew will agendize for discussion at a future meeting.

In regards to the PEPRA Impact presentation, Trustee Green requested information of people with reciprocity coming and leaving over the last 10 years. Trustee Green also requested that staff provide an analysis of the cap tier based off salary as well as the potential earnings for legacy employees for 3 years and partner with SACRS for a PEPRA amendment. These items will be agendized and brought back for future discussion. Trustee Kehoe requested that staff educate our members and partners regarding the impact of PEPRA and its impact on LACERA membership.

XIII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Trustee Kehoe requested that the topic of the option of members having the ability to predesignate their retirement option be addressed at a future meeting.

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

There was nothing to report.

In open session, on a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Okum, the Board of Retirement in open session voted 7-0 to hear in Executive Session an unagendized item relating to a Potential Threat to Public Services or Facilities pursuant to Subdivision (a) of California Government Code Section 54957, having found under Subdivision (b)(2) of California Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2) that (1) the underlying issue was not known to LACERA at the time the agenda was posted and (2) the issue required the Board's immediate attention. Trustees Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Okum, Robbins, and Santos voted yes. Trustees Greenwood and Sanchez were absent from the meeting. There was nothing to report from the Executive Session discussion of the item.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5400B – HA, VIET (DEC'D)\*

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Gray, to grant a service-connected disability retirement. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Kehoe, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

\*Applicant /Applicant's Spouse Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability (Continued)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

1630B – RHEINHEIMER, LISA\*

On a motion by Trustee Okum, seconded by Trustee Gray, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

B. Staff Recommendations

1. **Application of Dellia-Chante Lemaire (Deceased)**

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki M. Contreras, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board of Retirement instruct staff to close Dellia-Chante Lemaire's (Deceased) Application for Disability Retirement. (Memo dated October 19, 2023)

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

Yes: Bernstein, Ginsberg, Gray, Green, Okum, Robbins, Santos

Absent: Greenwood, Sanchez

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

(Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of California Government Code Section 54956.9)

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Continued)

*Hines v. LACERA*, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. 23STCV23309  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 23, 2023)

There was nothing to report.

- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Significant Exposure to Litigation  
(Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of California Government Code Section 54956.9)

Number of Cases: 1  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated October 23, 2023)

It was reported in open session that this item related to the workplace claim of Corneliu Gavriiuc. There was nothing to report.

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

Title: Chief Counsel

There was nothing to report.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.



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VIVIAN GRAY, SECRETARY



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SHAWN R. KEHOE, CHAIR