

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, APRIL 2, 2025

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

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Les Robbins, Chair

Ronald Okum, Vice Chair

Shawn R. Kehoe, Secretary (Alternate Seventh Member)

Nancy Durazo

Bobbie Fesler

Elizabeth Ginsberg

Jason E. Green

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Aleen Langton

Wayne Moore

David Ryu

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Jude Perez, Deputy Chief Investment Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Jean Kim, Senior Staff Counsel

Zack Meth, Staff Counsel

Jessica Rivas, 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

James Beasley, Supervising Administrative Assistant

Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant

Robert Schmidt, Principal and Consulting Actuary – Milliman

Ryan Cook, Consulting Actuary – Milliman

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robbins at 9:08 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Harris 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.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 5, 2025

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 5, 2025. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests from the public to speak.

VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

- A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Luis Alvarez, Julia Ray, Melissa Mooc, Selassie Burke. The Web Watcher was Bonnie Nolley.

- B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Arlene Garcia.

VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE (Continued)

C. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Lugo 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 Okum, 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>
593E*	ATILANO-VALADEZ, ARTURO (DEC'D)
594E	JURADO, GILBERT J.
595E	SMITH, GENNIFER D.
596E	SONG, THOMAS
597E	CAPLINGER, VERONICA
598E	LOVITT, KIMBERLY A.
599E	AUSTIN, MICHAEL D.
600E	RUIZ, DAVID A.
601E	DERRY, CHRISTOPHER J.
602E	SALDIVAR, NICHOLAS R.
603E	TORRES, ADAN
604E	ZEIGLER, LARRY D.
605E	PALOMO, YOLANDA M.
606E**	LOVELL-GONZALEZ, SHERYLYN
607E	LONGAN, STEPHEN R.
608E	STARKEY, KELLY R.
609E	MAESE, THOMAS
610E	CAMACHO, MICHAEL D.
611E	JAMES, ROBERT M.

*Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

**Granted SCD – Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)

Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
612E	ROYBAL, STEPHEN M.
613E	BRIGGS, CHRISTOPHER M.
614E	CASTANEDA, RAYMUNDO, JR.
615E	REDD, IRENE R.
616E	RAMSEY, MELISSA L.
617E*	DODSON, STEVEN W.
618E*	GRAHAM, SCOTT A.
619E*	MRAKICH, MARC R.
620E*	O'HARA, JOHN J.
621E	VELAZQUEZ, SUSAN R.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

Safety Fire, Lifeguards

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Okum, 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>
1929B**	FLORES, HENRY H. (DEC'D)
1930B	CHOI, MARC R.
1931B	RATHKE, DAVID L.
1932B	CASH, MICHAEL C.
1933B	ANDERSON, KYLE G.
1934B	WARD, DAVID
1935B*	SETH, TOM A.
1936B	STRINE, JAY D.
1937B	ENRIQUEZ, CHRISTOPHER T.

*Granted SCD – Retroactive

**Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

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

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1938B	AMPARAN, VINCENT A.
1939B	CASAS, VICENTE
1940B*	LAFFERTY, QUINTON D.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

General Members
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Green, 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>
2905C**	STUTENROTH, MELISSA D.
2906C***	TATE, KENDRA S.
2907C***	FUGATE, DIONNE
2908C***	GODOY, BEKANY G.
2909C	ELLIS, TODD
2910C	WALTON, TIMOTHY E.
2911C	VALDEZ, RENE
2912C	POLANCO, VANESSA R.
2913C****	STONE, TANYA L.
2914C*	DARGAN, SOINA K.
2915C*****	GAVIA, GUSTAVO

*Granted SCD – Retroactive

**Granted SCD – Retroactive Employer Cannot Accommodate

***Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

****Granted SCD –Employer Cannot Accommodate

*****Granted SCD – Salary Supplement Employer Cannot Accommodate

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

APPLICATION NO.

NAME

2916C

VIX, JORDAN D.

2917C*

DALLAS, CHERYL Y.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Okum made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded, to approve consent items A-D.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

A. Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as of March 25, 2025, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated March 25, 2025)

B. Appeal for the Board of Retirement's Meeting

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board grant the appeal and request for administrative hearing received from Nancy Marcial and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer this case to a referee. (Memo dated March 20, 2025)

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

C. **Service Provider Invoice Approval Request – Jeffrey A. Hirsch, M.D.**

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

(Memo dated March 11, 2025 – 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))

D. **Service Provider Invoice Approval Request – Referee Irene P. Ayala**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Referee Irene P. Ayala.

(Memo dated March 3, 2025 – 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. **2024 Actuarial Valuation of the Los Angeles County Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Program**

Recommendation as submitted Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer: That the Board approve the July 1, 2024, Los Angeles County OPEB Program Actuarial Valuation Report prepared by LACERA's consulting actuary, Milliman. (Presentation) (Memo dated March 19, 2025)

Messrs. Schmidt, Granger, and Cook provided a presentation to the Board and answered questions.

Trustee Green made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to approve the July 1, 2024, Los Angeles County OPEB Program Actuarial

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

Valuation Report prepared by LACERA's consulting actuary, Milliman.
The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum,
Robbins, Ryu

XI. REPORTS

A. **LACERA - Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Pre-Funding Update**

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer
(Presentation) (Memo dated March 18, 2025)

Messrs. Lugo, Granger, Schmidt and Cook provided a presentation and answered questions from the Board. This item was received and filed.

B. **Contracting Activity Report – February 2025**

Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager
Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant II
(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 18, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

C. **Report of Revised Pay Items**

Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel
Zack Meth, Staff Counsel
(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 10, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

D. **Monthly Status Report on Legislation**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer
(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 21, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

E. **Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Report – February 2025**

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 21, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

F. **March 2025 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 26, 2025)

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

This item was received and filed.

XII. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

There was nothing to report.

XIII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There was nothing to report.

XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER

(For Information Purposes Only)

Mr. Lugo announced the retirement of Glen Musson from Systems, Deanna Hernandez from Administrative Services, and Regina Harris from Administrative Services.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

(Disability Applications were held out of order)

(Trustee Okum left the meeting at 11:30 a.m. and Trustee Okum left at 11:59 a.m.)

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5449B – HARRIS, PEGGY D.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

This application was pulled by staff for further development and will be agendized on a future agenda.

5450B – LATER, RANDAL L. (DEC'D)

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

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

5451B – MARAVEL, ANDREW L.*

Trustee Robbins made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement without prejudice.

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

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Robbins, Ryu
Absent: Okum, Ryu

2695C – THOMAS, SHELLEY D.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Robbins, Ryu

Absent: Okum

5411B – SCHELL, THERESA A.

Trustee Robbins made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement and find the applicant ineligible for a nonservice-connected disability retirement.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Robbins, Ryu

Absent: Okum

5441B – HAMMER, FRED P.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Robbins, Ryu

Absent: Okum

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in memory of Carmen O. Perez at 12:05 p.m.



SHAWN R. KEHOE, SECRETARY



LES ROBBINS, CHAIR

