

# APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE AUDIT, COMPLIANCE, RISK,  
AND ETHICS (ACRE) COMMITTEE AND  
BOARD OF RETIREMENT AND BOARD OF INVESTMENTS  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

9:00 A.M., THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

*This meeting was conducted by the Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics (ACRE) Committee and Board of Retirement and Board of Investments both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953 (f).*

## COMMITTEE TRUSTEES:

PRESENT: Debbie Martin (BOI), Chair

Nicole Mi (BOI), Vice Chair (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953(f))

Alma K. Martinez (BOI), Secretary (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953(f)) (Joined meeting at 9:18 a.m.)

Nancy Durazo (BOR), Trustee

Jason Green (BOR), Trustee (Joined meeting at 9:34 a.m.)

Wayne Moore (BOR), Trustee (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953(f))

Elizabeth Ginsberg, Ex-Officio

## MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Aleen Langton, Trustee

## STAFF, ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS:

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

STAFF, ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS:

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Carly Ntoya, Ph.D., Human Resources Director

Richard P. Bendall, Chief Audit Executive

Leisha E. Collins, Principal Internal Auditor

Delfino Aguilar, Senior Internal Auditor

Nathan K. Amick, Senior Internal Auditor

Kristina Sun, Senior Internal Auditor

Gabriel Tafoya, Senior Internal Auditor

Christian Velasco, Senior Internal Auditor

Alex Ochoa, Internal Auditor

Larry Jensen, ACRE Committee Consultant

CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP)

Christian Rogers, Engagement Partner

Brittany Smith, Engagement Manager

Mike Nyman, IT Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order by Chair Martin at 9:02 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Martin 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 Teleconference Locations

A physical quorum was present at the noticed meeting location. Three Trustees submitted requests to participate via teleconference under Just Cause (B). Trustee Martinez attended by teleconference for Just Cause (B) Due to Child Care. Trustee Mi attended by teleconference for Just Cause (B) Due to Spouse Care. Trustee Moore attended by teleconference for Just Cause (B) Due to Spouse Care. All three Trustees confirmed that there were no individuals 18 years of age or older present at the teleconference location.

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2025

Trustee Ginsberg made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Regular meeting of June 26, 2025. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Green, Martin, Martinez, Mi

Abstain: Moore

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no requests from the public to speak.

**VI. NON-CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. **Recommendation for Appointment of Proposed Financial Auditor**  
Recommendation as submitted by Kristina Sun, Senior Internal Auditor: That the ACRE Committee approve the appointment and compensation of CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP) as LACERA's independent financial auditor for fiscal years ending (FYE) June 30, 2026 – 2030 with an option to extend for two additional one-year terms. (Presentation) (Memo dated August 1, 2025)

## VI. NON-CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

Messes. Sun, Smith and Messrs. Rogers and Nyman of CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP) provided a presentation. Messrs. Bendall, Jensen and Granger were present to answer questions from the Committee.

Trustee Green made a motion, Trustee Martinez seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Green, Martin, Martinez, Mi, Moore

## VII. REPORTS

### A. Internal Audit Annual Performance Report – Fiscal Year Ended 2025

Nathan K. Amick, Senior Internal Auditor  
(Presentation) (Memo dated August 4, 2025)

(Trustee Martinez joined the meeting at 9:18 a.m.)

Messrs. Amick and Bendall provided a presentation. Messrs. Amick, Bendall and Jensen were present and answered questions from the Committee.

This item was received and filed.

### B. Ethics and Compliance Program Foundational Work Plan – Status Report

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel  
Allison E. Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel  
(Presentation) (Memo dated August 4, 2025)

(Trustee Green joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.)

Ms. Barrett provided a presentation and answered questions from the Committee.

This item was received and filed.

VII. REPORTS (Continued)

C. **Ethics Hotline Status Report**

Leisha E. Collins, Principal Internal Auditor  
(Presentation) (Memo dated August 1, 2025)

Ms. Collins provided a presentation. Ms. Collins, Messrs. Rice and Jensen were present and answered questions from the Committee.

This item was received and filed.

D. **Recommendation Follow-Up Report**

Leisha E. Collins, Principal Internal Auditor  
Gabriel Tafoya, Senior Internal Auditor  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 31, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

E. **Recommendation Follow-Up for Sensitive Information Technology Areas**

Gabriel Tafoya, Senior Internal Auditor  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 31, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

F. **Internal Audit Staffing Activity Report Update**

Richard P. Bendall, Chief Audit Executive  
(Verbal Update)

There was nothing to report.

G. **Status of Other External Audits Not Conducted at the Discretion of Internal Audit**

Richard P. Bendall, Chief Audit Executive  
(Verbal Update)

Mr. Bendall was present and answered questions from the Committee.

VIII. CONSULTANT COMMENTS

Larry Jensen, ACRE Committee Consultant  
(Verbal Presentation)

There was nothing to report.

**IX. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW**

There was nothing to report.

**X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

There was nothing to report.

**XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER**  
(For Information Purposes Only)

There was nothing to report.

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A. Public Employment**  
(Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957)

Title: Chief Audit Executive  
(Memo dated July 30, 2025)

There is nothing to report.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.