

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, AUGUST 5, 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:

JP Harris, Chair (Retired Alternate)

Wayne Moore, Vice Chair

Nancy Durazo

Shawn R. Kehoe

Elizabeth Ginsberg

Aleen Langton

Ernesto J. Pantoja

ABSENT:

Bobbie Fesler

Jason E. Green (Safety Alternate)

Les Robbins, Secretary

David Ryu

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Luis A. Lugo, Chief Executive Officer

JJ Popowich, Chief Benefits Officer

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Jessica Baxter, Chief Administrative Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Michael Herrera, Senior Staff Counsel

Jessica Rivas, Staff Counsel

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Manager

Sophia Hua, Legal Intern

Angela Cooley, Legal Intern

Nossaman LLP

Ashley Dunning, Fiduciary Counsel

Alexander Westerfield, Partner

Michael J. Price, Associate

Christopher D. Hughes, Partner

Latham & Watkins

Manuel (Manny) A. Abascal, Partner

Roman Martinez, Partner

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Harris at 9:10 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 SB707

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

There was nothing to report. No trustees participated under Section 54953.8.3.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 1, 2026

Trustee Pantoja made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 1, 2026. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Pantoja

Abstain: Moore

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jimmy C. Lim addressed the Board regarding his administrative appeal case. Attorney Sara Yufa addressed the Board regarding the administrative appeal of Member Roque Roque. Lastly, the Board received a written comment regarding the upcoming election.

VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

- A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Crystal Castaneda, Jeffrey Shevlowitz, Sandy Pang and Wendy Palmer. The web watcher winner was Ricki Contreras and the Rideshare winner was Liping Li.

- B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Dushyant Bala.

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 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.

APPLICATION NO.

NAME

1F*

MATA, JULIO E., JR.

2F

DOMINGUEZ, GILBERTO, JR.

3F

EVANS, GREGORY L.

4F**

WALSH, GLENN D.

5F

AMANN, RICHARD D.

6F*

NOBLES, STEVEN W.

7F

ALVA, LUIS M.

8F

GOMEZ, LORENA T.

9F*

AGUIRRE, CHARLES J.

10F*

ARMAS, MANUEL

11F

ROBINSON, KIMBERLY D.

12F

VALLOZZI, ALEXANDER M.

13F

DANG, LUAN V.

14F**

RODRIGUEZ, JOSEPH V., II

15F***

GARCIA, CONCEPCION H.

*Granted SCD – Retroactive

**Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

***Granted SCD – Salary Supplemental

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Law Enforcement

Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
981E*	MURAVEZ, SCOTT A.
982E	ARCIDIACONO, FRANK J.
983E	KNEUBUHLER, ANDRE E.
984E	ATILANO, ARMANDO
985E	MCGILL, JAMES S.
986E	DA SILVA, MARCOS A.
987E	MOORE, DONALD R.
988E	PEREZ, VICTOR
989E	NAKAMURA, TIMMY J.
990E	SHINAGAWA, SCOTT C.
991E	COSENZA, BYRON E.
992E	FONG, SAM S.
993E	RISIGLIONE, ROBERT
994E	YOUNGBERG, LORIE
995E	HUMPHREY, RYAN O.
996E	PALACIOS, VICTOR M.
997E*	ENGLEN, BRIAN D.
998E	PASTRAN, RUBEN
999E	CARRANZA, SAMUEL R.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

*Granted SCD – Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Safety Fire, Lifeguards

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe seconded by Trustee Moore, 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>
1131C*	TIMBOE, DANIEL F.
1132C	KNOWLES, JOSHUA B.
1133C	JENSEN, KEVIN N.
1134C*	HUNTER, CHARLES R., JR.
1135C*	ARONSON, TRENT L.
1136C	CODY, TIMOTHY W.
1137C	GOLONDZINIER, JAMES M.
1138C	RAMIREZ, ARTHUR J.
1139C	VANDERLIP, TIM J.
1140C	ARMENTA, JASON F.
1141C	BYRNE, BRIAN T.
1142C	GATT, JOHN D.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

*Granted SCD – Retroactive

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Pantoja seconded by Trustee Langton, 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.

APPLICATION NO.

NAME

2218D****

ZEPEDA, VICTOR M. (DEC'D)
(This item was pulled for further discussion)

2219D

CHAVEZ, PEDRO, JR.

2220D

ANDERSON, SHUNDRA L.

2221D

SANTOS, MICHAEL P.

2222D

MULLER, DIONNE H.

2223D

GONZALEZ, DAVID T.

2224D

RO, RAYMOND C.

2225D*

ROSALES VALENZUELA,
ANGELITA

2226D

ONTIVEROS, SANDRA P.

2227D**

TOLLIVER, ERIC P.

2228D***

ELIASIAN, HENRIK

2229D

GUERENA, ALONZO V.

2230D***

FABRO JOHNSON, MICHELLE I.

2231D*

MEGERDICHIAN, REBECCA

2232D

BECERRA, MARY E.

2233D*

NNOROM, IKECHUKWU F.

2234D***

YESKE, MARY F.

2235D

FRANKLIN, SHARMANE B.

2236D*

JONES, SHANDRA

*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted SCD Retro – Employer Cannot Accommodate

***Granted SCD – Retro

****Granted SCD – Survivor Benefits

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

General Members (Continued)

Service-Connected Disability Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2237D*	WOLF, THEREASA T.
2238D*	QUINONES, GUILLERMINA O.
2239D**	CHAVEZ, PALOMA G.
2240D***	GILLIAM, CHESTRINA L., III
2241D**	BALL, LORENZO Y.
2242D**	JORDAN, WAYNE
2243D**	AVALOS, CARLOS J.
2244D	GUERRERO RICO, JAVIER A.
2245D**	WEDLOW, MARSHERRI C.
2246D*	PAFFILE, ANGELINA E.
2247D**	LEYVA, BLAS
2248D**	WILSON, MICHAEL L.
2249D**	WARREN, MIRANDA K.
2250D****	LOAIZA, DAVID (DEC'D)
2251D	BITRI, REDJAN

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

**Granted SCD – Salary Supplemental

***Granted SCD – Salary Supplemental Employer Cannot Accommodate

****Granted SCD – Retro

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded, to approve consent items A-F. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

- A. **Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals**
Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as July 28, 2026, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated July 28, 2026)
- B. **Dismiss with Prejudice the Appeal of Malaysia L. Gandy Locklin**
Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board dismiss with prejudice Malaysia L. Gandy Locklin's appeal for a service-connected supplemental disability allowance. (Memo dated July 14, 2026)
- C. **Appeals for the Board of Retirement's Meeting of August 5, 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 Eric J. Gunn (Dec'd); Rosa Gunn (Surv.) and Kenneth F. Jones Jr. and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer each case to a referee. (Memo dated July 17, 2026)
- D. **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 July 20, 2026)
- E. **Minor Update to LACERA's Code of Ethical Conduct**
Recommendation as submitted by Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel, Allison E. Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel, and Jessica Rivas, Staff Counsel: That the Board approves a minor update to the Code of Ethical Conduct concerning LACERA Trustee elections and political activity. (Memo dated July 15, 2026)

VIII. CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

F. **Pensionability Analysis Under CERL and PEPRA For New Pay Items**

Recommendation as submitted by Jean Kim, Sr. Staff Counsel that the Board: 1. Approve the recommendations set forth above as to the three new pay items. 2. Instruct staff to coordinate with the Auditor-Controller to establish the necessary reporting mechanisms and procedures to permit LACERA to implement such determinations when calculating final compensation for legacy and PEPRA members. (Memo dated July 7, 2026)

IX. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

X. NON CONSENT ITEMS

A. **Vendor Recommendation – Knowledge Management System**

Recommendation as submitted by Eugenia W. Der, Senior Staff Counsel and David Choe, Project Manager: That the Board of authorize staff to engage with Oxcyon, Inc. to provide an enterprise-wide knowledge management system to digitally capture, document, organize, and access critical business knowledge and information. The first-year cost is \$451,750 (which includes implementation, licensing, and cloud hosting). The total anticipated cost over three years is \$992,750. This solution is budgeted under the Systems Division for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 for \$500,000. (Presentation) (Memo dated July 6, 2026)

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

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

XI. REPORTS

A. **Angela Cooley, Legal Intern**

(Capstone Presentation for Summer of 2026)

Ms. Cooley provided a presentation. This item was received and filed.

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

- B. **Sophia Hua, Legal Intern**
(Capstone Presentation for Summer of 2026)

Ms. Hua provided a presentation. This item was received and filed.

- C. **LACERA Property and Liability Insurance Renewal Summary Update**

James C. Beasley, Jr., Supervising Administrative Assistant II
(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 17, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

- D. **Contract Activity Report – June 2026**
Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager
Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant II
(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 20, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

- E. **4th Quarter Paid Invoice Summary & Threshold Report – April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026**

Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services
(For Information Only) (Memo dated June 16, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

- F. **Report of Revised Pay Item**
Jean J. Kim, Sr. Staff Counsel
(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 7, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

- G. **Monthly Status Report on Legislation**
Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer
(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 22, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

XI. REPORTS (Continued)

H. **Monthly Trustee Travel and Education Report - June 2026**

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 23, 2026)

This item was received and filed.

I. **July 2026 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated (Memo dated July 27, 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.

J. **Status of Fiduciary Counsel Engagements**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated July 27, 2026)

(Attachment to Public Cover Memo is 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

The Board requested an information only memo explaining legal guardianship as it applies to Section 31787.

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

5497B - RIVAS, SHAWN D.*

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Moore 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, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5498B - SAN DIEGO, ROWENA D.

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Pantoja 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, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5499B - TOOLE, JENNIFER J.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement with the option of an earlier effective date pursuant to Government Code sections 31720 and 31724.

Trustee Moore made a substitute motion, Trustee Langton seconded to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code sections 31720 and 31724. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

* Applicant was present remotely

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

No: Durazo

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5280B - RUIZ, ANGIE

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded to continue a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5486B - IBRAHIM, MAHER R.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

No: Durazo, Ginsberg

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5488B - STARR, NICOLE P.*

Trustee Langton made a motion, Trustee Kehoe seconded to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code section 31720 as employer cannot accommodate. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Duranzo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

* Applicant was present remotely

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

2218D - ZEPEDA, VICTOR M. (DEC'D)*

Trustee Ginsberg made a motion, Trustee Pantoja seconded to grant a service-connected survivor allowance to the surviving minor children pursuant to Government Code sections 31720 and 31787. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Duranzo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

1. Administrative Appeal of Jimmy C. Lim

Trustee Langton made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to deny the administrative appeal of Jimmy C. Lim.

Yes: Durazo, Ginsberg, Harris, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Pantoja

Absent: Fesler and Ryu

2. Administrative Appeal of Member Roque Roque

There is nothing to report.

*The mother of the member's minor children was present remotely.

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Continued)

B. Conference with Legal Counsel—Existing Litigation
Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9

1. *LACERA v. Marquez*

Los Angeles Superior Court, Los Angeles Superior Court,
Case No. 25NNCV03240

U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California,
Case No. 6:26-bk-16063-SY

(Presentation) (Memo dated July 29, 2026)

There is nothing to report.

2. *LACERA v. County of Los Angeles*

California Supreme Court, Case No. S286264

(Memo dated July 29, 2026)

There is nothing to report.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

Signature on File

LES ROBBINS, SECRETARY

Signature on File

JP HARRIS, CHAIR