

APPROVED

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT

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, MAY 7, 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

Jason E. Green

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Aleen Langton

Wayne Moore

David Ryu (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953 (f))

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Elizabeth Ginsberg

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Jonathan Grabel, Chief Investment 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

Jean Kim, Senior Staff Counsel

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Manager

Vincent Lim, Disability Litigation Manager

Eugenia Der, Senior Staff Counsel

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

Carly Ntoya, Human Resources Director

James Beasley, Supervising Administrative Assistant

Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robbins at 9:04 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

A physical quorum was present at the noticed meeting location. There was a request received from Trustee Ryu to participate by teleconference for Just Cause (A) Childcare Needs. Trustee Ryu 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 April 2, 2025

Trustee Okum made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 2, 2025. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Member, Yulanda Lampkin, addressed the Board regarding her disability retirement application.

VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Laura Magallanes, Judith Cajulis, Huimin Wong, and Diana Huang. The Web Watcher was Simon Gaskill.

B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Deanna Hernandez.

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 Langton, 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.

APPLICATION NO.

NAME

622E*

MILLER, ALEXANDER W.
(DEC'D)

623E

EMCH, ANDREW W.

624E

SANCHEZ, ROBERT B.

625E

MARTINEZ, ROSA E.

626E

PITTACK, DAVID M.

627E

VERDUZCO, RAMON H.

628E

CARDELLA, PAUL

629E

BURGOYNE, TIFFANY D.

630E

CAMBA, CHUCK L.

*Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement (Continued)

Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
631E	WHITMORE, JAMES H., II
632E	GUTIERREZ, HECTOR
633E	MORALES, SAMUEL E.
634E	STANLEY, DANIEL J.
635E	LANZANO, JAMES G.
636E	CHAM, JUSTIN A.
637E	ZAHAROPOULOS, BILL
638E*	RIVERA COREANO, WILLIAM (DEC'D)
639E**	NELSON, DESTINY L.
640E	ABRAHAMS, TIMOTHY J.
641E	CALVILLO, RUBEN
642E	BERNSTEIN WOODRUFF, TERI L.
643E	TANORI, BRANDON E.
644E	JOHNSON, MICHAEL J.
645E	RODRIGUEZ, GREGORY J.
646E	RANDENBERG, MELANIE A.
647E	MATUSIK, ANNMARIE
648E	NEAL, LASHAWN
649E***	EDWARDS, TONYA P.
650E	DELGADILLO, JAMES P.
651E	KELLY, TRAVIS E. (DEC'D)

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

*Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

**Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

***Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Fire, Lifeguards

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Green, 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>
1941B*	BERGENTY, ROBERT M.
1942B	HANSON, CHRISTIAN
1943B	ROSENSTEIN, JOSHUA J.
1944B*	WAGONER, ANTHONY J.
1945B*	SULLIVAN, JAMES P.
1946B	COPPI, JOSEPH A.
1947B	ANDERSON, RICHARD C.
1948B	LILE, JAMES D.
1949B	BENOIT, CHRISTOPHER J.
1950B	GALINDO, DOUGLAS H.
1951B	SWARTZ, CHRISTOPHER S.
1952B*	PETERSON, JAKE T.
1953B	WELLS, BRYAN E.
1954B	DIXON, TIMOTHY P.
1955B*	VELAZQUEZ, MAURILIO R.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

* Granted SCD – Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Okum, seconded by Trustee Green, 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>
2918C*	BALLESTEROS, ANGELICA M.
2919C	ARREOLA, CESAR
2920C*	WINKEY, SHAREN V.
2921C	THOMAS, MONICA T.
2922C**	WILLIAMS, VIRGIL S.
2923C***	HALES, KATHY L.
2924C	CHILDRESS, CHARLENE D.
2925C	CRAWFORD MILLER, TIFFANY
2926C****	NEAL, MICHELLE S.
2927C	DAVITIAN, WILLIAM V.
2928C***	O'GILVIEPOPE, DAWNA R.
2929C**	DUENAS, GRACIE B.
2930C****	FLORES, HECTOR
2931C***	CRUZ, JOAQUIN R.
2932C**	FIELDS, ARNOLD B.
2933C*	BAIOCCO, JOSEPH C.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

*Granted SCD – Retroactive Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

***Granted SCD – Retroactive

****Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Nonservice-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Langton, seconded by Trustee Robbins, 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 and a real and measurable connection between their incapacity and employment.

APPLICATION NO.

4511

NAME

GARRETT, SCOTT W.

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

Absent: Ginsberg

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Okum seconded, to approve consent items A-E.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

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 April 29, 2025, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month’s Board meeting. (Memo dated April 29, 2025)

B. Assembly Bill 853 – Public Employee’s Retirement

Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits, and Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt a “Support” position on Assembly Bill 853, which would provide clarification and

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

technical updates to the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937.
(Memo dated April 21, 2025)

C. **Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer and Deputy, Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer, LACERA Proposed Classification and Compensation**

Recommendation as submitted by Debbie Martin, Chair, Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics (ACRE) Committee and Patrick Jones, Chair, Joint Organizational Governance Committee: That the Committee recommend to the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments approve the following:

1. Approve establishment of one (1) new non-represented classification and salary range applicable only to LACERA.

New Classification Title: Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer
Salary Schedule: LS12

2. Approve establishment of one (1) new non-represented classification and salary range applicable only to LACERA and two (2) ordinance / budgeted designated positions.

New Classification Title: Deputy, Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer
Salary Schedule: 119K

3. Direct staff to submit to the Board of Supervisors the required ordinance language to implement the new LACERA classifications and pay ranges by amending the Los Angeles County Salary Code Sections 6.28.050, 6.127.010, and 6.127.030.

(Memo dated April 24, 2025)

D. **Dismiss with Prejudice the Appeal of Jacqueline Stewart-Boute**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board dismiss with prejudice Jacqueline Stewart-Boute's appeal for a service-connected disability retirement. (Memo dated April 7, 2025)

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

- E. **Service Provider Invoice Approval Request – Noam Drazin, M.D.**
Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Noam Drazin, M.D. (Memo dated April 17, 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. **Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Proposed Administrative, Retiree Healthcare and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Budgets**

Recommendation as submitted by Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services, Division Manager: That the Committee review the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Proposed Budgets for LACERA Administrative, Retiree Healthcare Benefits Program, and Other-Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust, provide guidance to staff on any desired changes or amendments, and recommend that the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments approve and adopt these budgets prior to June 30, 2025.

(Presentation) (Memo dated April 24, 2025)

Mses. Guglielmo, Delino, Ntoya, and Contreras provided a presentation and answered questions from the Board.

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Kehoe seconded, to approve staff's recommendation.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

B. **LACERA Boardroom Proposal: Relocation and Expansion**

Recommendation as submitted by James Beasley, Supervising Administrative Assistant II and Lindsay Knight, Administrative Services Analyst III: That the Board considers staff's proposal to relocate and expand the LACERA Boardroom to the ground floor of Gateway Plaza and provide direction for the next steps.

(Presentation) (Memo dated April 22, 2025)

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Okum seconded, to approve the relocation and expansion of the LACERA Boardroom.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

C. **Assembly Bill 1383 – Public Employee's Retirement Benefits**

Recommendation as submitted by Les Robbins, Chair, Insurance, Benefits, and Legislative Committee: That the Board adopt a "Watch" position on Assembly Bill 1383, which would adjust the pensionable compensation limit to be consistent with the defined benefit limitation under federal law. (Memo dated April 23, 2025)

(Supplemental memo dated April 24, 2025)

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to adopt a "Support" position.

Trustee Ryu made a substitute motion, to refer back to staff to conduct an actuarial study on the fiscal impact. This motion failed due to a lack of a second.

The motion to adopt a "Support" motion failed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Green

No: Durazo, Fesler, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins

Abstain: Ryu

Absent: Ginsberg

X. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

Trustee Robbins made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to adopt a “Watch” position.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

D. **SACRS Officer Elections**

Recommendation as submitted by Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer: That the Board provide the SACRS voting delegate direction on voting for the SACRS slate of officers.

(Memo dated April 23, 2025)

Trustee Langton made a motion, Trustee Fesler seconded, to approve staff’s recommendation.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

XI. REPORTS

A. **Salary Adjustments for Investment Office Staff Members**

Luis Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Joe Rice, Managing Director, CBIZ Talent and Compensation Solutions

(Presentation) (Memo dated April 3, 2025)

Mr. Lugo provided a brief presentation and answered questions from the Board. This item was received and filed.

B. **Report of Revised Pay Item**

Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel

Zack Meth, Staff Counsel

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

(For Information Only) (Memo dated April 15, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

C. **Contracting Activity Report – March 2025**

Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager

Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant II

(For Information Only) (Memo dated April 28, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

D. **Monthly Status Report on Legislation**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated April 28, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

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

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated April 24, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

F. **2025 Quarterly Reports of Paid Invoices – 3rd Quarter**

Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services

(For Information Only) (Memo dated April 15, 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))

This item was received and filed.

G. **April 2025 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated April 28, 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

In regards to Item X. A., Trustee Kehoe requested that staff look into the background process for new hires. In addition, Trustee Langton requested that staff provide the cost associated with this process.

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

5452B – COURTS, SHEILA A.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to refer back to staff for further information.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg, Langton

5453B – DE LA CRUZ, VIRGINIA

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Okum 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, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

Absent: Ginsberg

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5454B – LAMPKIN, YULANDA T.

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

The makers of the motion amended their motion to deny a nonservice-connected disability retirement without prejudice.

Trustee Green made a substitute motion, Trustee Kehoe seconded, to refer back to staff for additional information.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

5455B – CHAPMAN, RALPH J. (DEC'D)

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to refer back to staff for further information.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Green, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

Abstain: Moore

Absent: Ginsberg, Langton

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5456B – CAMPOS, CHERYL G.

Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Robbins 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, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

Absent: Ginsberg

5457B – BENTLEY, KATHY J.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Okum seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement since the employer can accommodate.

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

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

No: Fesler

Abstain: Okum

Absent: Ginsberg

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

2354C – REYES, ADRIAN

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

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

5447B – GARNETT, RHONDA

Trustee Green made a motion, Trustee Langton 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, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

Absent: Ginsberg

B. Disability Retirement Appeals

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

PADILLA, CAMILLE – Kathy Wolf for the Applicant
Eugenia Der for the Respondent

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

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Absent: Ginsberg

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in memory of Braun Levi at 1:23 p.m.



SHAWN R. KEHOE, SECRETARY



LES ROBBINS, CHAIR