

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 1, 2026

*This meeting was conducted by the Board of Retirement both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953.8.3.*

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Wayne Moore, Vice Chair

Les Robbins, Secretary

Nancy Durazo

Bobbie Fesler (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953.8.3.)

Jason E. Green (Safety Alternate) (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953.8.3.)

Shawn R. Kehoe

Aleen Langton

Ernesto J. Pantoja

Lisa Proft, Acting Ex-Officio

ABSENT:

JP Harris, Chair (Retired Alternate)

Elizabeth Ginsberg

David Ryu

## STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Luis A. Lugo, Chief Executive Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Jonathan Grabel, Chief Investment Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Carly Ntoya, Director, Human Resources

Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Manager

Louis Gittens, Benefits Manager

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

Nossaman LLP

Ashley Dunning, Fiduciary Counsel

Julia Botezatu, Associate

### I. CALL TO ORDER

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

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Robbins led the Trustees and staff in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER SB707

- A. Just Cause (Section 54953.8.3)
- B. Statement of Persons Present at SB707 Teleconference Locations

Trustee Fesler requested to participate in the meeting via teleconference for Just Cause, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8.3(c)(3) (SB 707). The reason for Just Cause was a need related to physical condition. A physical quorum was present at the noticed meeting location. Trustee Fesler confirmed that no individuals 18 years of age or older were present at the teleconference location.

Trustee Green requested to participate in the meeting via teleconference for Just Cause, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8.3(a)(3) (SB 707). The reason for Just Cause was a need for childcare. A physical quorum was present at the noticed meeting location. Trustee Green confirmed that no individuals 18 years of age or older were present at the teleconference location.

### IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2026.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Pantoja seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2026. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft

Abstain: Fesler, Robbins

### V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Eduardo Acosta addressed the Board regarding Disability Retirement Application No. 897E.

VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Claro Lanting, Ngoc Vu, Vanessa Gonzalez and William Chuong. The web watcher winners were Moises Marroquin and Diana Luong and the Rideshare winner was Liping Li.

B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Pamela Broom.

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 Robbins, seconded by Trustee Pantoja, 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>
869E	AGUILERA, GEORGE L.
870E	TRIMARCHI, JOSEPH G.
871E*	BANKS, SEAN D.
872E	HODGE, CLARENCE A.
873E	WYCHE, BOBBY S.
874E	NEILL, PATRICK E.
875E*	RUELAS, RANDALL R.
876E	PARKER, RICHARD A.

\*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>
877E	TAPIA, ARTHUR P.
878E	JIRAK, ERIC W.
879E	OGLE, TRAVIS D.
880E*	RUBINO, STEPHAN P.
881E	AGUILERA, ALFRED B.
882E	GALANG, IAN TEODERIC S.
883E	TARIO, SONIA L.
884E	CANTU, OSCAR
885E	WILSON, RAYMUNDO T.
886E	RAMIREZ, EDWARD C., III
887E	OSEGUERA, HERIBERTO
888E	LIN, DONALD M.
889E	THORN, MARK A.
890E	MAMMOLITE, SIMON P.
891E	JOHNSON, KEITH D.
892E	MILLER, RICHARD J.
893E	DE LEON, DIANE M.
894E	BECKER, JOHN R.
895E	YELICK, JAY B.
896E	GARCIA, ARLENE
897E	ACOSTA, OLGA (DEC'D)

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Fire, Lifeguards  
Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Green seconded by Trustee Robbins, 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>
1066C	PENA, VINCE A.
1067C	BALDWIN, MARVIN D.
1068C*	KAPU, EDWARD K., JR.
1069C	JOHNSON, WILLIAM H., JR.
1070C	EWALD, THOMAS C.
1071C	BENNETT, BRIAN D.
1072C	WELLS, RICHARD
1073C	PIERCE, EDWARD J.
1074C*	LEWIS, KEITH D.
1075C	ESCAMILLA, OSCAR E.
1076C	GROVES, CHARLES J.
1077C	BACKHAUS, RANDALL A.
1078C	CURTIS, WILLIAM A.
1079C	OTT, MARSHALL L.
1080C	CARTER, PATRICK J.
1081C	CABALLERO, DAVID B.
1082C	HURD, JEFFREY D.
1083C	DUNHAM, PATRICK L.
1084C	PEREZ, PATRICK T.
1085C	ROBERTSON, BRIAN T.
1086C	DAVIS, THOMAS W.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Green, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Robbins, seconded by Trustee Kehoe, 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>
2111D	BAKER, VERLEEN
2112D*	HOOKS, SANDRA
2113D*	STONE, DIANE L.
2114D**	SHEPPARD, DELSHAWN R.
2115D**	BEDOYAN, SOUREN S.
2116D***	CHEBISHYAN, ADRINA
2117D	RODRIGUEZ, ESTEBAN V.
2118D	MCKENZIE, ELAINE P.
2119D**	ALVAREZ, MARCOS J.
2120D***	JACKSON, KORTNEE L.
2121D*	BUSTOS-MONTES, ZARINA
2122D***	DONALD, PAMELA L.
2123D	THOMPSON, EDIE L.
2124D	TATLEY, ALDIN A.
2125D	BOOKER, ALMA T.
2126D***	WILLIAMS, DENISE G.
2127D***	HUERTA, ARTURO

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\*Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

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

## VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded, to approve consent items A-B. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

### A. **Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals**

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as March 24, 2026, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated March 24, 2026)

### B. **Appeal(s) For the Board of Retirement's Meeting of April 1, 2026**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board of Retirement grant the appeals and requests for administrative hearing received from Elijah D. Carder, Shaena D. Hall and Beverly A. La Cour and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer each case to a referee. (Memo dated March 19, 2026)

## IX. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

There were no items pulled for discussion.

## X. NON CONSENT ITEMS

### A. **Recommendation for Approval of (1) Klausner Kaufman Jensen & Levinson, (2) Nossaman LLP, and (3) Reed Smith LLP as Fiduciary Counsel Panel**

Recommendation as submitted by the Ad Hoc Fiduciary Counsel RFP Committee: That the Board approve the engagement of (1) Klausner Kaufman Jensen & Levinson; (2) Nossaman LLP; and (3) Reed Smith LLP as LACERA's fiduciary counsel panel for a five-year term. (Memo dated March 11, 2026)

A motion was made by Trustee Robbins, seconded by Trustee Kehoe to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

X. NON CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

B. **Approval of LACERA and SEIU MOU Bargaining Units 850 and 851 – Tentative Agreements**

Recommendation as submitted by Luis A. Lugo, Chief Executive Officer: That the Board direct management to join the Represented Staff Members in signing the Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) incorporating the Tentative Agreements for LACERA Administrative, Technical, Clerical, and Blue-Collar Bargaining Unit (Unit 850) and LACERA Supervisory Bargaining Unit (Unit 851) and request administrative approval from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Upon LACERA Boards' approval, the MOUs will be effective January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2028. (Memo dated March 11, 2026)

A motion was made by Trustee Robbins, seconded by Trustee Kehoe to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

C. **Non-Represented and Management Staff Salary Adjustments**

Recommendation as submitted by Luis A. Lugo, Chief Executive Officer: That the Board approve salary adjustments for Non-Represented and Management Appraisal and Performance Plan (MAPP) classifications at levels consistent with those granted to Represented Staff Members, and direct management to request administrative approval from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. This salary adjustment recommendation excludes LACERA's Chief Executive Officer classification, whose salary is determined independently by LACERA Boards. (Memo dated March 16, 2026)

A motion was made by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Robbins to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

X. NON CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

D. **Processing and Output Services Contract Renewal – CSG Systems, Inc.**

Recommendation as submitted by Cynthia Martinez, Chief, Communications: That the Board authorize LACERA to enter into a Processing and Output Services Agreement with CSG Systems, Inc. to continue critical print, mailing, and distribution services for retiree payroll warrants, statements, and annual benefit communications. This contract consolidates two previously expired CSG agreements into a single agreement and now exceeds the approval authority of the Chief Executive Officer, requiring Board approval. The total contract value is \$600,000 over two years. (Memo dated March 19, 2026).

A motion was made by Trustee Langton, seconded by Trustee Pantoja to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

E. **Ratification of Reciprocal Disability Retirements**

Recommendation as submitted by Louis Gittens, Benefits Manager: That the Board approve the outgoing reciprocal disability retirement for the following named deferred members who were found to be disabled by the current reciprocal agency for the performance of their duties and have met the burden of proof (Memo dated March 16, 2026).

A motion was made by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Robbins to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

## XI. REPORTS

A. **Building a Culture of Excellence and Engagement**

Luis A. Lugo, Chief Executive Officer  
(Presentation)

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

B. **Contract Activity Report - February 2026**

Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager  
Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant II  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 17, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

C. **Monthly Status Report on Legislation**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 17, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

D. **Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Report – February 2026**

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 18, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

E. **March 2026 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated March 23, 2026)  
(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 were no items for staff review.

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

5482B - BADALI, JOSEPH A.\*

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Pantoja seconded to deny a service-connected disability retirement, as the applicant is ineligible. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

Absent: Langton

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5483B - GEISER SANTOS, WILLIAM G.

This item was pulled by staff for further development.

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5484B - GUNN, ERIC J. (DEC'D)\*

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Durazo seconded to return to staff for further development. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

\* Applicant Attorney Present

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5309B - GANDY LOCKLIN, MALAYSIA L.

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Pantoja seconded to continue a non-service connected disability supplemental disability allowance pursuant to government code sections 31720 and 31725.5. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5333B - REYES, FRANCISCO J.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Pantoja seconded to grant a service connected disability with the option of an earlier effective date pursuant to government code sections 31720 and 31724. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja, Proft, Robbins

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**

(Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9)

1. **Administrative Appeal of Charles Prosper**

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(Memo dated March 12, 2026)

The Board received a report on the CEO's intended action with respect to this appeal.

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Continued)

B. **Report on Investigation of Complaint Against Public Employee**  
(Pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54957)

Ashley Dunning, Nossaman LLP, Fiduciary Counsel  
Chait Errande, Information Security Officer  
(Memo dated March 25, 2026)

There is nothing to report.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was Adjourned in memory Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy, Levi Vargas at 11:30 a.m.

*Signature on File*

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LES ROBBINS, SECRETARY

*Signature on File*

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JP HARRIS, CHAIR